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Preface

English is the language most frequently used in international military and peacekeeping operations. This dictionary aims to provide a basic vocabulary of British and American terms relating to the three services, and covers subjects such as rank, organization, training, operations in the field, logistics, radio communications, and some of the more common weapons and equipment currently in use. In addition, there are selected items of general vocabulary relating to geography, terrain, weather, medical treatment and other relevant matters. New terms used by the media in reporting on recent conflicts are also included, making this an ideal reference source for anyone involved in teaching English to the military or armed police forces.

Definitions are written in simple English, making them easily accessible to anyone with a basic knowledge of the language, and phonetic symbols are used to show the correct pronunciation. Encyclopedic comments are provided where necessary and most entries include example sentences, showing how the words and expressions are used in practice.

At the back of the book is a supplement of further useful information on topics such as ranks, the phonetic alphabet, formal orders, and military grouping symbols.
Pronunciation

The following symbols have been used to show the pronunciation of the main words in the dictionary.

Stress is indicated by a main stress mark (') and a secondary stress mark (,).
Note that these are only guides, as the stress of the word changes according to its position in the sentence.

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**ALPHA - Aa**

**A1 Echelon** /əˈwɪnən ˌɛfələn/ noun combat supplies

**A2 Echelon** /əˈtuːn ˌɛfələn/ noun rations, spares, clothing, etc.

**A-4** /əˈtiːˈfrəʊ/ noun an American-designed multirole attack aircraft, designed to operate from an aircraft carrier. Also called Skymaster (NOTE: The plural is A-4s /əˈtiːˈfrəʊz/)

**A-6** /əˈtiːˈsɪks/ noun an American-designed ground-attack aircraft, designed to operate from an aircraft carrier. Also called Intruder (NOTE: The plural is A-6s /əˈtiːˈsɪksz/)

**A-7** /əˈtiːˈsevrən/ noun an American-designed ground-attack aircraft. Also called Corsair (NOTE: The plural is A-7s /əˈtiːˈsevənz/)

**A-10** /əˈtiːˈten/ noun an American-designed ground-attack aircraft. Also called Thunderbolt, Warthog, Tankbuster (NOTE: The plural is A-10s /əˈtiːˈtenz/)

**A-40** /əˈtiːˈfrəʊtɪ/ noun a Soviet-designed airborne early warning and control (AEW & C) aircraft with a large disc-like antenna (radome) mounted on the fuselage (NOTE: known to NATO as Mainstay)

**AA abbreviation** anti-aircraft

**AAV** /əˈtiː vɪˈzɪs/ noun an American-designed amphibious infantry fighting vehicle (IFV), which is designed to disembark from a landing ship at a considerable distance from the shore and is capable of travelling on water at high speed. Full form advanced amphibious assault vehicle

**AAC abbreviation** Army Air Corps

**AAM abbreviation** air-to-air missile

**AAR** /əˈtiːˈɑːr/ noun US the debriefing held at the conclusion of an exercise, in which the participants discuss their performance with the umpires. Full form after action review

**Aardvark** /əˈɑːrdvɑːrk/ noun an unofficial name for the American-designed F-111 fighter bomber

**AAV-7A1** /əˈtiː vɪˈsevn əˈwɑːr/ noun an American-designed amphibious assault vehicle seven. Also called Landing Vehicle Tracked Personnel (LVTP)

**AAW abbreviation** anti-air warfare

**AAWS abbreviation** anti-air warfare system

**AB abbreviation** able rating

**abandon** /əˈbændən/ verb 1. to leave a vehicle or ship (usually for reasons of safety) o The captain gave the order to abandon ship. 2. to leave behind o We had to abandon large quantities of ammunition during the retreat. 3. to terminate an enterprise before it has been completed o Poor visibility forced us to abandon the remainder of patrol. 4. abort

**abandoned** /əˈbændənd/ adjective deserted o We found the enemy trenches abandoned.

**abatis** /əˈbætɪs, əˈbættɪs/ noun an obstacle constructed by felling trees to block a likely approach o The road was blocked by an abatis.

**Abbot** /əˈbɒt/ noun a British 105mm self-propelled howitzer (SPH)

**ABCCC** /əˈbiː sɪː/ noun US a command team operating from a C-130 aircraft, in order to coordinate close air
**abeam** 2

support. Full form **airborne command, control and communications**

**abeam** /əˈbɛm/ *adverb* at right angles to the length of a ship or aircraft ○ *The torpedo missed because we weren’t properly abeam of the target.*

**able rating** /əˈbɛl(r)ɪt/ *noun* the lowest non-commissioned rank in the navy (equivalent of an experienced or well-qualified private soldier in the army). Also called **able seaman.** Abbr **AB** *(NOTE: The ranks of ordinary rating and junior rating were abolished in April 1999)*

**ablutions** /əˈbluːʃənz/ *plural noun* a room or building containing washing facilities and toilets ○ *The ablutions were in a filthy state.*

**aboard** /əˈbɔːrd/ *adverb* on or onto a boat or ship or aircraft or vehicle ○ *He is already aboard. ○ Come aboard. Also called on board*

**abode** /əˈbɔːd/ *noun* a home

**abort** /əˈbɔːt/ *verb* to stop an enterprise before it has been completed ○ *We were forced to abort the mission.* ○ abandon

**abortive** /əˈbɔːtrɪv/ *adjective* unsuccessful ○ *The enemy launched several abortive attacks.*

**about** /əˈbɔːt/ *adverb* the opposite direction to that which you are now facing ○ *about turn! turn around and face the opposite direction (drill command)*

**Abrams** /əˈbræms/ *noun* an American 1980s-era main battle tank

**abreast** /əˈbrɛst/ *adverb* side by side and facing the same direction ○ *The infantry advanced in line abreast. ○ The tanks halted abreast of each other.*

**abseil** /əˈbɛsəl/ *verb* to descend, using a rope ○ *We had to abseil down the cliff.* ○ rappel

**absent** /əˈbɛsnt/ *adjective* away from a military unit (usually without permission) ○ *He’s been absent for three days.* ○ AWOL

**absent without leave** /əˈbɛsnt wɪ ˈlɛv/ *adjective* full form of **AWOL**

**AB triple C** /əˈbrɪ trɪpl/  "six/ noun same as **ABCCC**

**AC** /əˈsɪs/ *abbreviation* aircraftman ○ *noun* a type of blood agent. Full form **hydrogen cyanide.** Also called **HCN**

**A/C** *abbreviation* aircraft

**AC-130** /əˈsɪs woʊnˈθɛstɪ/ *noun* a ground-attack variant of the Hercules C-130 transport aircraft

**COMMENT: Despite its age and old-fashioned appearance, the AC-130 possesses an enormous amount of firepower and earned itself a fearsome reputation during the Gulf War of 1991. Its slow speed makes it vulnerable to surface-to-air missiles, so it is most effective at night. AC-130 aircraft are often referred to as gunships.**

**ACC** /əˈsɪs/noun US the department of the US forces with overall responsibility for the use of all combat aircraft of the US Air Force. Full form **Air Combat Command**

**COMMENT: Air Combat Command is an amalgamation of the former Strategic Air Command (SAC) which was responsible for heavy long-range bombers and ICBMs and the former Tactical Air Command (TAC) which was responsible for fighters and attack aircraft. Intercontinental ballistic missiles are now the responsibility of Strategic Command (STRATCOM).**

**access** /əˈkɛses/ *noun 1.* a way of approaching or entering ○ *Access to the building is at the rear.* 2. an opportunity to look at or use ○ *I need access to the company records.* ○ verb to activate a programme or open a file on a computer ○ *I cannot access the database.* *(NOTE: As a noun, access is often used without the definite or indefinite article.)*

**accessible** /əˈkɛsəbli/ *adjective 1.* approachable ○ *The castle is only accessible in good weather.* 2. readily available ○ *That information is not accessible at the moment.*

**accessory** /əˈkɛsərɪ/ *noun 1.* physical harm or damage as a result of an error in judgement, defective equipment or bad luck ○ *There has been an accident on the grenade range.* 2. an event which occurs by chance or without apparent cause ○ *He was there purely by accident.*
accedent /ækˈsɪd(ə)nt/ adjective happening by chance or as a result of an error in judgement or defective equipment. There will be an official enquiry over the accidental shooting of Sgt Jones.

crude /kroud/ adjective wrong or stupid. The idea that the war was won by brute force is crude.

accrete /əˈkrɛt/ verb to add or accumulate. The coastline is accreting due to sea-level rise.

accrue /əˈkrjuː/ verb to gather or accumulate. Dividends accrued over the year will be paid to shareholders.

accreditation /əˈkrediʃən/ noun the process of being acknowledged. The restaurant has received an accreditation for its food quality.

accomplish /əˈkɒmplɪʃ/ verb to achieve or complete. She accomplished her goal by working hard.

accomplishments /əˈkɒmplɪʃməntz/ plural noun the achievements of a person. Her accomplishments include winning the Nobel Prize.

accomplishment /əˈkɒmplɪʃmənt/ noun the act of accomplishing something. The completion of the project is a significant accomplishment.

accomplish /əˈkɒmplɪʃ/ verb to complete a task successfully. She accomplished the task in record time.

accouterments /əˈkʊtərmənts/ plural noun the personal equipment or clothing used by a military person. The soldiers were equipped with full accouterments.

accusation /əˈkjʊzəʃən/ noun a statement of guilt or fault. The defendant was charged with fraud.

accusatory /əˈkjʊzətərɪ/ adjective accusatory language at a meeting was a source of frustration for the participants.

accuse /əˈkjʊz/ verb to charge someone with an act. He was accused of theft.

accuse /əˈkjʊz/ verb to say that someone is guilty. She accused her neighbor of breaking into her house.

ACE abbreviation 1. Allied Command Europe 2. armoured combat earthmover

acquiescence /ækˈwiːsəns/ noun the act of acquiescing. The government's acquiescence to the protest was a sign of weakness.

acquire /əˈkwɪr/ verb to obtain something. She acquired a new computer.

acquire /əˈkwɪr/ verb to obtain a target. She acquired a target with her binoculars.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired immunity is gained through experience or exposure.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired knowledge is learned through study or observation.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired skills are those that are learned through practice.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired traits are those that are passed on from one generation to the next.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired characteristics are those that are gained through experience or exposure.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired diseases are those that are transmitted through contact or exposure.

acquired /əˈkwɪrd/ adjective acquired conditions are those that are caused by environmental factors.

acquiescent /əˈkwɪsənt/ adjective acquiescent behavior is one that goes along with the group.

acquiescence /ækˈwiːsəns/ noun the act of acquiescing. The government's acquiescence to the protest was a sign of weakness.

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involved in acquiring supplies, buildings and other material for armed forces

ACR\(^1\) abbreviation armoured cavalry regiment

ACR\(^2\) abbr: act \(\text{act}\) noun an administrative centre on an aircraft carrier, which deals with administration concerning the actual aircraft. Full form \text{aircraft control room}

act /ækt/ noun something which is done \(\text{act}\) of aggression \(\text{act}\) in the process of doing something \(\text{act}\) of planting the bomb. \(\text{act}\) verb 1. to do something \(\text{act}\) when the man was shot. 2. to do someone else’s job on a temporary basis. \(\text{act}\) He acted as platoon sergeant during the final exercise.

acting /ˈæktɪŋ/ adjective doing someone else’s job on a temporary basis. \(\text{acting}\) He is the acting platoon sergeant at the moment. Compare substantive

action /ˈækʃən/ noun 1. something which is done \(\text{action}\) of aggression \(\text{action}\) in the process of doing something \(\text{action}\) of planting the bomb. \(\text{action}\) verb 1. to do something \(\text{action}\) when the man was shot. 2. to do someone else’s job on a temporary basis. \(\text{action}\) He acted as platoon sergeant during the final exercise.

action stations /ˈækʃən ˈsteɪʃənz/ plural noun a state of readiness for battle

activate /ˈækтивɪv/ verb to make a device operate. \(\text{activate}\) The device is activated by pressing this button.

active /ˈækтив/ adjective 1. operating \(\text{active}\) of Enemy special forces are active in your area. 2. working or ready to work. \(\text{active}\) of The device is now active. 3. relating to night-viewing devices which require an external source of infrared (IR) light in order to operate. Compare passive

active list /ˈækтив ˈlɪst/ noun a list of officers available for active service

active service /ˈækтив ˈsərvis/ noun service in a war zone. \(\text{active service}\) is only used when the nation is officially at war. For counter-insurgency and peacekeeping operations, the term operational service is used.

active service unit /ˌækˈtɪv ˈsərvɪs ˈjʊnit/ noun a small group used by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to carry out a terrorist attack. Abbr ASU

activist /ˌækˈtɪvɪst/ noun a person, normally holding extreme views, who believes in the use of action rather than debate in order to achieve their political aims. \(\text{activist}\) The rioting was started by left-wing activists.

activity /ˌækˈtɪvɪtɪ/ noun several different actions or an action which is carried out repeatedly or over a period of time. \(\text{activity}\) There has been very little enemy activity today.

Adamsite /əˈdeməzət/ noun same as DM

adapt /ˈædəpt/ verb 1. to alter or to modify. \(\text{adapt}\) The APC has been adapted to carry surveillance equipment. 2. to modify your behaviour in order to meet a change in circumstances. \(\text{adapt}\) We must adapt to these new tactics.

ADC abbreviation aide-de-camp

add /æd/ verb 1. to join one thing to another in order to increase the quantity. \(\text{add}\) to correct artillery or mortar fire so that the rounds land further away from the observer. \(\text{add}\) Add 200! Add 200 metres. Compare drop

ad hoc /ˌæd ˈhɒk/ a Latin phrase meaning ‘formed for a specific purpose’. \(\text{ad hoc}\) They were organized into an ad hoc unit.

Adj abbreviation adjutant

adjust /ˈædʒəst/ verb 1. to change the position of something. \(\text{adjust}\) He adjusted the straps on his rucksack. 2. to direct artillery or mortar fire onto a target by observing the fall of shot and sending corrections back to the gun line. \(\text{adjust}\) The enemy artillery is adjusting onto B Company’s position.

adjustable wrench /ˈædʒəstəb(ə)l ˈrentʃ/ noun a large spanner which can be adjusted to undo various sizes of nut

adjusting fire /ˈædʒəstɪŋ ˈfaɪə/ noun the firing of a single round by one gun
or mortar so that a forward observer can observe the fall of shot
adjustment /ˌdʒæst'mənt/ noun 1. an act of changing the position of something. 2. He made several minor adjustments to the weapon sight. 3. corrections calculated by a forward observer after observing the fall of shot of an artillery or mortar round. The guns were on target after my first adjustment.

adjutant /ˈæʤətənt/ noun a battalion officer (usually a captain) who acts as the commanding officer’s assistant and is also responsible for discipline. Abbr Adj (NOTE: In certain other armies, adjutant is synonymous with aide-de-camp (ADC).)

Adjutant-General /ˈæʤətənt ˈdʒenərəl/ noun a top administrative post in the army.

Adjutant General’s Corps /ˈæʤətənt ˈdʒenərəlz ˈkɔrəl/ noun a branch of the armed services which deals mainly with personnel and administration. Abbr AGC

Adm abbreviation admiral

admin /ˈædmin/ noun administration (informal) I’ve got a lot of admin to do.

administer /ˈædministər/ verb to manage a unit or organization

administrate /ˈædministreɪt/ verb to administer on a national or regional level. He was sent out to administrate the region.

administration /ˈædminɪstrəʃən/ noun 1. the day-to-day management of a unit or organization. I am responsible for administration. 2. government. The local administration is extremely unhelpful.

administrative /ˈædminɪstrətɪv/ adjective relating to administration

administrative tasks /ˈædˌminɪstrətɪv ˈtæskz/ plural noun tasks other than actual fighting (such as the resupply of ammunition, food or fuel, personnel matters, etc.)

admiral /ˈædmərəl/ noun a senior officer in the British and US navies (usually in command of a fleet). Abbr Adm

Admiral of the Fleet, Fleet Admiral noun the highest rank in the Navy.

rear-admiral, vice-admiral

Admiralty /ˈædmərəlti/ noun the department which administers the Royal Navy

advance /ədˈvæns/ adjective 1. early. We will need advance warning for any ammunition requests. 2. forward. Advance units of the enemy have been seen. 3. in advance early Ammunition bids must be submitted well in advance.

verb 1. to move forward. 2. to move towards the enemy.

advance to contact a method of locating the enemy by advancing into his territory until contact is made, whereupon the leading units or sub-units engage the enemy, while the main force deploys to mount an attack

advanced amphibious assault vehicle /ədˈvæns əmˈfibəs əˈsɔlt ˌvɛlkər/ noun full form of AAV

advanced medium-range air-to-air missile /ədˈvæns ˈmɪdɪənm ərdənɪd əˈæriər ˈmɪsəl/ noun full form of AMRAAM

advanced short-range air-to-air missile /ədˈvæns ˈʃɔrtr əˈæriər ˈmɪsəl/ noun full form of ASRAAM

advance guard /ədˈvæns ˈɡɑrd/ noun a small military force which advances between the reconnaissance units and the main body of an advancing force, in order to engage the enemy and occupy his attention while the main body deploys into attack formation. Compare vanguard

adverse /ədˈvɜrs/ adjective causing difficulty. We were unable to fly because of adverse weather conditions.

advice /ədˈvɑs/ noun a suggestion as to what should be done. He refused to take my advice.
advise

advise /ədˈvaɪz/ verb 1. to suggest what should be done ○ He advised the colonel to stop the attack. 2. to inform someone ○ He was advised that the situation would not improve. ○ You should be advised that the bridge is not suitable for tanks.

adviser /ədˈvaɪzə/ noun a person appointed to give advice

A Echelon /eɪˈɛlən/ noun the logistical elements of a tactical grouping.

Aegis /ˈeɪdʒɪs/ noun an American-designed integrated naval air defence system (AAWS), consisting of computerized radar and other surveillance systems, fire control systems and surface-to-air missiles (SAM)

AEO /eɪˈeɪoʊ/ let it: ‘au/ noun an officer responsible for ensuring that the aircraft of a squadron are fit to fly. Full form air engineering officer

aerial /əˈriərɪəl/ adjective relating to the air ■ noun a metal wire, rod, mast or structure used in the receiving and transmission of radio signals ○ Enemy command tanks usually have two aerials. ■ antenna

aerial bombardment /əˈriərɪəl bɔrnəm/b /ˈbaɪdəmənt/ noun a bombing attack by aircraft

aerial photography /əˈriərɪəl ˈfəʊtəˈgrəfi/ noun photography involving the use of aircraft

aerial reconnaissance /əˈriərɪəl ˈrɛkənˌnərs/ noun reconnaissance using aircraft

aerial torpedo /əˈriərɪəl ˈtɔːpərˌdəʊ/ noun a torpedo designed to be dropped by aircraft

aerodrome /eərəˈdrəʊm/ noun a small airfield, airbase or airport (NOTE: This term is now obsolete)

aerodynamics /,eərəˈdɑːmətri/ noun the study of the effects caused by a solid object moving through air (NOTE: takes a singular verb)

aeroplane /eərəˈplɛrn/ noun a fixed-wing aircraft (NOTE: The American English term is airplane.)

aerosol /eərəˈsɔl/ noun tiny particles of solid or liquid matter, which are suspended in the atmosphere (e.g. mist, smoke or vapour) ○ The agent is delivered as an aerosol.

AEW & C /iːəˈɛlən ədˈeɪərədʒɪk/ and ‘sɪː/ noun a technology which detects enemy aircraft and missiles and then controls interception by friendly fighters. Full form airborne early warning and control. Also called Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS)

affirmative /ɪˈfɜːrˌmətɪv/ adjective true or accurate ○ That is affirmative. ■ adverb that is correct (radio terminology) ○ ‘Hullo 22, this is 2, are you in position yet, over?’ – ‘22, affirmative, over’ Compare negative: reject, roger

after action review /əˈfɜːr əˈrɪkʃən ˈriːvɪw/ noun US abbreviation AAR

afternoon watch /əˈfɜːn ˈwɔnt/ noun the period of duty from 1200–1600hrs

AFV abbreviation armoured fighting vehicle

AFV-432, FV-432 noun a British 1960s-era armoured personnel carrier (APC) (NOTE: normally referred to simply as a 432)

AGC abbreviation Adjutant General’s Corps

agent /ˈeɪdʒənt/ noun 1. someone who poses as a civilian in order to gather information, carry out assassinations or acts of sabotage ○ We arrested two enemy agents near the missile base. ○ spy 2. a chemical used as a weapon

Agent Orange /ˈeɪdʒənt ˈɔrɪdʒən/ noun an American defoliating agent

Agent provocateur /ˌeɪdʒənt prəˌvɒkəˈtɔːr/ noun French words meaning ‘agent who provokes’: a person who provokes others to start civil disorder or to commit a crime (often by taking part himself) in order to start a revolution, or to find out who is not reliable, or to encourage people to commit crimes for which they will be arrested

aggression /əˈɡrɛʃ(ə)n/ noun hostile behaviour
aggressive /əˈgresɪv/ adjective offensive (rather than defensive) o The divisional commander has called for an increase in aggressive patrolling.

aggressive delay /əˈgresɪv dɪˈleɪ/ noun a tactic involving the aggressive use of small units to slow down an advancing enemy force so that a main line of defence can be prepared or strengthened

aggressor /əˈɡresər/ noun a nation which attacks another nation without provocation o Ruritania is seen as the aggressor in this conflict.

aggro /ˈæɡrəʊ/ noun disorderly behaviour leading to violence (informal) o We’re expecting aggro tonight.

AGM abbreviation air-to-ground missile

agreement /əˈɡrɛmənt/ noun a contract made between the authorities of different nations, or between NATO commanders and national authorities

AH-1 /ˈeɪ eɪtʃ /ˈwʌn/ noun, Huey Cobra

AH-64 /ˈeɪ eɪtʃ sɪkstɪˈfɔːr/ noun, Apache

AI abbreviation airborne interception

aid /eɪd/ noun help o aid to the civil authorities military assistance in maintaining public services (such as firefighting, refuse collection, etc.) o aid to the civil powers military assistance to the police in maintaining law and order o verb to help o to aid and abet to help and encourage someone to commit a crime (legal term)

aide-de-camp /əˌdɛdəˈkæmp/ noun French an officer (usually a captain) who acts as a personal assistant to a general. Abbr ADC (NOTE: The plural form is aides-de-camp)

aide-mémoire /eɪdˌmɛməˈmɔːr/ noun French a book or card containing useful or specialist information in an easy-to-read format o He left his aide-mémoire in the briefing room.

AIDS /sounds, Aɪdz/ noun an infection caused by the HIV virus which attacks the body’s immune system. Full form acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

aid worker /ˈeɪt ˌwɜːkər/ noun a person involved in foreign aid

AIFV /ˈeɪt ˌaɪv/ noun an American-designed infantry fighting vehicle

aileron /ˈeɪərən/ noun a moving part of an aircraft wing, which is used to control lateral balance

aim /eɪm/ noun 1. the act of directing a weapon o His aim was unsteady. 2. an intention o Their aim was to disrupt our communications. o verb 1. to direct a weapon at something o He aimed at the tank. 2. to intend o We aim to capture the bridge intact.

AIM /eɪm/ noun, verb 1. another name for an air-to-air missile (AAM). Full form air intercept missile

aiming mark /ˈeɪmɪŋ mɑːrk/ noun the point at which one aims, in order to hit a target

air /eə/ adjective 1. relating to the atmosphere 2. relating to the use of aircraft o noun 1. the earth’s atmosphere o The air is contaminated with radioactive dust. 2. a place where aircraft or birds can fly o He was ordered to watch the air. 3. in the air flying, in flight o The plane is already in the air. 3. using aircraft o The battalion deployed by air. o adjective relating to the flank of an army or formation exposed or unprotected. o The enemy’s right flank is in the air.

air-assault /ˈeər əˈsɔːlt/ adjective US equipped with their own transport helicopters and supporting attack helicopters o This is an air-assault battalion.

air cavalry

air-assault battalion /ˈeər əˈsɔːlt bɔ̃ˌtələn/ noun a US infantry battalion equipped with its own transport helicopters and supporting attack helicopters

air-assault infantry /ˈeər əˈsɔːlt ɪnˌfæntrɪ/ noun infantry equipped with their own transport helicopters and supporting attack helicopters

airbase /eɪˈbeɪs/ noun a base for the operation of military aircraft
airborne

/ˈeəbərn/ adjective 1. carried by aircraft. Compare air-assault, air-portable 2. deployed by parachute or airborne troops paratroopers.

airborne command, control and communications /ˈeəbərn kəˈmaːnd, kənˈtroʊl ən kənˌjuːmənt/ noun full form of ABCCC

airborne early warning and control /ˈeəbərn ɪərˌwiːrnɪŋ ən kənˈtrol/ noun full form of AEW & C

airborne warning and control system /ˈeəbərn wɔːrnɪŋ ən kənˈtrol ,sɪstəm/ noun electronic equipment, carried in specially designed aircraft, which detects enemy aircraft or missiles at long ranges and then coordinates their interception by friendly aircraft or missiles. Also called airborne early warning and control. Abbr AWAC

airburst /ˈeəbərst/ noun an explosion of an artillery round or missile in the air (above its target)

air cavalry /ˈeə kævəlɪ/ noun US infantry equipped with their own integral transport helicopters and attack helicopters

air chief marshal /ˈeə tʃiːf ˈmɑːʃəl/ noun a senior officer in the air force (equivalent to a general in the army)

Air Combat Command /ˈeə ˈkɔmˈbi:t kəˈmaːnd/ noun US full form of ACC

air combat manoeuvring and instrumentation /ˈeə ˈkɔmbət məˌnɔʊvəˈrɪŋ ənˌɪnstrəˌmenˈteɪʃən/ noun full form of ACMI

air commodore /ˈeə ˈkɒmədɔːr/ noun a senior officer in the air force, below an air vice marshal

air component /ˈeə ˈkɔmpənənt/ noun all aircraft, regardless of whether they are from the air force or navy or army

air controller /ˈeə kənˈtroʊlər/ noun same as air traffic controller

air-cooled /ˈeə ˈkʊld/ adjective cooled by a current of air or simply by exposure to the atmosphere. This machine-gun is air-cooled.

air cover /ˈeə kəvər/ noun aircraft which are in the air or on call in order to provide air support if required

aircraft /ˈeəkrɑːft/ noun a machine capable of flight

comment: Aircraft are classified as fixed-wing aircraft (aircraft with wings) and rotary-wing aircraft (helicopters).

aircraft carrier /ˈeəkrɑːft kəˈriər/ noun a large ship designed to carry aircraft and equipped with maintenance facilities and a runway for take-off and landing

aircraft control room /ˈeəkrɑːft kənˈtroʊl ,rʊm/ noun full form of ACR

aircraftman /ˈeəkrɑːftmən/ noun the lowest non-commissioned rank in the air force (equivalent to a private soldier in the army). Abbr AC

aircrew /ˈeəkrʊə/ noun the personnel who man an aircraft

air defence /ˈeə dɪˈfens/ noun defence against enemy aircraft. This divisional artillery includes an air defence battery.

airdrop /ˈeədrɒp/ noun the dropping of cargo or personnel from an aircraft which is flying

air engineering officer /ˈeə ˌendʒiˈnɪərɪŋ ˈɒfɪsər/ noun full form of AEO

airfield /ˈeəfɪl/ noun an area of ground (often unprepared) where aircraft can take off and land and be maintained

air force /ˈeə fɔːs/ noun the branch of a state's armed forces which operates in the air

airforce /ˈeə fɔːs/ adjective relating to an air force. All air-force personnel on the base should report to the duty officer.

airframe /ˈeəfrɛm/ noun the body of an aircraft

air intake /ˈeə ,ɪntɪʃək/ noun the part of an engine which draws air in from outside

air intercept missile /ˈeə ˈɪntəˌsɛptˌmɪsəl/ noun full form of AIM
**Air-Land Battle** /ə lænd 'bæt(ə)/ noun a current military doctrine in which aircraft and long-range missiles are used to attack the enemy’s reserves and logistical support, at the same time as his forward elements are being engaged by ground forces using all the principles of manoeuvre warfare.

**air-launched anti-radiation missile** /ə laʊntʃd _'rədiətʃən_ 'mɪsɪl/ noun a weapon that is launched from an aircraft to destroy enemy radar systems.

**air liaison officer** /ə 'lɪəzn_ 'ɒfɪsə/ noun a member of the air force who acts as an intermediary between ground and air forces.

**airlift** /ə'laɪft/ noun movement of men or equipment or supplies using aircraft.

**airport** /ə'pɔːt/ noun a complex of runways for the take-off and landing of air vehicles.

**airman** /ə'mæn/ noun 1. a member of the air force
2. the lowest non-commissioned rank in the air force
3. US the lowest non-commissioned rank in the navy

**airman first class** /ə'mæn fərst klas/ noun a junior non-commissioned rank in the air force.

**air marshal** /ə'mərʃəl/ noun a senior officer in the air force, below an air chief marshal.

**airmobile** /ə'mɔbəl/ adjective deployed to an area of operations by transport aircraft.

**air naval gunfire liaison company** /ə'neɪv(ə)ˌgɪnflɪən_ 'kɒmpəni/ noun a maritime unit that provides liaison between the navy and the army.

**air officer commanding** /ə'ɔfɪsə_ 'kəmən'dɪŋ/ noun the commander of a large air-force grouping.

**air operation** /ər_ 'ɒpərer_ 'ʃən/ noun a military operation involving aircraft.

**air photograph** /əˌfəʊtəgrəf/ noun a photograph of an area of ground taken from an aircraft.

**airplane** /ə'plɛn/ noun US a fixed-wing aircraft. (Note: The British English term is aeroplane.)

**airport** /ə'pɔːst/ noun a complex of runways for the take-off and landing of civil aircraft, with facilities for aircraft maintenance and the care of passengers.

**air-portable** /ə_ 'pɔːt(ə)l/ adjective capable of deploying to an area of operations by transport aircraft. Compare airborne, air-assault.

**air-portable battalion** /ə_ 'pɔːt(ə)l_ 'bæt(ə)lɪn/ noun an infantry battalion which is not equipped with armoured fighting vehicles and can therefore be transported by air to an area of operations.

**air-portable infantry** /ə_ 'pɔːt(ə)l_ 'ɪnfiəntri/ noun infantry who are not equipped with armoured fighting vehicles (AFV) and can therefore be deployed to an area of operations by transport aircraft.

**air raid** /ə_ rɛd/ noun an attack by aircraft against a target on the ground (usually with bombs).

**air-sea rescue** /ə_ 'rɛsəkʃən/ noun the use of aircraft and helicopters to rescue someone from the sea.

**air strike** /ə_ stræk/ noun an attack by aircraft against a target on the ground (usually with bombs).

**air-stripe** /ə_ 'strɪp/ noun an area of ground cleared of vegetation and levelled in order to allow the take-off and
air superiority

landing of small aircraft

The engineers prepared an airstrip close to the field hospital.

air superiority

a situation in which you have sufficient fighter aircraft to prevent the enemy from using his air assets effectively.

air support

an attack by aircraft in support of ground troops. Any assistance given by aircraft to ground troops.

air tasking order

a daily programme of all air tasks, including routes, targets, frequencies, call signs, logistical details, etc.

air task operations centre

AATO

air traffic controller

a civilian or military official who controls the passage of aircraft through a defined air-space.

air vice marshal

a senior officer in the air force, below an air marshal.

air waves

the entire range of radio frequency.

The enemy will be scanning the air waves for our radio transmissions.

airwoman

the lowest female non-commissioned rank in the air force.

airworthy

fit to fly. This helicopter is not airworthy.

AK-47

a Soviet-designed 7.62mm assault weapon. Kalashnikov

Alamo

a Soviet-designed medium-range air-to-air missile (AAM)

alarm

warning of threat or danger. We had a gas alarm last night.

alert

a signal to be given when there is an alarm. The gas alarm is given by banging two mess tins together.

air-launched anti-radiation missile

airman

Do not be alarmed.

alert

a warning of a threat or danger. There is no cause for alarm.

ALARM

a British-designed air-to-ground anti-radar missile (ARM). Full form air-launched anti-radiation missile

alarmed

Do not be alarmed.

alert

Do not be alarmed.

Alpha

US spelling of Alpha

alias

also known as.

Allegi

We are looking for Sidney Logan, alias Michael Higgins.

alien

belonging to or coming from another country. Alien ships are being impounded.

foreign

from another planet.
seen an alien spacecraft.

ally /'ælə/ noun a member of an alliance

ALO /ələu/ noun an air-force officer

amber

ALO

alliance /ələns/ noun a formal agreement known as a treaty between two or more nations or ethnic groups, usually as a result of a formal agreement known as a treaty.

aligned /əlɪnd/ verb to bring something into line with something else.

Alignment

alignment /əlɪnmənt/ noun an act of aligning.

allegiance /əlɪdʒ(ə)n/ noun loyalty to a person or cause.

alleged

alliance /əlɪans/ noun cooperation between two or more nations or ethnic or political groups, usually as a result of a formal agreement known as a treaty.

allied /əlɪd/ adjective related by an alliance.

Allied

Allied soldiers managed to alienate the villagers.

Allied troops entered the capital yesterday.

Allied

Alphajet

Alpha /'ælfə/ noun the first letter of the phonetic alphabet (Aa).

alpha /'ælfə/ noun a French/German-designed light fighter aircraft.

alpha /'ælfə/ noun the first letter of the phonetic alphabet (Aa).

alternate /'ɔltənet/ adjective one after the other (often repeatedly).

alternatively /'ɔltənetli/ adverb one after the other (often repeatedly).

alternative /'ɔltənetvi/ adjective different or additional.

alter /'ɔltə/ verb to change something.

alteration /'ɔltəneɪʃən/ noun a change or modification to something.

altitude /'ɔltətjuːd/ noun a vertical distance from the ground or sea level. (Note: Altitude is usually measured in feet.)

ambassador /əmbə'zɑːdə/ noun a diplomat sent by a state to act as its senior representative in a foreign country.

amber /'æmbə/ adjective a colour similar to orange.
amber warning light system  /əmˈbær ˈwɑːrnɪŋ laɪt/  noun  full form of AWLS

ambulance  /ˈæmbjʊləns/  noun 1. a vehicle used to transport injured persons to a hospital 2. a medical unit

ambush  /ˈæmˌbʌʃ/  noun 1. a surprise attack by troops who wait in a concealed position for the enemy to come to them  
2. troops who carry out an ambush  
3. The ambush hasn’t returned yet.  
• verb to carry out an ambush  
We were ambushed on our return journey.

ambush patrol  /ˈæmˌbʌʃ paˈtrɔʊl/  noun  a large well-armed patrol sent out to lay an ambush.  
• anti-ambush drill

American Legion  /ˈəmərɪkən/  adjective relating to the United States of America (USA)

American (USA)  /ˈəmərɪkən/  noun  a group which protects the interests of American veterans

amidship  adverb US same as amidships

amidships  /ˈaɪmdʃɪps/  adverb in the middle of a ship  
The torpedo struck the ship amidships.

AMM abbreviation anti-missile-missile

ammo  /ˈæməʊ/  noun  ammunition (informal)

ammunition  /əˌmjuːˈnɪʃ(ə)n/  noun  a quantity of munitions (especially projectiles such as bullets, shells, missiles)  
• They have enough ammunition left for six days.  
• We are going to run out of ammunition soon.  
• to be out of ammunition to have fired all your ammunition

ammunition compound  /əˌmjuː ˈnɪʃ(ə)n ˈkɒmpɔʊnd/  noun  a place where ammunition is stored

ammunition dump  /əˌmjuːˈnɪʃ(ə)n ˈdʌmp/  noun  a temporary store of ammunition (usually in the field)

ammunition pouch  /əˌmjuːˈnɪʃ(ə)n ˈpʌʃ/  noun  a pouch which is attached to a soldier’s belt or webbing, designed to carry extra ammunition

ammunition state  /ˌæmju ˈnɪʃ(ə)n stɛt/  noun  the quantity of ammunition held by a unit or sub-unit

ammunition technical officer  /ˌæmjuˈnɪʃ(ə)nˈtekən(t)ɪk(ə)n ˈtɪʃən/  noun  full form of ATO

amphibious  /əmˈfɪbiəs/  adjective suitable for use both on water and on land

amphibious assault  /əmˌfɪbiəs əˈsɔːlt/  noun  an attack by land and sea forces, usually involving a landing by ground forces from assault craft

amphibious engineers  /əmˌfɪbiəs əˈendʒərɪnərz/  plural noun  engineer troops who specialize in the construction of bridges and in river crossing

amphibious operation  /əmˌfɪbiəs əˈpərəʃ(ə)n/  noun  an operation involving ground forces landed from the sea

amphibious tractor  /əmˌfɪbiəs ˈtræktr/  noun  full form of Amtrac

amphibious vehicle  /əmˌfɪbiəs ˈvɪərəkl/  noun  a vehicle designed for use both on water and on land

amputate  /əmpjuˈteɪt/  verb  to remove a person’s limb (normally by surgical operation)  
The doctor decided to amputate his leg.

amputation  /əmpjuˈteɪʃ(ə)n/  noun  an act of amputating a person’s limb

amputee  /əmpjuˈtɪz/  noun  a person who has had a limb amputated

AMRAAM  /əmˈreɪm/  noun  an American-designed radar-guided air-to-air missile (AAM). Full form advanced medium-range air-to-air missile

Amtrac  /əmˈtræk/  noun  an amphibious armoured personnel carrier (APC) which is capable of travelling on water from a landing ship to the shore. Full form amphibious tractor

AMX  /əmˈɛks/  noun  a French series of armoured fighting vehicles

AMX-10  noun  an infantry fighting vehicle

AMX-13  noun  a light tank

AMX-13 DCA  noun  a self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG)
anchor

AMX-30 noun a 1960s-era main battle tank (MBT)

AMX-40 noun a 1980s-era main battle tank (MBT)

AMX-10P noun a self-propelled gun

AMX-40 noun a 1960s-era main battle tank (MBT)

AMX-30 noun a 1980s-era main battle tank (MBT)

AMX-30 noun a 1960s-era main battle tank (MBT)

ATK

anti-aircraft /ˌenteɪ ˈeɪkrɑft/ adjective designed to damage or destroy an aircraft in flight. Anti-aircraft guns fired at the incoming bombers. Abbr AAA

anti-aircraft artillery /ˌenteɪ ˈeɪkrɑft ˈɔːrtílərs/ noun a cannon or heavy machine-gun (often self-propelled), which is designed to shoot down aircraft. The radar site is surrounded by anti-aircraft artillery. Abbr AAA

anti-air warfare /ˌenteɪ ˈɛərfeər/ noun a naval term for air defence. Abbr AAW

AAW

COMMENT: The air defence of a naval force is organized in depth, with three distinct defence zones. The first line of defence is the Aircraft Defence Zone which is patrolled by friendly fighter aircraft (usually operating from aircraft carriers). If the enemy aircraft manage to evade the fighters, they then enter the Area Defence Zone, which is covered by the warships' long-range surface-to-air missiles (SAM) for the mutual defence of the entire force. If the enemy get through this, they enter the Point Defence Zone, in which individual warships use their short-range SAMs and other weapons systems (e.g. CIWS) for self-defence.

anti-ambush drill /ˌenteɪ ˈɛmbbʊʃ ˈdrɪl/ noun a standard countermeasure for troops who find themselves caught in an ambush

anti-armour /ˌenteɪ ˈaɪmər/ same as anti-tank

anti-dim /ˌenteɪ ˈdɪm/, anti-dimmer /ˌenteɪ ˈdimər/ noun grease designed to stop condensation forming on the eyepieces of a respirator

anti-missile-missile /ˌenteɪ ˈmɪsəlˌmɪsəl/ noun a missile designed to shoot down an enemy ballistic missile. Abbr AMM

anti-personnel /ˌenteɪ ˈpɜːsrənəl/ adjective designed to injure or kill a person

anti-personnel mine /ˌenteɪ ˈpɜːsrənəlˌmɪn/ noun a mine designed to injure or kill a person

anti-radar missile /ˌenteɪ ˈrɛdrəˌmɪsəl/ noun a missile designed to

ANTARCTIC CIRCLE noun the parallel running round the Earth at latitude 66° 32 S, to the south of which lies the Antarctic region. Compare Arctic

Antarctic adjective referring to the Antarctic

Antarctic Circle /ˌenteɪ ˈaɪktɪkˌsɪk(ə)rəl/ noun the parallel running round the Earth at latitude 66° 32 S, to the south of which lies the Antarctic region. Compare Arctic

antenna /ˈentənə/ noun a metal rod, mast or structure used in the transmission of radio signals. aerial (NOTE: The plural of antenna, in this context, is antennae, rather than antennea.)

ante-room /ˈenteɪˌrʊm/ noun a drawing-room in an officers' mess. The CO is in the ante-room.

anthrax /ˈenthræksw/ noun a disease of cattle and sheep which is transmissible to humans

COMMENT: Caused by a bacillus, Bacillus anthracis, anthrax can be transmitted by touching infected skin, meat or other parts of an animal. It causes pustules on the skin or in the lungs. Some nations are known to have developed anthrax for use as a biological weapon.

anti- /ˌenteɪ/ prefix designed to counter
anti-tank mine /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk ˈmaɪn/ noun a mine designed to damage or destroy an armoured vehicle

anti-tank platoon /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk pləˈtəʊn/ noun a specialist platoon of an infantry battalion, whose specific role is to protect forces against sniper fire

anti-tank ditch /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk ˈdɪtʃ/ noun a ditch dug as an obstacle to tanks and other armoured vehicles

anti-tank grenade launcher /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk ˈɡrɪnɪdʒər ˈlæŋɡwɪdʒər/ noun a grenade launcher designed to damage or destroy an armoured vehicle

anti-tank mine /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk ˈmaɪn/ noun a mine designed to damage or destroy an armoured vehicle

anti-tank platoon /ˌænti-ˈtæŋk pləˈtəʊn/ noun a specialist platoon of an infantry battalion, whose specific role is the destruction of enemy armour. LAW

AOC abbreviation air officer commanding

AOCC abbreviation air operations coordination cell

AOR abbreviation area of responsibility

AP abbreviation 1. Allied Publication 2. anti-personnel 3. armour-piercing

Apache /ˈæpətʃ/ noun an American attack helicopter

APC abbreviation armoured personnel carrier (APC) a wheeled armoured vehicle designed for front-line transport of infantry. LAW

APDS abbreviation armour-piercing discarding-sabot

APFSDS abbreviation armour-piercing fin-stabilized discarding-sabot

Aphid /ˈɛfɪd/ noun a small insect that feeds on the sap of plants

appoint /əˈpɔɪnt/ verb 1. to assign a person to a job ○ He was appointed as platoon sergeant 2. to arrange a time and place ○ The O Group was appointed for 1600 hours.

appointment /əˈpɔɪntmənt/ noun 1. an act of assigning a person to a job ○ He is responsible for all appointments within the unit. 2. an arrangement to meet at a specific time and place ○ I have an appointment with the doctor. 3. a job ○ He is not suitable for this appointment.

appointment /əˌpɔɪntmənt/ noun 1. an act of coming near ○ We could hear the approach of enemy tanks. 2. a route towards a specific location ○ We must cover all the likely approaches. ○ We have to approach the enemy position.

approach lights /əˌpɔɪnt ˈlaɪts/ plural noun a series of lights on the ground which show a pilot the route to an airport or landing strip

area of responsibility

Archer /ˈɑːtʃər/ noun a Soviet-designed short-range air-to-air missile (AAM)

arc of fire /ɑːk əv ˈfɔːr/ noun a designated area of ground covered by an individual weapon ○ Each soldier was shown his arc of fire.

Arctic /ˈɑːktɪk/ noun an area of ice and snow around the North Pole, the region north of the Arctic Circle. Compare Antarctic a adjective 1. referring to the
Arctic 2. relating to conditions of extreme cold

Arctic Circle /ˈærtɪk ˈsɜːk(ə)r/ noun the parallel running round the Earth at latitude 66° 33 N, to the north of which lies the Arctic region. Compare Antarctic Circle

arctic clothing /ˈærtɪk ˈklɔːðɪŋ/ noun clothing designed for use in extremely cold climates

arctic warfare /ˈærtɪk ˈwɔːfər/ noun military operations carried out near both Arctic and Antarctic regions

area /ˈeərə/ noun a piece of ground

area defence /ˈeərə ˈdɛfens/ noun a naval anti-air warfare (AAW) term for warships’ use of their long-range surface-to-air missiles (SAM) for the mutual defence

area of influence /ˈeərə əv ˈɪnfluəns/ noun ground occupied by the enemy which will probably affect a unit’s current operations

area of interest /ˈeərə əv ˈɪntərst/ noun ground occupied by the enemy which could affect a unit’s future operations

area of separation /ˈeərə əv ˌsepsəˈretʃ(ə)n/ noun same as buffer zone

area weapon /ˈeərə ˈwɛpən/ noun a weapon which can deliver a quantity of projectiles over a wide area and thus effectively engage several targets simultaneously (e.g. machine gun, artillery, mortar, cluster bomb)

arm /ɑːrm/ noun 1. a weapon ○ The right to bear arms is protected by the constitution. 2. to order arms to hold a rifle with the butt resting on the ground beside the right foot (military instructions) ○ to port arms to hold a rifle diagonally across the chest (military instructions) ○ to present arms to salute someone by holding a rifle in front of the body in a vertical position (military instructions) ○ to reverse arms to hold a rifle with the butt facing upwards and the muzzle pointing at the ground (used at funerals) ○ to shoulder arms to carry a rifle by resting it on the shoulder (military instructions) 3. under arms serving in the armed forces ○ They have an army of 100,000 permanently under arms. 4. a branch of the armed forces (e.g., armour, artillery, infantry) 1. verb 1. to equip with weapons ○ The government is starting to arm the police. 2. to prepare a shell, bomb, etc., by removing any safety mechanism ○ To arm the shell you must remove the safety pin.

ARM abbreviation anti-radar missile

Armalite /ˈɑːrmələt/ noun an American 5.56mm assault weapon

armament /ˈɑːrməmənt/ noun 1. a general term for a weapon 2. the process of equipping with weapons

armaments factory /ˈɑːrməmənts ˈfækt(ə)rɪ/ noun a factory making guns, tanks, etc.

armed abbreviation armoured

armed /ˈɑːmd/ adjective 1. equipped with a weapon ○ The man is armed and dangerous. 2. ready to fire or explode ○ The shell is armed when the safety pin is removed.

armed forces /ˈɑːmd ˈfɔːsiz/ plural noun a general title for all military forces (army, navy, air force, etc.)

armed insurrection /ˈɑːmd ˈɪnsərəʃ(ə)n/ noun resistance to established authority, involving the use of weapons

armed neutrality /ˈɑːmd niːtəri/ noun the use of armed force by a neutral state, in order to prevent interference by the military forces of other states which are involved in a war

armistice /ˈɑrmɪstɪs/ noun an agreement by both sides to stop fighting ○ An armistice was signed to end the war. ○ ceasefire, truce

armor /ˈɑrmər/ noun US spelling of armour

armored /ˈɑrməd/ adjective US spelling of armoured

armorer adjective US spelling of armourer

armor-piercing /ˈɑrmər ˈpɜːsɪŋ/ adjective US spelling of armour-piercing

armory /ˈɑrmərɪ/ noun US spelling of armoury

armour /ˈɑmər/ noun 1. a defensive covering designed to protect a vehicle from bullets, shrapnel and other projec-
armoured 16

armoured /ˈɑːmd/ adjective 1. protected by armour 2. equipped with armoured fighting vehicles
armoured battalion /ˈɑːmd ˈbaɪnətʃən/ noun a tank battalion
armoured bridgelayer /ˈɑːmd ˈbrɪdʒləˈeɪər/ noun an armoured vehicle fitted with a folding bridge
armoured car /ˈɑːmd ˈkɑːr/ noun a light wheeled armoured fighting vehicle, normally used for reconnaissance
armoured cavalry /ˈɑːmd ˈkævəlri/ noun US highly mobile armoured troops specializing in the roles of reconnaissance and advance guard
armoured cavalry regiment /ˈɑːmd ˈkævəlri ˈrɛdʒɪmənt/ noun US a tactical organization of three combined arms groupings, each of battalion strength, known as 'cavalry squadrons', plus one air cavalry squadron of helicopters. It is a highly mobile force specializing in the roles of reconnaissance, advance guard and covering force. Abbr ACR
armoured combat earthmover /ˈɑːmd ˈkɒmbət ˈɜːðmʌvər/ noun an American-designed armoured bulldozer. Abbr ACE
armoured fighting vehicle /ˈɑːmd ˈfɪtʃəvɪl/ noun an armoured vehicle equipped with some form of weapon (e.g. anti-tank gun, heavy machine-gun). Abbr AFV
armoured infantry /ˈɑːmd ˈɪnfəntri/ noun infantry equipped with infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs)
armoured infantry battalion /ˈɑːmd ˈɪnfəntri ˈbəʊtəlʃən/ noun an infantry battalion equipped with infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs)
armoured personnel carrier /ˈɑːmd ˈpɜːrsənəl ˈkærəl/ noun an armoured vehicle used to transport troops or police. Abbr APC (NOTE: normally referred to as an APC: I can see three APCs on the edge of the wood)

armoured reconnaissance vehicle /ˈɑːmd ˈrɪˈkənznəs ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l/ noun an armoured vehicle designed for carrying out reconnaissance
armoured recovery vehicle /ˈɑːmd ˈrɪˈkəvərɪ ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l/ noun an armoured vehicle designed to tow a disabled or broken-down armoured vehicle away from the battlefield. Abbr ARV
armoured regiment /ˈɑːmd ˈrɛdʒɪmənt/ noun 1. a tactical grouping of two or more armoured battalions, possibly including armoured infantry 2. a tank battalion

COMMENT: In the British Army, the brigade is used instead of the regiment as a tactical grouping of two or more battalions. Battalion-sized units of tanks or artillery are known as regiments for traditional reasons, while an infantry regiment is purely an historical and administrative grouping for two or more battalions which normally serve in different brigades. Armoured regiments and armoured infantry battalions are usually organized into armoured brigades at a ratio of 2:1, depending upon the tactical requirement.

armoured repair and recovery vehicle /ˈɑːmd ˈrɪpər ɪnd ˈrɪˈkəvərɪ ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l/ noun an updated version of the armoured recovery vehicle (ARV) fitted with additional lifting equipment to assist in the repair of armoured vehicles in the field. Abbr ARRV
armoured vehicle /ˈɑːmd ˈfɪtʃəvɪl, ˈɑːmd ˈrɪˈkəvərɪ ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l, ˈɑːmd ˈpɜːrsənəl ˈkærəl ˈnɔːn/ a vehicle which is protected by armour. Abbr AVF
Armoured Vehicle Launched Bridge /ˈɑːmd ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l ˈlɔʊntʃd ˈbrɪdʒ/ noun a British armoured vehicle based on a Chieftain tank and fitted with a folding bridge. Abbr AVLB
Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineers /ˈɑːmd ˈvɪrɪk(ə)l ˈrɔsəl ˈendʒɪn/ noun a British armoured vehicle based on the Centurion tank and fitted with one or more specialist pieces of engineer equipment (such as a demolition gun, mine plough, fascines). Abbr AVRE
armourer /ˌɔːmərər/ noun a technician who services and repairs weapons

armour-piercing /ˌɔːmərˈpιərsɪŋ/ adjective capable of penetrating armour

The tank was hit by a 120mm armour-piercing round.

armour-piercing bullet /ˌɔːmərˌpιərsɪŋˈbulɪt/ noun a bullet designed to penetrate armour

armour-piercing discarding-sabot /ˌɔːmərˌpιərsɪŋˌdɪskəˈdɜrɪŋˌsæbəʊt/ noun an anti-armour projectile consisting of a long-rod penetrator, fitted with a stabilizing metal collar (sabot) which falls away once the projectile is in flight. Abbr APDS

armour-piercing fin-stabilized discarding-sabot /ˌɔːmərˌpιərsɪŋˌfɪnˌstɪbɪlɪzaɪdˌdɪskəˈdɜrɪŋˌsæbəʊt/ noun an armour-piercing discarding-sabot in which the long-rod penetrator is fitted with metal fins for extra stability. Abbr APFDS. ○ long-rod penetrator

armoury /ˈɑːmərɔɪ/ noun a secure location where weapons are stored

arms /ɑːms/ plural noun military service in general

army /ˈɑːmi/ noun 1. the branch of a state’s armed forces which operates on land (e.g. infantry, armoured and artillery)

○ The latest Defence Review will have serious implications for the Army. 2. a tactical grouping of two or more corps ○ The US Third Army was commanded by General Patton.

Army Air Corps /ˈɑːmi ærˌkoʊ/ noun an air force (mainly helicopters) which is part of the army rather than the R.A.F. Abbr AAC

army group /ˈɑːmi ɡruːp/ noun a large formation of land forces normally comprising two or more armies or army corps under a single commander

arrangement /ə’reɪnmənt/ noun 1. technical arrangements

ARRC abbreviation Allied Rapid Reaction Corps

arrest /əˈrest/ noun an act of arresting someone ○ A police spokesman admitted that the arrest had been a mistake. ○ under arrest detained in custody by the authorities ○ you are under arrest! ● verb to seize a person and take him into custody ○ The patrol arrested two suspected terrorists.

arrestable /əˈrestəb(ə)l/ adjective for which you can be arrested

arrestable offence /əˌrestəb(ə)l əˈfʌns/ noun an illegal act for which someone may be arrested without an arrest warrant

arrest warrant /əˌrest ˈwɜːnt/ noun a document issued by a judge, magistrate or other official which authorizes the security forces to arrest a specified person

arrowhead /əˈroʊəhɛd/ noun a tactical formation of men or vehicles, in the form of an inverted letter V ○ The platoon moved across the open ground in arrowhead formation.

ARRV abbreviation armoured repair and recovery vehicle

arsenal /ˈɑːsənl/ noun 1. a room or building where weapons and ammunition are stored ○ The platoon will parade at the arsenal at 0900hrs. 2. a government establishment for the manufacture of weapons ○ The arsenal in Birmingham has been closed down. 3. a figurative term for the weaponry available to a government or paramilitary organization ○ This is the most powerful weapon in the terrorists’ arsenal.

Arsine /ɑːrˈsɪn/ noun a type of blood agent. Full form arsenic trihydride

arsenol /ˈɑːsən(ə)l/ noun the criminal offence of setting fire to something ○ There have been several arson attacks. ○ He was arrested for arson.

artificer /ɑːrˈtɪfrər/ noun a mechanic or technician

artificial /ˌɑrˈtɪfɪʃ(ə)l/ adjective man-made

artillery /ɑːrˈtɪləri/ noun 1. a general title for large-calibre guns, missiles and air-defence weapons 2. a branch of the army which uses these weapons ○ ‘Great battles are won with artillery,’ said Napoleon (an ex-gunner) ○ He served in the Royal Artillery.
artilleryman [ˈɑːtɪlərɪmən] noun a soldier serving in the artillery

artillery piece [ˈɑːtɪlərɪ pɪς] noun a large calibre gun used as an indirect-fire weapon

artillery preparation [ˈɑːtɪlərɪ ,prɛpə'reɪʃ(ə)n] noun the bombardment of an objective, prior to an assault

artillery raid [ˈɑːtɪlərɪ rɛɪd] noun a tactic using artillery, where the guns move into enemy territory to attack a specific target and then withdraw before the enemy can retaliate

arty abbreviation artillery

ARV abbreviation armoured recovery vehicle

ASAP /ˈæsəp/ adverb as soon as possible

ASM abbreviation anti-ship missile or air-to-surface missile

asphalt //ˈæsfəlt// noun US a road surface made of a mixture of tar and gravel (NOTE: The British English term is tarmac.)

ASRAAM /ˈæzərəm/ noun a British-designed radar-guided air-to-air missile (AAM). Full form advanced short-range air-to-air missile

assault /ˈɔːsəlt// adjective designed for use in combat ■ noun a final stage of an attack onto an enemy position ○ The assault on the farm was a complete success. ■ verb to use force in order to occupy an enemy position ○ B Company will assault the village.

assault boat /ˈɔːsəlt bɔt/ noun a light, man-portable boat designed to carry a section of infantry

assault course /ˈɔːsəlt kɔrs/ noun a series of obstacles used by infantry training establishments to practise obstacle-crossing

assault craft /ˈɔːsəlt kɹɑft/ noun a small boat designed for amphibious operations

assault force /ˈɔːsəlt fɔrs/ noun a group of troops, tanks, etc. which attacks a position

assault river crossing /ˈɔːsəlt_ ˈrɪvə_ kˈrɔsɪŋ/ noun the act of crossing a river while in contact with the enemy

assault weapon /ˈɔːsəlt_ wɛpən/ noun a semi-automatic rifle, equipped with a magazine holding 20–30 rounds and fitted with a bayonet

assemble /ˈæsəmbli/ verb 1. to come together ○ The battalion assembled in the gymnasium. 2. to bring together ○ Sgt Jones assembled the platoon in the briefing room. 3. to put together ○ They were killed as they were assembling the mortar.

assembly /ˈæsəmbli/ noun an act of coming together

assembly area /ˈæsəmbli_ əˈzɛriə/ noun a specified location where sub-units of a tactical grouping assemble in order to prepare themselves for the next phase of an operation

assign /ˈæsən/ verb to appoint to a position or task ○ He was assigned to the mortar platoon.

assignment /ˈæsənmənt/ noun a task or job ○ My first assignment was to update the brigade security orders.

assist /ˈɑːsɪst/ verb to help

assistance /ˈɑːsɪstəns/ noun help ○ We had to provide assistance to the civil authorities.

assy area abbreviation assembly area

astern /ˈɑːstərn/ adverb to the rear of a boat or ship ○ He went astern.

ASU abbreviation active service unit

ASW abbreviation anti-submarine warfare

AT- prefix anti-tank

ATAF /əˈtæf/ noun a large NATO airforce grouping. Full form Allied Tactical Air Force

ATGM abbreviation anti-tank guided missile

ATGW abbreviation anti-tank guided weapon

A/Tk abbreviation anti-tank

ATO3 /əˈtəʊs/ noun an officer or non-commissioned officer (NCO) who is trained to make bombs, booby traps and
unexploded munitions safe. Full form
ammunition technical officer
ATO² abbreviation air tasking order
ATOC /'ætʃəri/ noun the department of
an air-force headquarters which is re-
sponsible for allocating tasks to squad-
rions. Full form air task operations
centre
atoll /ˈætəl/ noun a ring-shaped tropi-
cal island
atom /ˈætəm/ noun the smallest unit of
a chemical element, which can be used
as a source of nuclear energy
atom bomb /ˈætəm bɒm/ noun same
as atomic bomb
atomic /ˈætəmɪk/ adjective 1. relating
to the structure of atoms 2. relating to
the use of nuclear energy
COMMENT: Although their meanings
are not identical, the word atomic
has now been superseded by nuclear
for most general contexts.
atomic bomb /ˈætəmɪk bɒm/ noun a
bomb with enormous destructive power
generated by the release of nuclear
energy
atomic energy /ˈætəmɪk enədʒi/ noun nuclear energy
atomic submarine /ˈætəmɪk səbˌmərtɪn/ noun a submarine driven
by nuclear power
atomic warfare /ˈætəmɪk ˈwɔːfər/ noun warfare involving the use of atomic
weapons
atomic weapon /ˈætəmɪk wepən/ noun a bomb, missile or other device
which utilises the release of nuclear
energy
atrocity /ˈætətrəs/ noun an act consid-
ered by normal people to be extremely
wicked (such as murder of civilians,
rape, etc.)
atropine /ˈætrəpɪn/ noun a substance
injected as first aid for someone who
has been exposed to a nerve agent
attach /ˈætʃ/ verb 1. to fasten one
object to another 2. Our sleeping bags
were attached to the side of the vehicle.
2. to assign a soldier or sub-unit to an-
other unit for a specific role or task 3. We
have a troop of tanks attached to us for
this attack. Compare detach
attaché /ˈætʃəʃ/ noun a specialist
member of an ambassador’s staff
attachment /ˈætʃmənt/ noun 1.
something which is attached to another
object for a special purpose 2. the act
of sending a person or sub-unit to work
with another unit for a specific task 3.
He was sent on attachment to the navy.
attack /əˈtæk/ adjective designed for
offensive action 4. noun an offensive use
of force in order to achieve an objective
(e.g. the capture of ground) 5. The attack
was a complete success. 6. hasty attack.
quick attack an attack which is mount-
ed without the opportunity to first carry
out full reconnaissance, planning and
preparation 7. verb to act offensively
against an enemy, a position, etc. 8. C
Company will attack the village at first
light.
attack aircraft /əˈtæk əˈækraft/ noun an aircraft which is designed to
drop bombs on or fire missiles at targets
on the ground, and is also capable of de-
fending itself against enemy fighter air-
craft 9. fighter, strike aircraft
attack helicopter /əˈtæk ˌhelɪkəptər/ noun a helicopter equipped with weap-
ons to attack other helicopters or targets on the ground
attack in echelon /əˈtæk ɪn ˈɛʃələn/ noun same as echelon attack
attempt /əˈtæmpt/ noun 1. an act
of trying (usually unsuccessful) 2. There
were no more attempts to escape. 3. an
attack (usually unsuccessful) 4. The en-
emy made several attempts on the
bridge. 5. verb to try 6. He attempted to
climb the fence.
attend /əˈtend/ verb to be present at
He attended the conference.
atention /əˈtenʃən/ noun 1. the act
of applying your mind to something 2. May
I have your attention, please? 3. a at-
tention! stand to attention! (military
command) 4. Parade, attention! 5. to
stand at attention to stand in the posi-
tion of attention 6. to stand at attention
to change position to stand at attention
3. help or treatment give to somebody
forces already in a certain area to provide reinforcements to NATO brought from Europe or North America carry out authentication power to do something. 2. an organization which exercises power over the authorities police or other law enforcement organization 3. strength of character which makes other people obey your orders 4. He lacks authority.

authorize /'ɔzɔraɪzaɪ/ authorise verb to give someone official permission to do something 4. I am not authorized to do that.

autojet /'ɔutədʒet/ noun a syrette, fitted with a mechanism which injects the dose automatically (usually by striking it against the flesh) 4. Each man was issued with an autojet of morphine.

automatic /'ɔtə'mætɪk/ adjective capable of performing a function by itself noun a firearm which will continue to reload itself and fire for as long as pressure is applied to the trigger (e.g. a machine-gun) 4. He was armed with an automatic. 4. There was a burst of automatic fire from the woods.

attic /'ætɪk/ noun a space below the roof of a house, normally used for storage 4. There was a sniper in the attic.

attic /'ætɪk/ noun 20

or something 4. The wounded men needed urgent medical attention.

attic /'ætɪk/ noun a space below the roof of a house, normally used for storage 4. There was a sniper in the attic.

attrition /ə'trɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. damage caused to an object as a result of repeated contact with another object 4. This grease will reduce the rate of attrition. 2. the gradual destruction of an enemy force by repeated attacks or by stubborn defence.

attritional warfare /ə'trɪʃ(ə)n wiərəfn/ noun an outdated military doctrine which seeks to destroy an enemy’s will to fight simply through the use of attrition. Compare manoeuvre warfare

Auftragstaktik /'ɔftraŋɡtəktɪk/ noun a German word meaning ‘mission tactics.’ German name for directive command (NOTE: German nouns are always spelt with a capital letter.)

COMMENT: Many English-speakers prefer to use this word, since directive command was very much a German invention. In fact, it was developed by the Prussian general staff and used to great effect during the war with Austria in 1866. Surprisingly, the British Army clung to the doctrine of restrictive control until the Falklands conflict in 1982. Now the British are also firm exponents of Auftragstaktik.

augmentation forces /'ɔgmenʃən fɔrz/ plural noun forces brought from Europe or North America to provide reinforcements to NATO forces already in a certain area

Aussie /'æzi/ noun an Australian soldier (informal)

authenticate /ɔ:sθentrɪkət/ verb to carry out authentication

authentication /'ɔ:sθentrɪkəʃ(ə)n/ noun a radio procedure (usually involving a code), designed to establish whether a radio message or radio user is genuine

authority /'ɔ:sθərəti/ noun 1. official power to do something 4. I do not have the authority to make that decision. 2. an organization which exercises power over the authorities police or other law

AV-8 /æv 8/ abbreviation AV-8B Harrier

avenue /'ævənju/ noun 1. a road with a line of trees on both sides 2. an approach route 4. We must cover all the likely avenues of approach.

AVGAS /'ævəɡæs/ noun aircraft fuel

aviation /'eɪvɪeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the use of aircraft

aviator /'eɪvɪətə/ noun a pilot or other member of an aircrew

avionics /'eɪvɪənɪks/ noun a general term for all electronic systems on an aircraft

AVLB abbreviation Armoured Vehicle Launched Bridge
**AWACS** /ˈɔːwkəs/ noun electronic equipment, carried in specially designed aircraft, which detects enemy aircraft or missiles at long ranges and then coordinates their interception by friendly aircraft or missiles. Full form **airborne warning and control system**

**award** /ˈɔːrd/ noun an official recognition of an achievement (e.g. a medal, commendation) ○ He has been recommended for a gallantry award. ▪ verb to give a prize or punishment to someone ○ He was awarded a medal for bravery. ○ He was awarded ten days’ restriction of privileges.

**AWI** abbreviation **air warfare instructor**

**AWLS** /ˈɔːˌdʌb(ə)lər/ noun an amber coloured warning light required by law to be fitted to all armoured vehicles in Germany. Full form **amber warning light system**

**AWO** /ˈɔːwu/ noun an officer on a warship who coordinates the air battle. Compare **PWO**

**AWOL** /ˈɔːwl/ adverb away from a military unit without permission ○ He’s been AWOL for three days. Full form **absent without leave**

**axis** /ˈæksɪs/ noun a real or imaginary line on the ground used to indicate the primary direction for a unit or sub-unit which is deployed in a tactical formation ○ Our axis is the main road.

**aye aye** /ˈæj/ adverb a traditional sailors’ expression, meaning ‘Yes, I will carry out your instruction’

**azimuth** /ˈæzɪməθ/ noun US a direction in mils or degrees of an object on the ground. ○ **bearing**
BRAVO - Bb

B-1 /bi: 'weɪə/ noun an American-designed long-range strategic bomber aircraft. Also called Lancer
B-2 /bi: ˈtju/ noun an American-designed stealth bomber aircraft. Also called Spirit
B-52 /bi: ˈfɪfti ˈtju/ noun an American-designed bomber aircraft (NOTE: The plural form is B-52s /bi: ˈfɪfti ˈtjuːz/.)

BAA abbreviation brigade administration area

back-bearing /ˈbæk ˌberɪŋ/ noun a bearing from a reference point to your own location. Comment: a triangulate

back blast /ˈbækblæst/ noun gasses and heat released to the rear when a rocket launcher is fired (which can injure a person standing in their way)

Backfire /ˈbækfaɪə/ noun a NATO name for a strategic variant of the Soviet-designed TU-22 medium bomber aircraft (Blinder)

backup /ˈbæksəp/ noun an additional assistance or resources available in the event of difficulty or failure. B Company can provide backup if necessary.

bacteriological warfare /ˈbæktəriələdʒi~əl ˈweɪfər/ noun same as biological warfare

badge /ˈbeɪdʒ/ noun insignia worn on a uniform or displayed on a vehicle

badge of rank /ˈbeɪdʒ ɔv ˈreɪŋk/ noun an insignia showing the wearer’s rank (e.g. bars, chevrons, stars, etc.)

Badger /ˈbeɪdʒə/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed TU-16 medium bomber aircraft

bag /beɪɡ/ noun a soft container made of paper, fabric or other material

bag charge /ˈbeɪɡ ˈtʃɑrdʒ/ noun a fabric bag containing propellant for an artillery or tank round

baggage /ˈbeɪdʒɪdʒ/ noun spare clothing and other personal effects packed up for transportation. Each company was allocated a lorry for baggage.

bagpipes /ˈbeɪɡpɪps/ plural noun a musical instrument, traditionally used by Irish and Scottish regiments, and also by some Indian and Arab regiments. They are played by blowing air into a bag and then pumping it through a set of pipes.

balaclava /ˈbala kla və, Balaclava/ helmet /ˈbala kla və ˈhelmɪt/ noun a warm woollen garment which covers the head and neck, but leaves the face or parts of the face free, and is therefore sometimes used to conceal a person’s identity. The gunman was wearing a balaclava.

ski-mask

balanced task force /ˈbælənst ˈtæsk ˈfɔrς/ noun two tank companies and two companies of mechanized infantry

bale out /ˈbɛl ˈaʊtəl/, bail out verb. 1. to escape from a damaged vehicle or
aircraft ○ The pilot bailed out. 2. to clear water from a leaking boat ○ They used their helmets to bale out.

ball /ˈbɔːl/ noun 1. a spherical object (normally used in sport) 2. standard bullets for a rifle, machine-gun or pistol ○ We need five thousand rounds of 5.56mm ball. ○ cannonball (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

ball-bearing /ˈbɔːlˌbɛərɪŋ/ noun a small solid metal ball used to reduce friction in machinery

ballistic /ˈbɔːlstɪk/ adjective 1. relating to projectiles ○ We have received the ballistic report on the shooting of Corporal Jones. 2. moving by the force of gravity

ballistic bomb /ˈbɔːlstɪstɪk ˈbɔːm/ noun a bomb which is simply dropped onto a target by an aircraft. ○ general purpose bomb, iron bomb

ballistic missile /ˈbɔːlstɪstɪk ˈmɪsɪl/ noun a guided missile which ends its flight in a ballistic descent. ○ intercontinental ballistic missile

ballistics /ˈbɔːlstɪstɪks/ noun the science of projectiles and firearms (NOTE: takes a singular verb)

balloon /ˈbɑːlən/ noun a large bag filled with gas to make it rise in the air. ○ barrage balloon

ban /bæn/ noun a law which makes an activity or object illegal ○ We want an international ban on biological weapons. ○ verb to make an activity or object illegal ○ Many nations wish to ban the use of anti-personnel mines.

band /bænd/ noun 1. a group of musicians ○ The band of the Coldstream Guards played at the reception. 2. a group of people who have organized themselves for a specific purpose (usually criminal or paramilitary) ○ There are several bands of rebels operating in the area. 3. a strip of plastic, metal or other material put around an object to keep it together ○ He removed the bands from the packing case. 4. a range of radio frequencies ○ Which bands are you monitoring?

bandage /ˈbændɪdʒ/ noun a strip of fabric used to bind a wound or other injury ○ The nurse put a bandage round his knee. ○ verb to apply a bandage ○ She bandaged the wound.

bandit /ˈbændɪt/ noun 1. a robber (usually a member of a gang) who operates in rural areas 2. an enemy aircraft (air-force slang)

bandoleer /ˈbændəlɪr/‘bəndolɪər, bandolier noun a belt which goes over one shoulder, designed to carry ammunition

bandsman /ˈbændzmən/ noun a member of a musical band (NOTE: The plural form is bandsmen.)

COMMENT: Military bandsmen are usually employed as stretcher-bearers on the battlefield.

bang /ˈbæŋ/ noun the noise made by an explosion ○ We heard a loud bang.

Bangalore torpedo /ˌbæŋɡəˈlɔːr təˈpɔːrdəʊ/ noun a device for clearing wire entanglements, consisting of piping filled with explosive, which is pushed into the obstacle and then detonated

bank /bæŋk/ noun 1. an artificial mound of earth used to enclose a field ○ We took cover behind a bank. 2. the margin of a river or lake ○ The far bank of the river has been mined. 3. a place where people can deposit or store money ○ The bank has been robbed.

banner /ˈbænər/ noun 1. a ceremonial flag 2. a piece of fabric attached to two poles and bearing a written message ○ The soldiers unfurled a banner showing instructions in Arabic for the crowd to disperse.

BAOR abbreviation British Army of the Rhine

baptism of fire /ˈbæptɪzm(ə)ˈfɜːr/ noun the first occasion of being shot at ○ He received his baptism of fire in Vietnam.

bar /bɑːr/ noun 1. a rod of metal or wood used as an obstruction ○ The window was protected with metal bars. 2. something which is long, thin and rigid (e.g. a bar of chocolate, bar of gold) 3. a sandbank in a river or estuary ○ The landing craft had to navigate between sand bars. 4. a place where alcohol may be bought and consumed 5. a badge of rank for junior officers in the US Army
barbed wire (a single bar denotes lieutenant, while a double bar denotes captain) ■ verb 1. to obstruct ○ The road was barred by fallen trees. 2. to forbid an activity ○ Soldiers were barred from all the pubs in the town.

barbed wire /ˈbarbdˌwair/ noun wire with sharp spikes attached to it, used as an obstacle

barbed-wire entanglement /ˌbarbdˌwaɪr ɪnˌtæŋɡəlmənt/ noun an obstacle to infantry made out of barbed wire

barge /ˈbarj/ noun a long, flat-bottomed boat used for carrying freight

bar mine /ˈbaː mən/ noun a type of anti-tank mine

barn /bɑːrn/ noun a large farm building (normally used for storage)

barrack dress /ˈbærək dres/ noun everyday uniform consisting of a sweater and service-dress trousers

barracks /ˈbærəks/ noun a non-operational military base

barrage /ˈbærəʒ/ noun 1. a concentrated artillery attack (usually lasting for some time) ○ A barrage of mortar fire was directed at the enemy positions. 2. a man-made barrier in a river or estuary

COMMENT: In the literal sense of the word, the purpose of an artillery barrage is to prevent, or at least hinder, the movements of the enemy, rather than to destroy his men, equipment and positions. If the latter effect is desired, then the word bombardment would be more appropriate instead.

barrage balloon /ˈbærəʒ boˌluːn/ noun a balloon which is secured to the ground by a wire cable, and used as an obstacle to low-flying aircraft

barrel /ˈbærəl/ noun 1. the tube part of a gun, down which the bullet or shell slides when it is fired ○ He spent hours cleaning the barrel of his rifle. 2. a large cylindrical container ○ The bomb was attached to a barrel of oil.

Barrett /ˈbærət/ noun an American .50 calibre sniper rifle. Also called M-82

barricade /ˈbærɪkˌeɪd/ noun an improvised obstacle or fortification ○ The street was blocked by a barricade. ■ verb to make an obstruction (with whatever materials happen to be available) ○ We barricaded the door.

barrier /ˈberəri/ noun an obstacle which prevents forward movement ○ There was a barrier across the road. ○ The mountains form a natural barrier between France and Spain.

barrow /ˈbəroʊ/ noun a large man-made mound of earth, marking the site of an ancient grave

base /ˈbeɪs/ noun 1. a secure location from which military operations can be conducted ○ We have several bases in that region. 2. a part on which an object rests ○ He examined the base of the container. ■ verb 1. to station a soldier at a base ○ I was based in Germany. 2. to use as a starting point for a calculation or development process ○ The plan was based on the belief that the enemy would not fight. ○ This engineer vehicle is based on the Chieftain tank.

base bleed /ˈbeɪsˌblid/ noun a system which increases the range of an artillery shell by means of a small gas generator fitted to the base of the shell; the generator expels gas at low pressure to reduce drag caused by the vacuum which forms at the base of the shell while it is in flight. Abbrev BB

baseline /ˈbeɪslən/ noun an offensive manoeuvre carried out under fire, in which men or vehicles move forward into extended line in order to engage the enemy. Compare foothold line

basement /ˈbeɪsmənt/ noun the part of a building which lies below ground level

baseplate /ˈbeɪsplɛt/ noun the firing platform of a mortar

basha /ˈbɑʃə/ noun an improvised shelter made from a poncho

basic load /ˈbeɪsɪk ˈləʊd/ noun the usual amount of equipment that a soldier must carry in his or her pack, or the weight of this

basic training /ˈbeɪsɪk ˈtreɪnɪŋ/ noun a period of training for new recruits ○ He has just completed his basic training.
basket /bæskt/ noun a device used in air-to-air refuelling; the basket is a receptacle fitted to the end of a fuel pipe, into which an aircraft must insert its refuelling probe in order to receive fuel
batman /ˈbætmən/ noun a soldier who cleans an officer’s kit. ◆ orderly
baton /ˈbætən/ noun 1. a stick carried as a mark of rank ◆ A painting of the Field Marshal with his marshal’s baton hangs in the mess. 2. a stick made of wood or other material for use as a weapon ◆ They carried riot shields and batons.
... every soldier carries a marshal’s baton in his rucksack [Napoleon]
baton round /ˈbætən round/ noun a large projectile made of plastic or rubber which is fired from a special gun and is designed to knock a person over but not to cause a serious injury. Also called plastic bullet, rubber bullet
battalion /ˈbætlən/ noun a tactical and administrative army grouping of three or more companies or equivalent-sized groupings. Abbr Bn
COMMENT: British tank and artillery battalions are known as regiments, as are battalion-sized units of certain supporting arms (such as engineers). American armoured cavalry battalions are known as squadrons, although normal armoured units use the term battalion. In some contexts, British infantry battalions traditionally use the word regimental as an adjective relating to the battalion; e.g. Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM), regimental aid post (RAP). A British armoured brigade might consist of two armoured or mechanized infantry battalions and one armoured regiment or, alternatively, two armoured regiments and one infantry battalion, with artillery and supporting arms. On operations, these units are broken down and combined into battle groups. As an example, an armoured infantry battle group might consist of two infantry companies and one squadron of tanks, which are organized into two company and squadron groups and a squadron and company group under the command of the infantry battalion HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time. In the US Army, a battle group is known as a task force, while company and squadron groups and squadron and company groups are known as company teams.
battalion landing team /bɔtələn ˈlændɪŋ ˈtɪm/ noun a US combined arms grouping based on a marine infantry battalion, including artillery, armoured reconnaissance, tanks and engineers. Abbr BLT
batter /ˈbætər/ verb to cause damage or injury by hitting repeatedly ◆ Our trenches were battered by the enemy artillery.
battery /ˈbætəri/ noun 1. a company-sized artillery grouping with six or more guns ◆ We have been allocated two batteries to support the attack. Abbr Bty 2. a power source for portable electrical equipment ◆ This radio needs a new battery.
battalion /ˈbætlən/ noun full form of BK
battle /ˈbætl/ noun a prolonged engagement between large numbers of opposing troops ◆ During the tank battle, several enemy tanks were put out of action. ◆ He served in the British Fleet at the Battle of Jutland. ◆ engagement, firefight, skirmish
‘Next to a battle lost, the greatest misery is a battle gained.’ [Wellington]
battle casualty replacement /ˌbætləˈri,ˌkæʒjʊələtɪ-/ noun a soldier who remains on stand-by in order to take the place of a soldier who is killed or wounded. Abbr BCR
battledress utilities /ˌbætləˈdres juˈtɪlɪtɪz/ plural noun US full form of BDU
battle fatigue /ˈbætlə ˈfætɪɡ/ noun mental and physical exhaustion resulting from a long period in battle. Also called shell shock, post-traumatic stress disorder
battlefield /ˈbætləfɪld/ noun the ground on which a battle is fought ◆ The dead and wounded were removed from the battlefield.
battlefield interdiction /ˌbætləˈfɪld ɪnˈtrɛdɪkʃən/ noun an
battle group

interdiction against targets close to the battle area

battle group /ˈbeɪt(ə)l ˈgrʊp/ noun 1. a combined arms grouping based on an armoured regiment or infantry battalion 2. a tactical grouping of warships (NOTE: The US Army equivalent is task force; the US Marine Corps equivalent is battalion landing team (BLT).) ▶ abbr BG

COMMENT: As an example, an armoured infantry battle group might consist of two infantry companies and one squadron of tanks, which are organized into two company and squadron groups and a squadron and company group under the command of the infantry battalion HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time.

battle handover point /ˈbeɪt(ə)l hændəʊvər ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a point, during the passage of lines, where the passing unit takes over or, in the case of a rearward passage of lines, hands over responsibility for the battle. Abbr BHP

battle honour /ˈbeɪt(ə)l ˈhɒnər/ noun official recognition of a unit’s achievements or conduct during a battle, which gives that unit the right to carry the name of the battle on its colours

battle inoculation /ˈbeɪt(ə)l ɪnˈkjuːʃən/ noun the process of preparing soldiers for battle by the use of live rounds and simulated battle effects

battleship /ˈbeɪt(ə)l ˈʃɪp/ noun a large armoured warship, equipped with heavy guns, which is used to destroy enemy warships and provide naval gunfire support (NCSG) to land forces

battle stations /ˈbeɪt(ə)l ˈsteɪʃənz/ plural noun a state of readiness for battle – The brigade remained at battle stations for most of the night.

bay /beɪ/ noun 1. the part of a coastline where the sea curves inland – They selected a lonely bay for the landing. 2. a space set aside for a specific purpose

bayonet /ˈbeɪnənt/ noun a stabbing blade attached to the muzzle of a rifle or assault weapon – to charge bayonets to level the bayonet at an enemy prior to charging at him ▶ a verb to stab someone with a bayonet – He was bayonetted to death. (NOTE: bayoneting – bayonet-ed)

bayonet charge /ˈbeɪnənt tʃɑːrdʒ/ noun a charge with the intention of using the bayonet

bazooka /ˈbaʊzkə/ noun a hand-held anti-tank rocket launcher

BB abbreviation 1. battleship 2. base bleed

BC abbreviation battery commander

BCR abbreviation battle casualty replacement

BDA abbreviation battle-damage assessment

Bde abbreviation brigade

Bdr abbreviation bombardier

BDU /biːdiː/ noun US a camouflage combat uniform – He was wearing BDU’s. Full form battledress utilities (NOTE: The British English term is DPM.)

beach /biːtʃ/ noun a strip of sand or gravel at the edge of the sea, lake or river

beachhead /ˈbiːtʃ ˈheɪd/ noun a defensive position established around the site of a beach landing, which is used as a secure base for subsequent operations

beach landing /ˈbiːtʃ ˈleɪndɪŋ/ noun the act of disembarking troops and vehicles onto a beach

beach-master /ˈbiːtʃ ˈmeɪstər/ noun an officer who controls the movement of troops and vehicles during a beach landing

beacon /ˈbɪkən/ noun 1. a bonfire or light used as a signal or warning 2. a lamp designed for use as a beacon 3. a radio transmitter which acts as a guide to shipping or aircraft 4. a hill traditionally used for beacon fires

Bear /beə/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed TU-95 strategic bomber aircraft

bearing /ˈbɛərɪŋ/ noun a direction, in miles or degrees, of a feature on the ground in relation to north – The church is on a bearing of 1825 mls.
bearskin /ˈbeəskɪn/, bearskin cap
noun a tall ceremonial headdress traditionally worn by guards infantry soldiers.
COMMENT: The bearskin should never be confused with the busby, which is a similar but much shorter headdress traditionally worn by cavalry soldiers.

beat /biːt/ verb 1. to hit something repeatedly to beat someone up to injure a person by repeated punching and kicking o he was badly beaten up 2. to win a victory over someone else o We’ve been beaten. (NOTE: beating – have beaten)

beaten zone /ˈbeɪt(ə)n ˈzəʊn/ noun an area of ground which is hit by the bullets from an automatic weapon

B Echelon /biː ˈɛtnələ/ noun the administrative elements of a tactical grouping

beginning of morning nautical twilight /ˈbɪniˈnaʊntʃəlˈtwɪltʃain/ noun full form of BMINT

belt /bɛlt/ noun 1. a strip of leather, webbing or other material, worn around the waist and used to support a person’s trousers or to carry equipment-pouches. o Sam Browne 2. ammunition which is linked together by metal clips or fastened by loops to a strip of canvas, in order to be fired by a machine-gun

belt-fed /ˈbɛlt ˈfed/ adjective designed to fire belts of ammunition

beret /ˈberɛt/ noun a soft peakless hat

bergen /ˈberɡən/ noun a large fabric container suspended from a metal frame, which is designed to be carried on a person’s back. o pack, rucksack

berm /bɜːm/ noun an artificial bank of earth or sand used as a barrier or fortification

COMMENT: Berms were extensively used by both the Iraqis and coalition forces during the Gulf War of 1991.

besiege /ˈbɛsɪdʒ/ verb to surround an enemy town or fortress with troops in enemy to prevent anyone entering or leaving, with the ultimate intention of capturing the place. o invest

COMMENT: Besiege is not normally used in modern military English; it has now been largely replaced by the verb invest.

Betalight /ˈbɛtəlait/ trademark a trademark for a tiny hand-held apparatus, containing a luminous substance which gives off a very weak light and is therefore suitable for map-reading or signalling when you are close to the enemy

betray /ˈbɛtəreɪ/ verb 1. to reveal a secret o We were betrayed by the villagers. 2. to abuse someone’s trust o The general betrayed his men by agreeing to surrender.

betrayal /ˈbɛtəreɪəl/ noun an act of betraying. o treachery

beyond /bénd/ adverb on the far side of something. o The enemy position is 100 metres beyond that line of trees.

beyond visual range /ˈbɪnd vɪznəl ˈreɪn/ noun and beyond visual range; beyond beyond visual range

BFA abbreviation blank-firing attachment

BFV /biː fɛv/ noun an M2 Bradley infantry fighting vehicle. Full form Bradley fighting vehicle. Compare CFV

BG abbreviation battle group

BHP abbreviation battle handover point

bid /bɪd/ noun a formal request for something. o You must submit your ammunition bids at least 24 hours in advance. ▶ verb to make a formal request for something o I will bid for two places on the next anti-tank course. (NOTE: bidding – bid – have bid)

billet /ˈbɪlɪt/ noun a place (usually a civilian home) where a soldier is accommodated. o He went back to his billet. ▶ verb to arrange accommodation for a soldier o We were billeted on the local priest. (NOTE: billeting – billeted)

bind /bɪnd/ verb to fasten around something. o The containers were bound with metal strips. (NOTE: binding – bound)

binoculars /ˌbɪnəˈkʌlərz/ plural noun optical instrument with a lens for each eye, designed for looking at distant objects. o field-glasses, telescope
bins

bins /baɪnəʊ/ plural noun binoculars ○ I lost my bins during the attack.

biological /ˌbɪəˈləʊdʒɪk(ə)l/ adjective relating to biology or living organisms

biological warfare /ˌbɪəˈləʊdʒɪk(ə)l/ noun warfare involving the direct use of disease as a weapon○ COMMENT: Biological weapons are unstable, difficult to deliver with any precision and impossible to control once they are delivered. Furthermore, anyone contemplating the use of such weapons can expect retaliation in its severest form.

bioterrorism /ˌbaɪəˈtərərɪzəm/ noun terrorist acts involving the use of biological or chemical weapons

bioterrorist /ˌbaɪəˈtərərɪst/ noun someone involved in bioterrorism

bioweapon /ˌbaɪəˌwεpən/ noun a biological weapon

bivouac /ˈbɪvəʊæk/ noun 1. an improvised shelter 2. a campsite of improvised shelters ○ They bivouacked in the corner of a field. (NOTE: bivouacking – bivouacked)

bivvy /ˈbɪvɪ/ noun a bivouac (informal)

bivvy bag /ˈbɪvɪ bæg/ noun a waterproof sleeping-bag cover. ○ kitbag, sleeping-bag

BK /biː/ noun a second in command of a battery ○ The BK has been killed. Full form battery kapitan

BL-755 /biːl ˈsev(ə)n fɑːv/ noun a British-designed cluster bomb

black /blæk/ noun 1. US to exhaust your ammunition ○ our recon platoon has gone black 2. Blackbird /blækˈbɜːd/ noun SR-71 Blackhawk /ˈblækhaʊk/ noun an American-designed UH-60 utility/transport helicopter

Blackjack /ˈblækˌbɑːk/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed TU-160 strategic bomber aircraft

black market /ˈblæk ˈmɑːrkɪt/ noun an illicit trade in articles which are illegal, rationed or difficult to obtain, usually at a considerable profit ○ Respirators and NBC suits are fetching very high prices on the black market.

blackout /ˈblækəut/ noun measures designed to ensure that no lights are showing after dark ○ All units must observe the blackout.

bladder /ˈblædər/ noun a huge inflatable rubber container, which is used to store fuel or water at a POL or water point

blank /ˈblæŋk/, blank round /ˈblæŋk ˈround/ noun training ammunition, consisting of the propellant but no projectile, which is designed to simulate the firing of a weapon ○ We will need 5000 rounds of 7.62mm blank. ○ They were firing blanks. Compare live, live round

blank-firing attachment /ˈblæŋk ˈfərɪŋ ə,ˈtɛtʃərətʃən/ noun a device fitted to an automatic or semi-automatic weapon to enable it to operate with blank rounds. Abbr BFA

blast /ˈblæst/ noun 1. a wave of heat and gasses released by an explosion, and the debris carried by it ○ The blast broke all the windows in the vicinity. 2. an explosion ○ Several people were killed in the blast. ○ verb to use explosives ○ We will have to blast a way through.
blast mine /ˈblæst mən/ noun a type of landmine, which is detonated when it is stepped on
blastwall /ˈblæst wɔːl/ noun a wall which is designed to withstand the force of a bomb blast
bleed /ˈblɛd/ verb to lose blood 🔴 The wound is bleeding badly. (NOTE: bleeding – bled)
blend /ˈblɛnd/ verb to mix together 🔴 to blend in to look the same as everyone or everything else 🔴 Camouflage enables the soldiers to blend in with the woodland.
blind /ˈblɪnd/ adjective unable to see 🔴 noun 1. US a camouflaged screen designed to conceal a soldier or piece of equipment 🔴 They erected a blind in front of the tank. 2. a missile, shell or other projectile which has been fired but has failed to explode 🔴 The last shell was a blind. 🔴 verb to make someone blind, either temporarily or permanently 🔴 He was blinded by a piece of shrapnel.
Blinder /ˈblɪnda/ noun a NATO name for the TU-22 medium bomber aircraft
blindfold /ˈblɪndfəʊld/ noun a piece of fabric tied over a person’s eyes or head so that he cannot see 🔴 They used a sandbag as a blindfold. 🔴 verb to tie a blindfold on someone 🔴 He was blindfolded.
blinding agent /ˈblɪndɪŋ æɡənt/ noun a chemical agent designed to make people blind
blind spot /ˈblɪnd ˈspɒt/ noun 1. a location which cannot be observed 2. a location in which it is impossible to send or receive radio transmissions
blister /ˈblɪstə/ noun a liquid-filled swelling on the skin caused by a burn, friction or chemical agent
blister agent /ˈblɪstər eɪˈdʒent/ noun a chemical designed to cause severe blisters
blitzkrieg /ˈblɪtskriːɡ/ noun an offensive operation making maximum use of firepower, manoeuvre warfare and all-arms cooperation 🔴 The enemy favour blitzkrieg tactics.
bloodshed /ˈblʌdʃɛd/ noun an action which results in physical injury or death
o The mission was achieved without bloodshed.

bloodthirsty /ˈblʌdθɜːsti/ adjective eager to kill
o The Gurkhas have the reputation of being bloodthirsty fearless soldiers.

blood transfusion /ˈblʌd traŋsən/ noun an injection of blood, taken from a blood donor and put into the vein of another person

blood vessel /ˈblʌd,ves(ə)l/ noun a vein, artery or capillary carrying blood around the body

blow /bləʊ/ verb to destroy with explosives
o The bridge has been blown.

Blowpipe /ˈbləʊpaɪp/ noun a British-designed hand-held optically tracked surface-to-air missile (SAM)

blow up /ˈbləʊ ʌp/ verb 1. to destroy something with explosives
o They blew up the fuel dump.
2. to explode
o The tank blew up.

BLT /bi: ˈblɛt/ noun US a combined arms group bas ed on a marine infantry battalion, including artillery, armoured reconnaissance, tanks and engineers. Full form battalion landing team (NOTE: The US Army equivalent is task force (TF).)

BLU-82 /bi: ˈbljuːˌtiː/ noun a bomb which explodes just above ground level and is mainly designed to clear trees and vegetation for a helicopter landing zone. Also called daisy-cutter.

blue /bluː/ noun
- blue forces friendly forces

- blue on blue /bluː ɒn ˈbluː/ noun same as friendly fire
- bluey /ˈbluː/ noun an air-mail letter
o He was writing a bluey.

bluff /blʌf/ noun 1. US a steep, almost vertical slope (usually above a stream or river)
- bluff is dug in on the bluffs above the town.

- attempt to deceive
o The enemy withdrawal is just a bluff.
- verb to attempt to deceive
o The enemy is trying to bluff us into thinking that he is going to withdraw.

BMD /ˈbiː ˈmɛd/ noun a Soviet airborne portable infantry fighting vehicle (IFV)

BMNT /ˈbiː ˈmɛnt/ noun US first light.

BMP /ˈbɪmp/ noun a Soviet series of infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs)

BMP-1 /ˈbiː ˈmpɛn/ noun a 1960s-era IFV

BMP-2 /ˈbiː ˈmpɪn/ noun a 1980s-era IFV

BMP-3 /ˈbiː ˈmbr/ noun a 1990s-era IFV

Bn abbreviation battalion

board /bɔːd/ verb to attack and climb onto a ship
o The enemy boarded our ship during cover of darkness.

- on board on or onto a boat, ship or aircraft
o The Admiral is spending the night on board HMS Ardent.

- a board

boarding party /ˈbɔːdɪŋ ,pərti/ noun a group of marines, sailors, etc., who attack and board a ship

boat people /ˈbəʊt ,piˈpəl/ plural noun political refugees who try to escape from an oppressive regime by sea

boatswain’s chair /ˈbɔːtswaɪn ˈtʃɛr/ noun a seat suspended by ropes for work on the side of a ship

boatswain’s pipe /ˈbɔːtswaɪn ˈpɪp/ noun a metal whistle traditionally used by the boatswain for signalling and sallutes

body armour /ˈbɒdi ˈɑːmər/ noun a vest fitted with panels of synthetic material (e.g. Kevlar) designed to protect a soldier from shrapnel and low-velocity bullets.

bulletproof vest, flak jacket
| body bag | /bɔdɪ ˌbæg/ noun a strong waterproof bag designed for transporting a dead body |
| body count | /bɔdɪ ˈkaʊnt/ noun 1. a check to ensure that all the members of a sub-unit are present ○ He took a quick body-count before moving on. 2. US the number of enemy killed ○ This company has the highest body count in the battalion. |
| bodyguard | /ˈbɒdɪɡɑːd/ noun a person or group assigned to guard a dignitary or other important person ○ The general’s bodyguard was killed in the attack. |
| body temperature | /ˈbɒdɪ ˈtemprəti/ noun the temperature inside the body, which is used as an indicator of someone’s state of health. The normal body temperature of a healthy human being is 37°C or 98.6°F. |
| Bofors | /ˈbɒfɔːz/ noun a Swedish-designed light anti-aircraft gun |
| bog | /bɒg/ noun an area of permanently wet ground |
| bogey | /ˈbɒgi/ noun an enemy fighter aircraft (slang) ○ Watch out! There’s a bogey on your tail! ○ bandit |
| bolt | /bɔlt/ noun part of the firing mechanism of a firearm, consisting of a movable metal block which houses the firing pin and which is used to push a round into the breech and then seal in the gases which are released when the round is fired |
| bolt-action rifle | /ˈbɔlt ækʃənˈraɪfl/ noun a rifle where the bolt must be operated by hand for each round (as opposed to a semi-automatic rifle) ○ Most of the rebels are armed with bolt-action rifles. |
| bomb | /bɒm/ noun an explosive device used as a weapon, consisting of a strong metal container containing explosive material together with a priming device ○ They dropped two tons of bombs on the castle. ○ Terrorists placed bombs in the city centre. ● verb to attack with bombs ○ The base has been bombed twice in the past two days. ○ Enemy aircraft bombed our positions. ○ to bomb |
| body bag | /bɔdɪ ˌbæɡ/ noun a strong waterproof bag designed for transporting a dead body |
| body count | /bɔdɪ ˈkaʊnt/ noun 1. a check to ensure that all the members of a sub-unit are present ○ He took a quick body-count before moving on. 2. US the number of enemy killed ○ This company has the highest body count in the battalion. |
| bodyguard | /ˈbɒdɪɡɑːd/ noun a person or group assigned to guard a dignitary or other important person ○ The general’s bodyguard was killed in the attack. |
| body temperature | /ˈbɒdɪ ˈtemprəti/ noun the temperature inside the body, which is used as an indicator of someone’s state of health. The normal body temperature of a healthy human being is 37°C or 98.6°F. |
| Bofors | /ˈbɒfɔːz/ noun a Swedish-designed light anti-aircraft gun |
| bog | /bɒg/ noun an area of permanently wet ground |
| bogey | /ˈbɒgi/ noun an enemy fighter aircraft (slang) ○ Watch out! There’s a bogey on your tail! ○ bandit |
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bomb squad /bɒm skwɔd/ noun a bomb-disposal unit

bonnet /ˈbɒnt/ noun 1. a Scottish military head-dress ○ Some Scottish regiments wear tartan flashes on their bonnets. 2. a hinged cover for the engine compartment of a car or lorry

booby trap /ˈbɔbɪˌtræp/ noun a hidden or harmless-looking device (often explosive) designed to kill or injure anyone who touches it

booby-trap /ˈbɔbɪˌtræp/ verb to set a booby trap (in a house, under a car, etc.) ○ Most of the houses had been booby-trapped.

boom /bʊm/ noun 1. a floating barrier ○ There was a boom across the entrance to the harbour. 2. a refuelling-probe on an aircraft

boot /bʊt/ noun 1. a strong cold wind which blows in the Balkans ○ Some Scottish nations are known to have developed botulism as a biological weapon. ○ Botulism /bɒtjʊlɪz(ə)m/ noun a fatal disease, which is normally associated with food poisoning

COMMENT: Caused by a bacillus, Clostridium botulinum, symptoms include paralysis of the muscles, vomiting, hallucinations and death. Some nations are known to have developed botulism as a biological weapon.

bound /bænd/ noun 1. a single movement made by a person, sub-unit or vehicle, usually from fire position to fire position or from cover to cover ○ The troop moved in bounds, with one tank covering while the other two were moving. 2. a limit ○ in bounds where one is allowed to go ○ That pub is in bounds where one is allowed to go ○ That pub is out of bounds (OOB) where one is not allowed to go ○ That pub is out of bounds to troops.

boundary /ˈbændəri/ noun a real or imaginary line which marks the limits of a grouping’s area of responsibility ○ That road is the brigade boundary. ○ Our mission is to destroy the enemy within boundaries.

bow /bou/, bows noun the front end of a ship ○ a shot across the bows a shot fired in front of a ship as a warning. Compare stern

bowser /ˈbɔʊzər/ noun a cylindrical container mounted on a trailer, designed to carry fuel or water

box /bɒks/ noun 1. a square or rectangular container ○ They used ammunition boxes to strengthen the position. 2. a tactical vehicle formation, in the form of a square or rectangle ○ We usually assault in box formation.

BQMS abbreviation battery quartermaster sergeant

brace /bres/ verb to prepare yourself for a crash or shock (usually by holding tightly onto something) ○ Brace! Brace! a verbal warning given when an aircraft is about to crash or when a ship is about to be hit by a missile or torpedo

bracken /ˈbrækən/ noun a plant with feather-like leaves, which grows extensively in woodland and heathland

bracket /ˈbrɛkət/ verb to correct artillery or mortar fire so that each adjusting
round lands on the opposite side of the target to the last round, until the target is hit. He realized that his position was being bracketed.

brackish /bʁəkʃ/ adjective (of water) unsuitable for drinking due to a high mineral content.

Bradley /ˈbreɪdli/ noun an American-designed 1980s-era infantry fighting vehicle (M2 or M3). Comment: The M2 is designed to carry a squad of infantry, while the M3 is an armoured cavalry fighting vehicle carrying additional armament and equipment instead.

bramble /ˈbræmbəl/ noun a common name for the plant of the wild blackberry, which grows as a thick thorny bush. It was impossible to get through the brambles.

branch insignia /ˈbraɪntʃ ɪˈsɪgnə/ noun US insignia which show which branch of service a soldier serves in.

branch of service /ˈbraɪntʃ əv ˈsɜːvɪs/ noun US the section of the armed forces, e.g. the army, navy, air force or marines, in which a person serves.

brave /ˈbreɪv/ adjective full of courage, able to control fear. It was brave of him to try to cross the street in front of the enemy positions. courageous

bravery /ˈbreɪvəri/ noun the ability to control fear. courage

Bravo /ˈbraɪvəu/ noun the second letter of the phonetic alphabet (Bb)

BRDM /ˈbɪ: ə diː ˈɛm/ noun a Soviet series of wheeled reconnaissance vehicles.

BRDM-2 /ˈbɪ: ə diː ɛm ˈtroʊz/ noun a late 1960s-era recce vehicle.

BRDM-3 /ˈbɪ: ə diː ɛm ˈtroʊz əri/ noun a late 1970s-era recce vehicle armed with ATGM.

breach /ˈbriːtʃ/ noun a point at which the enemy’s line of defence is penetrated. The infantry poured through the breach in the enemy’s defences. verb to break through an enemy’s line of defence. After a heavy bombardment, they were still not able to breach the enemy’s defences.

break /breɪk/ noun 1. a place where something is broken. His leg had a clean break just above the ankle. 2. a period of rest taken during an activity. After two hours, we had a short break. verb 1. to cause damage to something. He broke the window. 2. to stop being in a close group. The enemy has broken. 3. to stop an activity (usually for a short period). They broke for lunch. 4. to break contact to stop fighting with the enemy and withdraw.

breakage /ˈbreɪkɪdʒ/ noun a damaged object. Soldiers have to pay for their breakages.

break down /breɪk ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to suffer from a physical and mental collapse as a result of stress (used of people). He has broken down completely. 2. to stop working because of a malfunction. Three of our tanks have broken down. 3. to divide into separate components. A platoon can be broken down into sections.

breakdown /ˈbreɪkdaʊn/ noun 1. a mechanical failure. A breakdown in communications with headquarters. 2. physical and mental collapse. After three months on the front line, he suffered a breakdown. 3. an analysis of an organization. I want a complete breakdown of the enemy force.

break in /breɪk ˈɪn/ verb to use force to enter a building or vehicle.

break out /breɪk ˈaut/ verb 1. to happen. Fighting broke out along the front line. 2. to fight your way out of an encirclement. They were encircled but managed to break out without much loss of life.

break through /breɪk ˈθruː/ verb to fight your way through a main line of defence. The enemy have broken through near Minden.

breakthrough /breɪkθruː/ noun an act of fighting your way through a main line of defence. The enemy have made a breakthrough near Minden.
break up

break up /brɛk/ verb 1. to come apart, to fall to pieces ◆ The aircraft broke up in mid-air. 2. to disperse ◆ The demonstration broke up when baton rounds were fired. ◆ Troops were sent in to break up the demonstration.

breastwork /brestwɔːk/ noun a low field fortification constructed from earth, rocks, timber, etc.

breech /brɪʃ/ noun the rear part of a gun's barrel, into which a round is placed in order to be fired

Bren gun /brɛn/ noun a type of light machine-gun

COMMENT: The Bren was designed in Czechoslovakia and developed in Great Britain prior to World War II. It is still in use in many armies, including the British Army.

brevet /brɛvɛt/ noun a commission which entitles an officer to take a higher rank without the appropriate pay ◆ He was a brevet lieutenant-colonel. • verb to confer a brevet rank on someone ◆ He was breveted as a major. (NOTE: brevet – breveted)

COMMENT: Brevet ranks are usually only conferred in wartime and are seen as temporary appointments.

brew /bruː/ noun a cup of tea or coffee ◆ They stopped for a brew. • verb 1. to make a hot drink 2. to catch fire (used of vehicles)

brick /brɪk/ noun a team of four men, forming part of a multiple ◆ Cpl Smith's brick captured the gunman. • multiple

bridge /brɪdʒ/ noun 1. a structure built to carry a road or railway over a river, road or railway 2. the control centre of a ship • verb to make a bridge over something ◆ The enemy have bridged the river.

bridgehead /brɪdʒheɪd/ noun a defensive position established on the enemy side of a river or other obstacle, which is used as a secure base for subsequent operations

bridgelayer /brɪdʒleɪər/ noun a vehicle which carries and lays a portable bridge

brief /bruːʃ/ noun 1. orders or instructions ◆ That is not part of our brief. 2. a detailed summary or explanation ◆ We received a brief on the enemy's organization. • verb 1. to give orders or instructions ◆ He briefed his platoon for the attack. 2. to explain a situation in detail ◆ He briefed the brigadier on the tactical situation. Compare debrief

briefing /brɪfɪŋ/ noun 1. orders or instructions ◆ We all assembled for the daily briefing. 2. a detailed explanation or summary ◆ The press officer gave a briefing on the current situation to reporters. 3. a meeting where a briefing is given. Compare debriefing

briefing room /bruːʃɪŋ rʊm/ noun a room where briefing and debriefing take place

brig /bruːɡ/ noun US a military prison (especially on a warship)

Brig abbreviation brigadier

brigade /brɪdʒ/ noun a tactical army grouping of two or more battalions or regiments. Abbr Bde

COMMENT: A British armoured brigade might consist of two armoured or mechanized infantry battalions and one armoured regiment or, alternatively, two armoured regiments and one infantry battalion, plus artillery and supporting arms. On operations, these units are broken down and combined into battle groups. As an example, an armoured infantry battle group might consist of two infantry companies and one squadron of tanks, which are organized into two company and squadron groups and a squadron and company group under the command of the infantry battalion HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time. An air-portable infantry brigade might consist of three infantry battalions plus artillery and supporting arms. In the US Army, a battle group is known as a task force, while company and squadron groups and squadron and company groups are known as company teams.

brigade administration area /bruːˈdʒeɪd ədˌmaːnˈstɛreɪʃən ərˈeɪ//noun an operational location for the logistical elements of a brigade. Abbr BAA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>brigade commander</td>
<td>An officer who is in command of a brigade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brigade major</td>
<td>The chief of staff of a brigade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigade of Guards</td>
<td>The five guards infantry regiments of the British Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Army of the Rhine</td>
<td>An obsolete title for British ground forces stationed in Germany.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Army of the Rhine</td>
<td>The army, marines or air force (junior to a major general and senior to a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Force</td>
<td>A senior officer in the army or marines (usually in command of brigade).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTR</td>
<td>Battery sergeant major.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brook</td>
<td>A small stream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSM</td>
<td>Battery sergeant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buffer zone</td>
<td>A designated area between two groupings, which neither grouping can enter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buddy-buddy system</td>
<td>A philosophy where comrades look after each other’s welfare and protect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bug out</td>
<td>To abandon a position or location in a hurry (informal).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>built-up</td>
<td>An adjective covered by buildings (i.e. cities, towns and other urban areas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bull</td>
<td>The cleaning and polishing of kit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulldozer</td>
<td>A tracked vehicle designed to push obstructions out of the way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bullet</td>
<td>A projectile fired by a pistol, rifle or machine-gun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulleted blank</td>
<td>A blank round designed for use with some automatic or semi-automatic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulletproof</td>
<td>Designed to prevent penetration by bullets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bulletproof vest</td>
<td>A vest fitted with panels of synthetic material (e.g. Kevlar) designed to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bumf</td>
<td>Written instructions, briefings, reports, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example Usage:**

- "He was bulling his boots." (verb: to polish)
- "The RSM expects plenty of bull for this parade." (noun: a tracked vehicle)
- "I’ve got a buckshee sleeping-bag." (adjective: spare)
- "I haven’t had time to read all the bumf yet." (informal: written instructions)
bunch /bʌntʃ/ verb to stand or move in close proximity to each other, thus presenting a good target for machine-guns and artillery

Bundeswehr /ˈbʊndəsˌvɛʁ/ noun the German armed forces • The crossings are being held by units of the Bundeswehr.

burn /bɜːn/ noun an injury caused by fire, heat, radiation, chemical action, electricity, or friction, resulting in redness and blistering of the skin and often causing damage to underlying tissues • verb 1. to damage or destroy something by fire • The village had been burnt to the ground. • verb 2. to cause burns to someone or to part of his or her body

burst /bɜːst/ noun 1. the firing of a series of bullets rapidly • There was a burst of machine-gun fire from behind the wall. 2. an explosion • The burst of the shell deafened him. • verb to explode • The shell burst next to the command post.

bury /ˈbəri/ verb to place an object in a hole in the ground and then cover it with soil • There wasn’t time to bury the dead. • The guerillas buried their weapons in the forest. (NOTE: burying — buried — have buried)

bush /bʊʃ/ noun 1. a plant resembling a small tree 2. the Bush in Australia and South Africa, wild uncultivated terrain

but /bʌt/ adjective damaged or broken • The radio is bust. • verb 1. to damage or break • I’ve bust my binoculars. 2. to denote • Cpl Hobbs has been busted.

butte /bət/ noun US a small isolated hill, with a flat top and steep slopes

butts /bʌts/ noun the butts of a rifle

BVR /ˈbiːvər/ adjective, adverb too far from an enemy aircraft to see it with the naked eye • We’ll have to use our BVR missiles. Full form beyond visual range. Compare WVR

bypass /ˈbɑːps/ noun a road which passes around the outside of a town (in order to avoid going through the centre) • The bypass has been craters. • verb to move past an enemy position without engaging it • We’ve been ordered to bypass the village and continue our advance.
CHARLIE - Cc

C3 **abbreviation** command, control and communications

C-17 /ˈsiː tɛnˈtiːn/ **noun** an American-designed heavy-lift transport aircraft, which is capable of landing on short runways. Also called Globemaster

C-130 /ˈsiː tɛnˈtʃɔʊ/ **noun** an American-designed transport aircraft. Also called Hercules

C-141 /ˈsiː tɛntˈfoʊ/ **noun** an American-designed transport aircraft. Also called Starlifter

C-601 /ˈsiː tɛntˈstɜːrs/ **noun** a Chinese-designed anti-ship missile

C-801 /ˈsiː tɛntˈstɜːr/ **noun** a Chinese-designed anti-ship missile

CA **abbreviation** cruiser (with guns)

cab /ˈkeɪb/ **noun** the driver’s compartment of a lorry or truck

CAB /ˈkeɪb/ **abbreviation** US combat aviation brigade

cabin /ˈkeɪbɪn/ **noun** 1. a room on an aircraft or ship (normally used as living quarters) ○ The captain called a meeting in his cabin. 2. US a hut or simple shelter ○ They spent the night in a cabin in the mountains.

cable /ˈkeɪb(ə)l/ **noun** 1. a thick metal wire which is used to convey electricity from one place to another 2. a thick metal wire which is used to moor a ship, or to tow a ship or vehicle. Also called hawser

cache /ˈkeɪʃ/ **noun** a hidden store of ammunition, equipment or food ○ We found a cache of ammunition in a hollow tree. ○ We cached our spare rations close to the track.

cadence /ˈkeɪdəns/ **noun** 1. a standard time and pace for marching in step ○ They use a cadence of 95 paces to the minute. 2. a drum-beat or song designed to help maintain the cadence ○ I heard the squad chanting their cadence.

cadet /ˈkeɪdət/ **noun** a schoolboy or girl who is a member of an official organization, which is designed to give young people a taste of life in the armed forces ○ A party of cadets will be visiting the barracks tomorrow.

cadre /ˈkɑːdr/ **noun** a small unit of trained or experienced personnel, which can be used to form the basis for a much larger unit consisting mainly of untrained or less experienced personnel (e.g. recruits, reservists, territorials, etc)

cairn /ˈkeɪn/ **noun** a pile of stones or rocks, often built as a marker or monument ○ There’s a cairn on the summit.

caisson /ˈkeɪsən/ **noun** a trailer designed to carry ammunition

calculations in time and space /ˈkælkjʊleɪʃ(ə)n/ **noun** calculations to determine how long it will take to get from one location to another

caliber /ˈkælɪbər/ **noun** US spelling of calibre

calibre /ˈkælɪbr/ **noun** 1. the internal diameter of a gun barrel 2. the external diameter of a projectile

call /kɔːl/ **noun** 1. a shout or cry 2. a radio message ○ **on call** available on request ○ we have a section of mortars on call ○ **verb** 1. to speak loudly ○ We heard him calling. 2. to summon ○ He called the man over 3. to request or order ○ He called for smoke. 4. to wake someone up ○ **Call me at 0600.** 5. to
call out

speak to someone on a radio or telephone ○ He called the duty officer to inform him of the incident.
call out /ˈkæl əut/ verb to deploy a force in response to an incident or threat ○ The battalion has been called out. ○ Call out the QRF!
call-out /ˈkæl əut/ noun an act of deploying a force in response to an incident or threat ○ The GOC was very unimpressed with our performance during the last call-out.
call sign /ˈkæl ,sərn/ noun a name, letters or numbers used to identify a person or sub-unit on the radio. Abbr G/S ○ alternate call sign a second or emergency call sign
call up /ˈkæl əp/ verb to summon for military service ○ All the young men have been called up. ○ He was called up in 1944 and immediately sent to the front.
call-up /ˈkæl əp/ noun an action of calling someone to join the armed forces ○ His call-up was deferred because he was still at university.
caltrops /ˈkæltrops/ plural noun a set of metal spikes designed to damage vehicle tyres
calvary /ˈkælvəri/ noun a small roadside religious monument, in the form of Jesus on the cross (common in Roman Catholic regions) ○ There’s a calvary 100 metres before the junction.
cam /kæm/ (informal) noun camouflage ○ Put plenty of cam on this tank. - verb ○ to cam up to apply camouflage ○ they cammed up
cam-cream /kæm ˈkrɪm/ noun same as camouflage cream
cam-net /kæm ˈnet/ noun a camouflage net
camouflage /ˈkæmfələʒ/ noun 1. the use of natural and man-made materials to make something blend in with the surrounding area ○ Camouflage is an essential military skill. 2. materials used for camouflage (natural vegetation, camouflage net, fabric, paint) ○ Put plenty of camouflage on this tank. - verb to conceal something by making it blend in with its surroundings ○ They were camouflaging their vehicles.
camouflage cream /ˈkæmfələʒ ˈkrɪm/ noun cosmetic face-paint for camouflage. Also called camouflage net

camouflage net /ˈkæmfələʒ ˈnet/ noun a covering of knotted cord and pieces of fabric, used to conceal a vehicle, piece of equipment or structure
camp /kæmp/ noun 1. a place where people are accommodated in temporary shelter (such as tents) ○ The refugees are being housed in camps. 2. a place where troops are accommodated and trained ○ The recruits returned to camp. - verb to live outdoors in temporary shelter ○ We camped by the river.
campaign /ˈkæmp ˈpɛrn/ noun a prolonged period of military activity in a specific area or region ○ We are planning an autumn campaign at the end of the rainy season. ○ the North Africa Campaign a long period of warfare in North Africa ○ verb to conduct or take part in a campaign ○ The army spent two years campaigning in North Africa.
campaign medal /ˈkæm ˈpɛrn ˈmed(ə)l/ noun a medal awarded for service during a certain campaign
camp-bed /ˈkæmp ˌbed/ noun a lightweight folding or collapsible bed used for camping (NOTE: The American English term is cot.)
camp-follower /ˈkæmp ˈfɒləwə/ noun a civilian who attaches himself or herself to an army during a campaign
camp site /ˈkæmp ˌsæt/ noun a place used for setting up a camp
camstick /ˈkæmstɪk/ noun a solid stick of face paint
can /kæn/ noun 1. a metal container for liquid (such as a petrol can) 2. US a metal container in which food or drink is hermetically sealed for storage over long periods (NOTE: In British English, tin is more usual.)
canal /ˈkænəl/ noun an artificial waterway used for navigation or irrigation
Candid /ˈkændɪd/ noun a NATO name for Soviet-designed IL-76 transport aircraft
canister /ˈkænstər/ noun 1. a metal container for gas or aerosol ○ You should wear protective clothing when handling gas canisters. 2. a direct-fire anti-personnel round for a tank gun or artillery piece, consisting of a fragile container filled with small projectiles; the container disintegrates as it leaves the muzzle of the gun and the projectiles spread out like shot from an enormous shotgun 3. a disposable air filter for a respirator ○ Soldiers are trained how to change their canisters in NBC conditions.
cannibalize /ˈkænbələlaɪz/ canonise verb to use damaged or defective equipment as a source of spare parts
cannon /ˈkænən/ noun 1. a large-calibre heavy machine-gun 2. a large wheeled gun, often capable of firing explosive projectiles 3. an outdated muzzle-loading artillery piece (historical)
cannonball /ˈkænbənˈbɔːl/ noun a large round stone or metal ball, fired from old cannons
cannon fodder /ˈkænənˌˈfɒdər/ noun soldiers who are seen merely as material to be used during a war
canoe /ˈkəʊnɪ/ noun a small hand-powered narrow boat with pointed ends

### CAOC abbreviation

cap /ˈkeɪp/ noun an outdated machine gun, often capable of firing explosive projectiles ○ You must handle gas canisters carefully. ○ The army pressed on to the outskirts of the capital. ○ The air force flew high-capability packages over the battlefield.
capabilities /ˈkeɪpəˈbɪlɪtɪz/ noun being able to do something ○ I don’t think he is capable of commanding a battalion. ○ He is a very capable NCO.
cap badge /ˈkeɪp ˈbædʒ/ noun a badge on a soldier’s cap, usually showing which regiment or unit he or she belongs to
cap-comforter /ˈkeɪp ˈkæmfrətə/ noun a small hand-made cap, usually showing which regiment or unit he or she belongs to
capitalize /ˈkeɪpˌsælətɪz/ verb to use damaged or defective equipment as a source of spare parts ○ The armoured personnel carrier has cannibalized old tanks to use as spare parts.
capital /ˈkeɪpəl/ adjective 1. punishable by death (legal) ○ Treason is a capital offence. 2. in capital letters the letters of the alphabet written as A, B, C, instead of a, b, c ○ in block capitals the letters of the alphabet written as A, B, C, instead of a, b, c ○ Treason is a capital offence.
capitalism /ˈkeɪpələˌɪzəm/ noun an economic system involving investment and profit-making by private individuals. Compare communism

capitalist /ˈkeɪpələst/ adjective favouring capitalism ○ Someone who favours capitalism.
capital punishment /ˈkeɪpəl ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/ noun the execution of a convicted criminal ○ The judge sentenced the convicted criminal to death. ○ The execution was a capital punishment.
capitalize /ˈkeɪpəlˌsætɪz/ verb to stop fighting and acknowledge the supremacy of an enemy. ○ Surrender

capitulate /ˈkeɪpəltʃʊlət/ verb an act of capitulating ○ Surrendered

capsize /ˈkeɪpsəz/ verb to overturn (a boat) ○ The ship has capsized.
captain /ˈkeɪptɪn/ noun

cap abbreviation cap
captain /ˈkeptən/ noun 1. a senior officer in the navy (above a commander, and usually in command of a warship)
2. an officer in the army or marines above the rank of lieutenant and below a major
3. US an officer in the navy (usually in command of a warship)
4. US an officer in the army, marines or air force (usually in command of a company or equivalent-sized grouping)

abdr Capt

COMMENT: British Army captains have enough experience to make them eligible for a variety of different roles. Within a unit, they might act as second-in-command of a company or equivalent-sized grouping or have a specialist role in the unit’s headquarters (as for example adjutant, intelligence officer, operations officer, etc.). Outside the unit, they might be employed as an aide-de-camp (ADC), or as a junior staff officer in a brigade or divisional headquarters. In the British armed forces, a captain in the marines is considered to be the equivalent of a major in the army. The rank of captain in the US Army requires more experience and higher qualifications than its equivalent in the British Army, and is therefore considered to have greater seniority. Captains in the US Army are eligible to command companies or equivalent-sized groupings.

captive /ˈkeptɪv/ noun someone who has been captured

captivity /ˈkeptɪvɪtɪ/ noun a state of being a captive □ in captivity being held captive

captor /ˈkeptər/ noun someone who captures another person or holds them as a prisoner or hostage □ None of our captors spoke English.

capture /ˈkeptʃər/ noun 1. an act of taking someone prisoner □ He evaded capture. 2. an act of taking possession of something by force □ The capture of the town was a disaster. □ verb 1. to take someone prisoner □ We captured two generals. 2. to take possession of something by force □ They captured an enemy supply dump.

car /kaːr/ noun a small motorized passenger vehicle

carabinier /ˈkærəbɪnɪr/ noun (historical) 1. an elite light infantryman
2. an elite heavy cavalryman

COMMENT: Some modern armoured regiments retain their historical title as Carabiniers.

carbine /ˈkærbɪn/ a light short-barrelled rifle

car bomb /ˈkær bɒm/ noun a terrorist bomb concealed in a vehicle

card /kaːd/ noun a small piece of stiff paper or plastic

cargo /ˈkærəɡoʊ/ noun goods or supplies carried by an aircraft or ship. Compare freight

cargo net /ˈkærəɡoʊ nɛt/ noun a large strong net, usually attached to a vertical frame, for people to climb up on an assault course

Carl Gustav /ˈkærəl ɡʌstəv/ noun a Swedish-designed hand-held 84mm medium anti-tank weapon (MAW)

car park /ˈkær pɑrk/ noun an area of ground or building used for parking cars

carpet bombing /ˈkær pɑt bɒmɪŋ/ noun dropping bombs or bomblets evenly over a wide area of ground

car phone /ˈkær fone/ noun a radio-telephone fitted to a motor vehicle. Abbr CVW

carrier /ˈkærəri/ noun a person or thing which carries something

carrier air wing /ˈkærəri ˈɛər wɪŋ/ noun a US tactical grouping of naval aviation squadrons operating from a single aircraft carrier. Abbr CVW

COMMENT: A carrier air wing (CVW) usually consists of a fighter squadron, three ground-attack squadrons, an electronic-attack squadron, an airborne early warning squadron, a sea-strike squadron, a helicopter anti-submarine squadron, and a small detachment of logistics aircraft.

carrier battle group /ˈkærəri ˈbæt(ə)l ˈgrʊp/ noun a tactical grouping of warships which includes an aircraft carrier

carrier pigeon /ˈkærəri ˈpiədʒən/ noun a bird used for carrying messages
carrier wave /ˈkærə wɛrv/ noun an electromagnetic wave used to carry a radio signal

carry /ˈkɛrɪ/ verb 1. to hold ○ He was carrying a gun. 2. to contain and transport goods ○ The trucks were carrying ammunition. 3. to have in your possession ○ He was carrying drugs. 4. to be infected with but not necessarily affected by a transmissible disease ○ He was carrying hepatitis B. 5. to bear the weight of ○ This bridge can carry tanks. 6. to reach (used of weapons, radio signals, etc.) ○ This gun can carry up to five kilometres. 7. to capture ○ They carried the enemy position.
carry on /ˈkɛrɪ ˈɒn/ verb to continue doing something ○ He told the men to carry on with their tasks. ○ Permission to carry on, Sir?
carry out /ˈkɛrɪ ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to do something ○ He was carrying out a routine check. 2. to complete an activity ○ We couldn’t carry out our mission.
cart /kɑːt/ noun a wheeled vehicle pulled by a horse or other animal
carton /ˈkɑːt(ə)n/ noun a container made of cardboard or paper
cartridge /ˈkætriʤ/ noun a metal or plastic case containing the propellant for a projectile (and usually the projectile as well)
cartridge-belt /ˈkætriʤbɛlt/ noun a belt fitted with loops or pouches to hold cartridges (NOTE: A cartridge together with its projectile are usually known as a round.)
cas abbreviation casualty
CAS abbreviation close air support
case /keɪs/ noun 1. a container 2. a situation ○ In this case, we should not attack. 3. a matter under investigation or study ○ He is dealing with several cases. 4. a type of writing
caseless ammunition /ˈkeɪsləs əˈmɛnjənt(ə)n/, caseless rounds /ˈreɪnərdz/ noun the latest development in small-arms ammunition, where the propellant is produced as a solid block which is formed around the projectile, thus removing the need for a metal cartridge case

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COMMENT: Caseless rounds are lighter in weight and cheaper to produce than normal rounds and less likely to cause a stoppage, because there is no empty case to be ejected. They would normally be issued ready-packed in a disposable magazine.

CASEVAC /ˈkeɪzvɛk/, casevac noun the movement of an injured person to a place where he/she can receive medical treatment ○ We must arrange a casevac. Full form casualty evacuation verb to move an injured person to a place where he/she can receive medical treatment (informal) ○ He has been casevaced. (NOTE: CASEVACing = CASEVACed)
casket /ˈkeɪsket/ noun US a box in which a dead body is buried or cremated (NOTE: The British English term is coffin.)
castle /ˈkɑːsl(ə)l/ noun a large fortified building or complex
casualty /ˈkæʒuəltri/ noun someone who is killed or injured ○ The enemy suffered heavy casualties. ○ Newspapers carried reports of civilian casualties.
casualty clearing-station /ˈkæʒuəltri ˈkrɪəlɪŋ ˈsteɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a place where casualties are assessed and given emergency medical treatment before being evacuated to a place where they can receive proper medical treatment
casualty evacuation /ˈkæʒuəltri ɪ ˈveɪkJuˈetʃ(ə)n/ noun full form of CASEVAC
catapult /ˈkeɪtəplɔːt/ noun 1. an apparatus for helping planes take off from the deck of an aircraft carrier 2. a weapon made of a Y-shaped piece of metal with a rubber attached, used to send stones and other small projectiles over long distances (NOTE: The American English term is slingshot.)
catering /ˈkeɪtərɪŋ/ noun the work of buying food and drink and cooking meals for people

Catholic /ˈkeɪθlɪk/ noun 1. Roman Catholic Church adjective of the Roman Catholic Church
cattle 42

cattle /'kæt(ə)/ plural noun the collective word for bulls and cows
cattle grid /'kæt(ə) grɪd/ noun an obstacle in road, consisting of a shallow pit covered with a metal grid, which allows vehicles to pass freely but not cattle or other livestock
causeway /ˈkɔːzweɪ/ noun a raised road or path across water or wet ground
cautious /ˈkɔːʃəs/ adjective careful in regard to possible danger
cavalry /ˈkævəlri/ noun 1. troops mounted on horseback (traditional term) 2. the Household Cavalry the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals, the elite troops who traditionally guard the British monarch 3. tanks or armoured reconnaissance troops

cavalry fighting vehicle /ˈkævəlri fɪtʃɪŋ vɪtʃ(ə)/ noun full form of CFV
cave /kev/ noun a natural chamber in the side of a hill • The deserters hid in a cave. • verb to cave in to collapse • The trench has caved in. • As we advanced the opposition caved in.
CB abbreviation 1. citizens' band 2. confined to barracks
CBW abbreviation chemical and biological warfare
cct /ˈsɪt/ abbreviation cubic centimetres • This vehicle has an 1800cc engine.

CCTV /ˌsɪstɪtʃi/ noun a surveillance system, consisting of cameras connected by cable to television receivers. Full form closed-circuit television
Cdo abbreviation commando
cease /sɪz/ verb to stop • to cease fire to stop shooting
ceasefire /ˈsɪsfər/ noun an agreement to stop fighting • The enemy have agreed to a ceasefire. • armistice, truce

cemetery /ˈsɛmətri/ noun an area of ground used for the burial of the dead. • churchyard, graveyard
censor /ˈsɛnsər/ noun a person or organization authorized to examine letters, newspapers, books, radio or television broadcasts, etc., and to suppress any material which is judged to be subversive, obscene, a breach of security, or otherwise unsuitable for release to the general public. • verb to act as a censor • All reports from the battlefield have been heavily censored.
CENTCOM /ˈsentəlkəm/ noun US the department of US forces responsible for defending American national interests in the Middle East (excluding Israel, Syria and Lebanon which are covered by EUCOM), parts of East Africa and south-west Asia. Full form central command
central command /ˈsentəl kəm/ noun full form of CENTCOM

Central Intelligence Agency /ˈsɛntərl aɪˈnʃənal juˈɛniʃən/ noun full form of CIA
centre of gravity /ˈsentər əv ˈɡrævəti/ noun the main source of an
enemy's power and strength ○ The enemy's centre of gravity is formed by his elite armoured divisions.

Centurion /sen'tʊərɪən/ noun a British-designed late 1940s-era main battle tank (MBT)

CEP /sɪː'pɪz/ noun an area surrounding an intended target within which a ballistic missile or stick of bombs might land ○ This missile has a CEP of around 3000 metres. Full form circular error probable

ceramic /sə'rɛmɪk/ adjective made of clay which has been hardened by heat ○ Compound armour consists of steel and ceramic layers.

ceramic armour /sɪˈrɛmər/ noun a combination armour which includes ceramic materials in its composition

ceremonial /ˌsɛrəˈməniəl/ adjective relating to formal military occasions (such as a parade) ○ noun a procedure carried out during formal military occasions ○ He is responsible for all the ceremonial.

ceremonials /ˌsɛrəˈməniəlz/ plural noun ceremonial uniform ○ The battalion was in full ceremonials.

ceremonial uniform /ˌsɛrəˈməniəl ˈjuːnɪfɔrn/ noun dress worn for special occasions, such as parades, which is more colourful than the normal khaki uniform ○ The guards were in their full ceremonial uniforms.

cessation /ˌsɛsəˈʃɪn/ noun the stopping of an activity or state of affairs ○ The UN has demanded a cessation of hostilities.

CET abbreviation combat engineer tractor

Cfn abbreviation craftsman

CFV /ˈsɪf ˈvɪs/ noun an M3 variant of the Bradley infantry fighting vehicle. Full form cavalry fighting vehicle. Compare BFV

CG /ˈsɪɡ/ abbreviation cruiser (with guided missiles) ○ noun 1. US a commanding general 2. a type of choking agent. Full form carbonyl chloride. Also called phosgene

CGN abbreviation cruiser (nuclear-powered, with guided missiles)

CH-47 /ˈsɪtʃˌfɪtʃˈsɪvən/ noun ○ Chinook

CH-53 /ˈsɪtʃˌfɪtʃˈtɪriə/ noun ○ Chinook

chaff /ʃæf, tʃæf/ noun strips of metal foil dropped by aircraft in order to confuse enemy radar or decoy radar-guided missiles

chagul /ʃəˈgʊl/ noun in Arabic, a water container made of coarse fabric, which is designed to keep water cool by the process of evaporation

chain-gun /ˈʃeɪnˌɡən/ noun a machine-gun, where the firing-mechanism is powered by a motor in order to produce a high rate of fire

chain of command /ˈʃeɪn ɔv kəˈmænd/ noun a command structure within a grouping ○ Demoralization is evident throughout the chain of command.

chalk /ʃɔrk/ noun 1. a soft white limestone rock, often found under a shallow covering of soil and grass ○ It's very hard work digging into chalk. 2. a writing instrument produced from chalk ○ The sign was written in chalk. 3. a group of passengers in an aircraft (especially helicopters) ○ The first three chalks must be ready to move at 1400hrs.

challenge /ˈʃeɪlnidʒ/ noun 1. a call to identify oneself ○ He didn't hear the sentry's challenge. 2. an invitation to take part in a contest or combat ○ We have received a challenge to a football match from B Company. 3. a difficult or demanding task ○ This mission will be a challenge for us all. 4. opposition ○ Your remarks were a challenge to my authority. ○ verb 1. to call upon someone to identify himself ○ We crept up to the gate and were immediately challenged by a sentry. 2. to invite someone to take part in a contest or combat ○ B Company have challenged us to a football match. 3. to contradict or object to
Challenger noun a British-designed 1980s-era main battle tank (MBT)

Challenging adjective difficult or demanding The marines faced the challenging task of climbing up a 30m vertical cliff.

Chamber noun the part of a gun in which a round is placed for firing

Charge noun a rapid and aggressive movement towards the enemy or something You are on a charge to stop doing something.

Chaplain noun a person authorized to lead religious worship

Character noun a letter or symbol The message consists of one hundred and seventeen characters.

Check verb to examine something in order to establish its condition Check your weapons.

Checklist noun a list of things to be checked.

Checkpoint noun a place (usually on a road) where people or vehicles are stopped and inspected or searched.

Chemical adjective referring to chemistry A substance formed by reactions between elements, obtained by or used in chemical processes.

Examples:
- "He challenged his platoon commander's report." (Challenger)
- "None of these batteries have any charge left." (Charge)
- "You are on a charge to stop doing something." (Check)
- "Check your weapons." (Check)
- "A substance formed by reactions between elements." (Chemical)
gerous chemicals used in warfare. 2. a chemical weapon The enemy are using chemicals.

chemical agent /'kemɪklænt/ noun a type of chemical weapon

chemical and biological warfare /'kemɪklændbi'ləʊlɒdʒɪkəl/ noun warfare using both chemical and biological weapons. Abbr CBW

chemical attack /'kemɪklættæk/ noun an attack using chemical weapons

chemical sentry /'kemɪklæntʃəntri/ noun a soldier assigned to watch for signs of a chemical attack

chemical shell /'kemɪklælsɛl/ noun an artillery round used as a means of delivering a chemical agent

chemical warfare /'kemɪklælwɔːrəfn/ noun warfare involving the use of chemical weapons

chemical-warfare unit /'kemɪklælwɔːrəfuʃənt/ noun a specialist unit trained to detect the presence of chemical weapons and to decontaminate persons, equipment and vehicles which have been affected

chemical warhead /'kemɪklælwɔːrəhed/ noun the explosive part of a missile used as a means of delivering a chemical agent

chemical weapon /'kemɪklælwəpən/ noun a chemical substance used as a weapon (such as poisonous gas)

chevron /'ʃɛvrən/ noun a V-shaped stripe worn on the sleeve and used to denote non-commissioned officer rank. Also called stripes

COMMENT: In the British Army, as a general rule, a single chevron denotes a lance corporal, two chevrons a corporal, three chevrons a sergeant, and three chevrons surmounted by a crown a colour sergeant or staff sergeant.

chef /ʃɛf/ adjective the most senior or important • He is the chef adviser. • noun 1. a ruler of a tribal group or clan 2. the head of a department

chief master sergeant /'ʃɛfməstə 'sɜːrdʒənt/ noun US a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the air force

chief of staff /'ʃɛf av 'stɑːf/ noun the most senior staff officer in a headquarters. Abbr COS

chief petty officer /'ʃɛfpəti 'peti 'nɛfəl/ noun a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the navy. Abbr CPO

Chiefstain /'ʃɛfstæn/ noun a British-designed 1960s-era main battle tank (MBT)

COMMENT: In a headquarters, the chief of staff (COS) coordinates operational matters, while the deputy chief of staff (DCOS) is responsible for logistics.

Chief warrant officer /'ʃɛfwənt 'wɔːnt ,peti 'nɛfəl/ noun US a senior warrant officer in the US armed forces ranking above a warrant officer and below a second lieutenant or ensign

chigger /'ʃɪɡə/ noun a tiny tropical insect, which burrows into an animal's skin (especially on the feet) in order to lay its eggs. Also called jigger

Chinagraph /'tʃɪnəɡræf/ noun a wax pencil designed for writing on plastic (such as a map-case, overlay, talk, etc.)

Chinook /'tʃɪnəuk/ noun an American twin-rotor CH-47 transport helicopter

chock /tʃɔk/ noun a metal or wooden block designed to stop a wheel moving

Choghi /'tʃɔgə, 'tʃɔggie/ noun a person of Asian origin, who runs a canteen or other shop on a British operational base or warship

COMMENT: The word Choghi is a legacy from the British Army in India, and is not supposed to be a derogatory term.

choke /tʃəuk/ verb 1. to obstruct a person's airway so that he cannot breathe • I choked him with my belt. 2. to be unable to breathe because of an obstruction to the airway • He is choking. 3. to block a passage • The road was choked by refugees.
choke-point /′tʃoʊk′pɔnt/ noun a natural or man-made feature which restricts the movement of large numbers of people or vehicles. The valley is a potential choke-point for enemy armour.

choke-point /′tʃoʊk′pɔnt/ noun a natural or man-made feature which restricts the movement of large numbers of people or vehicles. The valley is a potential choke-point for enemy armour.

chronometer /′kroʊnəmətər/ noun an instrument used for measuring time.

chow /′tʃau/ noun US food (slang).

chopper /′tʃɔpər/ noun a helicopter (informal).

chugga /′tʃʌgə/ adjective (of water) rough.

chowder /′tʃɔdə/ noun US food.

churchyard /′tʃɜrdʒərd/ noun the enclosed ground around a church used as a place to bury the dead. A cemetery, graveyard.

CIA /′sɪə/ noun the American secret service. Full form Central Intelligence Agency.

CIC /′sɪəs′ɪdʒə/ noun US the ops room of an American warship. He’s in the CIC. Full form combat information centre.

CINC /′sɪn′sɪk/ abbreviation US Commander in Chief.

cipher /′safər/ noun a system of words, letters, numbers or other symbols, which is used to write secret messages. C code.

circular error probable /′sərkjələr′pɜrəbl/ noun full form of CEP.

cirque /′sərk/ noun a natural depression on the side of a mountain. C corrie.

citadel /′sɪtəd/ noun a fort guarding a town.

citizens’ band /′sɪtəz′bænd/ noun a range of frequencies allocated to the general public for the use of two-way radios. Official CB.

city /′sɪti/ noun a large urban area.

civil /′sɪv/ adjective 1. relating to the ordinary citizens of a country. The civil population. The ordinary citizens of a country. 2. non-military.

civil defence /′sɪvəldɛfən/ noun the organization and training of non-military personnel for the protection of life and property during wartime.

civil emergency planning /′sɪvəl′emənərjpiˈlənɪŋ/ noun defence planning by a government, not involving the Ministry of Defence (i.e. the fire service, police force, health services, civil defence, etc.).

civilian /′sɪviən/ adjective non-military. The enemy aimed at civilian targets. Newspapers reported many civilian casualties. A noun someone who is not a member of the armed forces. Hundreds of civilians were killed in the air raid. C civvy.

civil unrest /′sɪvəl′rənʃt/ noun the breakdown of law and order, usually involving physical violence.

civil war /′sɪvəl′wɔr/ noun a war fought between groups of citizens of the same country.

civvies /′sɪvəz/ plural noun civilian clothing. He was in civvies.

civvy /′sɪvə/ (slang) adjective civilian. A noun a civilian. He shot a civvy.

Civvy Street /′sɪvɪ strɛt/ noun civilian life. What did you do on Civvy Street?

CIWS /′sɪəs′ɪdʒəz′ɛs/ noun a radar-controlled naval anti-aircraft cannon, which automatically detects, tracks and engages targets (e.g. Goal-
keeper, Phalanx). Full form close-in weapons system
CJTF abbreviation combined joint task force
CK /ski: 'ket/ noun a type of blood agent. Full form cyanogen chloride
clan /klæn/ noun a group of families who share a common heritage and, often, a strong sense of group identity
clap /klæp/ noun gonorrhoea (a venereal disease) (slang)
clash /klef/ noun a small engagement (usually indecisive) ○ Clashes reported between border security guards.
classification /kləsɪˈfɪkʃ(ə)n/ noun a way of organizing things into categories ○ He is responsible for the classification of documents.
COMMENT: The security classification of information varies according to its importance, eg: restricted, confidential, secret, top secret, etc.
classified /ˌklæsɪˈfaid/ adjective secret ○ That information is classified.
classify /ˈklæsɪfaɪ/ verb 1. to designate into classes or groups 2. to designate as secret ○ The report has been classified as top secret.
clay /klei/ noun a wet, sticky type of soil, which can be used as a raw material for the manufacture of ceramics
Claymore /ˈklæmɔːr/ noun an American anti-personnel device designed to fire a quantity of ball-bearings in a specific direction
COMMENT: A Claymore can be initiated electronically or by means of a tripwire.
clear /kliər/ adjective 1. free from obstructions ○ The road ahead is clear. 2. free from hazards (such as chemical contamination, enemy troops, explosive devices, etc.) ○ The area is clear of mines. 3. unloaded ○ The weapon is clear. 4. not close to ○ Stand clear, please. 5. (of weather) not cloudy or foggy ○ It’s a clear day. 6. easy to understand ○ Is that clear? 7. noun an uncoded radio transmission ○ He sent the message in clear. 8. verb 1. to remove an obstruction ○ The road has been cleared. 2. to remove a hazard ○ We cleared the enemy position. 3. to unload a weapon ○ They cleared their rifles. 4. to approve or authorize (where security is involved) ○ He has not been cleared to read this document.
clearance /ˈklɛərəns/ noun 1. an act of clearing something ○ B Company is on route clearance. 2. security approval ○ You do not have clearance to enter. 3. authorization or permission ○ Range Control has given us clearance to start firing.
cleared hot /ˈklɛərɪ tɒt/ adjective describes an aircraft which has permission to drop a bomb on a practice range ○ Foxhound 22, this is Range Control, you’re cleared hot, over.
cleared live /ˈklɛərd lɪv/ adjective describes an aircraft that has permission to drop a bomb on a real enemy target ○ Foxhound 22, this is Merlin, you’re cleared live, over.
clearing /ˈklɛərɪŋ/ noun 1. a small area of ground in woodland where the trees have been removed ○ We came to a clearing. 2. an action of removing something ○ The clearing of the village took several hours.
clearing patrol /ˈklɛərɪŋ pɔtəl/ noun a patrol sent out from a a patrol base or defensive position in order to check the surrounding area for enemy
clerk US /ˈklɛrk/ noun a serviceman who carries out secretarial duties in a headquarters
clique /klikt/ noun a steep wall of rock
climate /ˈklæmət/ noun the prevailing weather conditions of a region
climb /klɪm/ noun an upward movement ○ verb 1. to move upwards (especially using the hands and feet) ○ The commandos had to climb a 50ft cliff. 2. to move upwards ○ The planes climbed to 30,000ft.
clink /klɪŋk/ noun the noise made by something hitting metal ○ The sentry heard a clink.

clip /klɪp/ noun 1. a spring-fitted device used to attach an object to another object, or to hold objects together. 2. several rounds of ammunition held together by a clip for easy loading ○ He fired a whole clip at the man. ■ verb to attach using a clip ○ He clipped on a new magazine. (NOTE: clipping – clipped)
clock code /klok kəʊd/ noun a system used to indicate other aircraft in relation to your own aircraft; 12 o’clock is directly behind you; 3 o’clock is to your right; 9 o’clock is to your left ○ Enemy fighters at 3 o’clock!
clog /klɒg/ verb 1. to obstruct a mechanism or pipe with something ○ The fuel pipe was clogged with dirt. 2. to obstruct a route ○ The road was clogged with refugees. (NOTE: clogging – clogged)
close air support /kləʊz ˈɛə sə pərt/ noun an attack by aircraft on a target which is close to friendly ground forces. Abbr CAS

COMMENT: During the UN peacekeeping operation in Bosnia (1992–95), close air support meant limited attacks on individual positions or vehicles, which were actually firing at UN peacekeepers, while air strikes meant retaliatory attacks on multiple targets within a specified area. The difference between these two definitions was crucial during negotiations between the UN and the warring factions throughout this conflict.
close arrest /kləʊz əˈreɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a state in which a person is detained in a secure location (such as a prison, police station or guardroom)
closed-circuit television /kləʊzd kəʊzd tɛlˈvɪʒ(ə)n/ noun full form of CCTV
close-in weapons system /kləʊz ɪnˈwɛpərnz, ˈstɪstəm/ noun full form of CIWS
close quarter battle /kləʊz ˈkwɔːtər ˈbæt(ə)l/ noun combat in which soldiers are close enough to the enemy to use bayonets and similar weapons. Abbr CQB
closing down /kləʊzɪŋ ‘dɔun/ noun the ending of a radio transmission
cloud /klaʊd/ noun a visible mass of water, ice, dust or other particles in the sky

cloud cover /ˈklaʊd ,kʌvər/ noun an area of sky covered by cloud
clamp /klæmp/ noun a small group of trees or bushes ○ I saw something moving in that clump on the left.
cluster bomb /ˈklaʊstər ˈbɒm/ noun an aircraft-dropped device containing a quantity of small bombs or bomblets which are released in mid-air over a target area

CMA abbreviation convoy marshalling area
Cmd abbreviation command
Cmdr abbreviation commander (navy)
Cmdre abbreviation commodore

CN /ˈsiː n/ noun a type of tear agent. Full form chloroacetophenone
CO /ˈsiː n/ noun an officer commanding a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping ○ He was taken before the CO on a charge of being absent without leave. Full form commanding officer
coalition /koʊˈzɪliən/ noun a temporary alliance formed as a result of an agreement rather than a formal treaty
coast /ˈkoʊst/ noun an area of land where it meets the sea ○ The squadron sailed along the coast. ○ They planned a landing on the Normandy coast.

coastal /ˈkoʊstəl/ adjective relating to the coast ○ Their coastal defences proved to be inadequate.

coastguard /ˈkoʊstɡɑːrd/ noun 1. a government organization responsible for the safety of shipping in coastal waters and the prevention of smuggling ○ The US Coastguard is on the lookout for drug smugglers. 2. a member of the coastguard ○ Three coastguards boarded the ship.

coax /ˈkoʊæks/ noun same as coaxial machine-gun
coaxial /kəʊˈɛksɪəl/ adjective having the same axis
coaXial machine-gun /kəʊˈɛksɪəl məˈʃən/ noun a machine-gun which shares the same sighting systems as the main gun of an armoured fighting vehicle (AFV). Abbr COAX
cobbled /ˈknə(ʊ)ld/ adjective paved with an uneven surface of rounded stones
cobbler /ˈkɒblə/ noun a person who repairs boots and shoes
cobbled stones /ˈkɒblə(z)/, cobblestones plural noun rounded stones used to pave roads
Cobra /ˈkɒbrə/ noun same as Huey Cobra
cock /kɒk/ verb to pull back the firing mechanism of a firearm so that it is ready to fire, lock and load
cocked /kɒkt/ adjective with the firing mechanism pulled back and ready to fire
cockpit /ˈkɒkpɪt/ noun the pilot's compartment in an aircraft. The aircraft crashed because the cockpit canopy had iced up.
cock-up /ˈkɒk ʌp/ noun a situation where everything is going wrong (slang) This is turning into a right cock-up!

code /kəʊd/ noun a system of words, letters, numbers or other symbols, which is used to write secret messages
coded /kəʊdɪd/ adjective written in code He received a coded message.
codename /ˈkɒdnəm/ noun a name which, for security purposes, is used instead of a real name. Your codename will be Foxhound.

code of conduct /kəʊd əvˈkɒnd(ə)kt/; code of honour /kəʊd əvˈhʌnə(ə)r/ noun the correct way to behave (honourably)
codeword /kəʊdəwɜːd/ noun a word or set of words which are used to convey a meaning, such as arrival at a destination, capture of an objective, order to withdraw, etc. cipher
coerce /kəʊˈرز/ verb to persuade an unwilling person to do something by using force or threats. He was coerced into helping the soldiers.

correction /kərˈɜʃən/ noun the use of force or threats to persuade an unwilling person to do something

coffin /ˈkɒfɪn/ noun a box in which a dead body is buried or cremated (NOTE: The American English term is casket.)

CoH abbreviation corporal of horse

cohesion /kəʊˈhiʃən/ noun a state of being organized and working together. The enemy's cohesion is starting to collapse.

COIN /ˈkoʊn/ abbreviation counterinsurgency

col /kol/ noun a high mountain pass

Col abbreviation colonel
cold steel /ˌkəʊld ˈstɛl/ noun the use of the bayonet

Cold War /ˈkəʊld ˈwɔr/ noun the period between 1945 and 1989, when a state of near-hostility existed between the USA and its Western European allies (later NATO) on one side and the USSR and its Eastern European allies (later the Warsaw Pact) on the other

collaborate /ˌkəʊləˈbreɪt/ verb to assist the enemy

collaborator /ˌkəʊləˈbreɪtər/ noun someone who provides assistance to the enemy

collapse /ˈkələps/ noun 1. falling down. The explosion caused the collapse of the building. 2. loss of cohesion. The collapse of the enemy was due to a failure in logistics. 3. a failure. We were forced to watch the collapse of the whole plan. 4. a mental or physical breakdown. He suffered a collapse. • verb 1. to fall down. The explosion caused the building to collapse. 2. to lose cohesion. Enemy resistance collapsed as soon as the allies entered the town. 3. to fail. The plan collapsed as a result of poor planning. 4. to suffer a mental or physical breakdown. He collapsed from exhaustion.

collapsible /ˌkələˈpsəb(ə)l/ adjective designed to fold up or be taken to pieces and then reassembled. We used a collapsible boat.

49 collapsible
collate /kəˈlekt//verb to gather and analyse information

collateral damage /ˌkɒləˈreɪʃən//noun the unintentional killing of civilians or destruction of civilian property as a result of military action o The Pentagon admitted that the bombing raids had caused some collateral damage.

collect /kəˈlekt//verb to fetch or pick up something

collection /kəˈleksʃən//noun an act of fetching or picking something up

collection point /kəˈleksʃən point//noun a place where personnel, equipment or supplies can be delivered and picked up

collide /kəˈlaɪd//verb to hit another object while moving o The helicopters collided in mid-air.

collision /kəˈlɪʒn//noun an act of colliding o a mid-air collision

collocate /kəˈloʊkət//verb to put in the same place o B Company was collocated with Battalion HQ.

colonel /ˈkələn(ə)l//noun 1. an officer in the army or marines (ranking above a lieutenant-colonel and below a brigadier, usually employed as a senior staff officer). o lieutenant-colonel 2. US an officer in the army, marines or air force (usually in command of a regiment or equivalent-sized grouping or employed as a senior staff officer). Abbr Col o a mid-air collision

colonel /ˈkələn(ə)l//noun 1. an officer in the army or marines (ranking above a lieutenant-colonel and below a brigadier, usually employed as a senior staff officer). o lieutenant-colonel 2. US an officer in the army, marines or air force (usually in command of a regiment or equivalent-sized grouping or employed as a senior staff officer). Abbr Col o a mid-air collision

Colonel of the Regiment /ˈkələn(ə)l əv əv ˈredʒəmt//noun an honorary position (usually held by a member of the Royal Family, a field marshal or general)

colonial /ˌkələˈnɪəl//adjective relating to colonies

colonial /ˈkələnɪst//noun a settler in a colony

colony /ˈkələnəri//noun a territory which is governed and exploited by a foreign power

colocate /kəˈloʊkət//verb to put in the same place o B Company was collocated with Battalion HQ.

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color /ˈkʌrəl//noun US US spelling of colour

colour /ˈkʌrəl//noun a ceremonial flag of a unit or sub-unit o The equivalent of colour sergeant in most other branches of the British Army is staff sergeant (S/Sgt.)

column /ˈkʌlmən//noun 1. a tactical formation consisting of several files of soldiers moving forward together behind the other o Two columns of infantry advanced across the desert. 2. troops or vehicles moving in column formation o The column of tanks was strafed by enemy aircraft.

Comanche /ˈkʌməntʃ//noun an American RH-66 light attack/reconnaissance helicopter

combat /ˈkʌmbət//noun fighting with the enemy o He has no experience of combat. o The unit was in combat three times. o unarmed combat a verb to take effective action against something o This oil will combat rust and corrosion.

combat air patrol /ˈkʌmbət ə pə ,ˈtræpəl//noun a patrol by fighter aircraft over a designated area. Abbr CAP

combatant /ˈkʌmbətənt//noun a person who is involved in fighting o Combatants on both sides were affected by the chemical attack. Compare non-combatant

combat-effective /ˈkʌmbət ˈɛfektɪv//adjective capable of fighting o Only three of our tanks are still combat-effective.
combat engineer tractor /'kɒmbət, 'eŋɡіən.trəktə/ noun a British-designed armoured bulldozer. Abbr CET

combat fatigue /'kɒmbət, feɪ'tiːdʒ/ noun mental and physical stress resulting from a long period in combat

combat information centre /'kɒmbət, 'ɪnfə'meʃən, səntə/ noun full form of CIC

combat-loading /'kɒmbət, 'ləʊdnɪŋ/ noun the process of loading ships with men and equipment in such a way that they are literally ready to fight the moment they disembark

combat readiness /'kɒmbət, 'reːdnəs/ noun the degree to which a unit or sub-unit is considered capable of fighting effectively. The brigade is now at an advanced state of combat readiness.

combat search and rescue /'kɒmbət, 'sɜːtʃ ən, rɪˈskjuːz/ noun full form of CSAR

combat service support /'kɒmbət, 'sɜːvɪs ˈsəːpɔːt/ noun full form of CSS

combat supplies /'kɒmbət, səˈplɔːz/ plural noun ammunition, fuel and water

combat support /'kɒmbət, səˈpɔːt/ noun the work of providing supplies to soldiers who are engaged in combat

combat vehicle reconnaissance /'kɒmbət, ˈvɪzɪk(ə)l ɪˌrɪˌkɒmniːz(ə)nz/ noun a light, fast-moving armoured vehicle designed for reconnaissance. Abbr CVR

combat vehicle reconnaissance tracked /'kɒmbət, ˈvɪzɪk(ə)l ɪˌrɪˌkɒmniːz(ə)nz ˈtrɛktɪd/ noun a British series of light armoured reconnaissance vehicles (including the Scimitar and Scorpion light tanks). Abbr CVR (T)

combat vehicle reconnaissance wheeled /'kɒmbət, ˈvɪzɪk(ə)l ɪˌrɪˌkɒmniːz ˈwiːld/ noun full form of CVR (W)

combination armour /ˈkɒmbət, ˈnɪʃən, ˈɑrnərm/ noun armour composed of layers of steel and other substances (such as ceramics, plastics, other types of metal, etc.). Also called composite armour, compound armour, explosive reactive armour, rolled homogeneous armour

combine /kʌmˈbain/ verb 1. to bring or put together. The two battalions have been combined. 2. to come together. We must not allow the two enemy forces to combine.

combined arms /kəm, bænd ˈəmz/ plural noun two or more arms working together. This will be a combined arms operation.

combined joint task force /kəm, bænd lɑˌdʒɪstɪk ˈsɔːpɔːt/ noun support from various countries which is available for use by NATO

combined operations /kəm, bænd ˌɔpərəˈteɪʃənz/ plural noun 1. operations involving more than one arm (e.g. aircraft, artillery, infantry, naval gunfire support, etc.) 2. US operations carried out in conjunction with the armed forces of other states (NOTE: The Americans refer to combined arms operations as joint operations.) also called combined ops

combined pursuit /kəm, bænd ˈpʊrˌtʃuːt/ noun pursuit of a retreating enemy by more than one part of a force, e.g. by armoured vehicles and infantry

Commo pen /kəmˌbɪʊəˈpɛn/ noun an automatic syrette of atropine

COMCEN /ˈkɒmˌsiːn/ abbreviation communication centre

Commd abbreviation commander

come-on /kəmˌoʊn/ noun an action designed to lure someone into an ambush or trap. The burning car was a come-on for a large bomb.

command /kəˈmaʊnd/ noun 1. an official instruction to do something. He gave the command to open fire. 2. the management and direction of troops, vehicles or equipment. He has taken command of B Company. In command holding a command. He is cur-
commandant /ˈkɒməndənt/ noun 1. an officer commanding a military establishment (such as a prison camp, training depot, etc.) 2. an officer in the Irish army above the rank of captain and below a lieutenant-colonel (equivalent of a major in the British or US army)

commandeer /ˈkɒməndɪr/ verb to take possession of something in order to use it for a military purpose. They commandeered our car.

commander /ˈkɒməndər/ noun 1. someone who commands. Abbr Cmdr 2. a rank of an officer in the British or US Navy (sometimes in command of a small warship). Abbr C-in-C

commanding officer /ˈkɒməndɪŋ ˈɒfɪsər/ noun an officer commanding a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. He was taken before the commanding officer on a charge of being absent without leave. Abbr CO

commanding general /ˈkɒməndɪŋ ˈdʒen(ə)rəl/ noun US the commander of a large tactical grouping (e.g. division, corps, army).

commanding officer (CO) is only applied to an officer who commands a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Likewise, the title officer commanding (OC) is only applied to an officer who commands a company or equivalent-sized grouping.

commando /ˈkɒməndəʊ/ noun 1. a battalion-sized grouping of the Royal Marines (such as 40 Commando, 45 Commando). 2. 40 Commando will lead the assault. Abbr Cdo 2. a member of the Royal Marines who has successfully completed basic training, He wants to be a commando. 3. a special forces unit or a unit of irregular troops. An enemy commando is operating in the area. 4. a member of a special forces unit or a unit of irregular troops, The base was attacked by commandos.

command post /ˈkɒmənd ˈpoust/ noun the place from which a unit or sub-unit is commanded. Abbr CP

command post exercise /ˈkɒmənd ˈpoust ɪkˈseɪsəriz/ noun an exercise designed to train commanders and staff in the control of operations and the use of communications within and between headquarters, in which all forces are simulated. Abbr CPX

command sergeant major /ˈkɒmənd ˈsɑːrdʒənt ˈmeɪjər/ noun US the most senior non-commissioned officer in an army unit. Abbr CSM

command vehicle /ˈkɒmənd ˈvɪərɪk(ə)l/ noun a vehicle used as a command post

commend /ˈkɒmənd/ verb to praise an achievement (usually officially): He was commended for his bravery.

commendation /ˌkəmənˈdeʃən/ noun an official recognition for an
achievement o He received a commendation for leading the counter-attack.

**Commie** /ˈkɔmɪ/ noun a communist (informal)

**commissar** /ˈkɔmɪsər/ noun a communist official responsible for political education and organisation

**commissariat** /ˈkɔmɪsəriət/ noun an official department responsible for the supply of food, clothing, etc.

**commissary** /ˈkɔmɪsəri/ noun an officer responsible for supply of food, clothing, etc.

**commission** /ˈkɔmɪʃən/ noun an authority by which an officer holds his rank in the armed forces o He resigned his commission. 2. Queen’s Commission, King’s Commission a commission held by an officer who has undergone normal officer selection and training 1. to appoint someone as an officer o He was commissioned in 1980.

**commissioning** /ˈkɔmɪʃənɪŋ/ noun a service man with a supervisory rank, who derives his authority from a commission (e.g. a lieutenant, captain, major, etc.) (NOTE: A commissioned officer is normally referred to simply as an **officer**.)

**commissioned officer** /ˈkɔmɪʃənd ˈɔfɪʃər/ noun a serviceman with a supervisory rank, who derives his authority from a commission (e.g. a lieutenant, captain, major, etc.) (NOTE: A commissioned officer is normally referred to simply as an **officer**.)

**commissioning** /ˈkɔmɪʃənɪŋ/ noun taking a ship into operational service in the navy o The ship was in action only two weeks after commissioning. Compare **decommissioning**

**commodore** /ˈkɔmɪdɔr/ noun a senior officer in the British or US Navy (usually in command of a naval squadron). Abbr **Cmdre**

**Commonwealth** /ˈkɔmənwlɔθ/ noun an association consisting of Great Britain and independent sovereign states which were once formerly ruled by Britain as colonies (such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand) (NOTE: The full title is **the British Commonwealth of Nations**.)

**communal** /ˈkɔmjʊnəl/ noun a communal (NOTE: **Communal** might refer to facilities that can be used by all ranks, or alternatively by both sexes.)

**communicate** /ˈkɔmjuːnikət/ verb to pass information to another person

**communicate** /ˈkɔmjuːnikət/ noun 1. the act of passing information to another person 2. the ability to communicate 3. We have lost communication with B Company. 4. a message o Did you receive my communication?

**communications** /ˈkɔmjuːnikəʃənz/ plural noun the means of passing information o Our communications have broken down.

**communications equipment** /ˈkɔmjuːnikəʃənz ˈekəmpjʊment/ noun equipment for sending, receiving or monitoring communications

**communications officer** /ˈkɔmjuːnikəʃənz ˈɔfɪʃər/ noun an officer in charge of communications

**communication trench** /ˈkɔmjuːnikəʃən ˈtʃɛntʃ/ noun a trench used for movement from one fire trench to another
communism /'kəmjʊnɪz(ə)m/ noun
1. a political theory developed by Karl Marx, which promotes the idea that all people should be considered equal and that all property should be owned by the state. 2. a political system based on the ideas of Karl Marx and others. Any movement which favours communism.Compare capitalism

communist /'kəmjʊnɪst/ adjective 1. relating to communism 2. favouring communism 3. relating to a country with a communist government ● noun 1. a person who favours communism 2. a Communist a member of the Communist Party

Communist Party /'kəmjʊnɪst 'pærti/ noun an international organization (with official status in some countries) which promotes communism

company /'kʌmpəni/ noun a tactical and administrative army grouping of three or more Platoons. Abbr Coy

COMMENT: In the British army, company-sized groupings of tanks and certain supporting arms (for example engineers) are known as squadrons, while artillery companies in many armies, including Great Britain and the USA, are known as batteries. American armoured cavalry companies are known as troops, although normal armoured units use the term company. Companies or equivalent-sized groupings are usually commanded by majors (although companies in the Royal Marines are commanded by captains). In the US Army, companies or equivalent-sized groupings are usually commanded by captains. A British armoured brigade might consist of two armoured or mechanized infantry battalions and one armoured regiment or, alternatively, two armoured regiments and one infantry battalion, plus artillery and supporting arms. On operations, these units are broken down and combined into battle groups. As an example, an armoured infantry battle group might consist of two infantry companies and one squadron of tanks, which are organized into two company and squadron groups and a squadron and company group under the command of the infantry battalion HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time. In the US Army, a battle group is known as a task force, while company and squadron groups and squadron and company groups are known as company teams.

company and squadron group /'kʌmpəni ən 'skwɔːdrən ɡrʊp/ noun a combined arms grouping, based on an infantry company (equivalent to a company team in the US Army)

company quartermaster sergeant /'kʌmpəni 'kwɔːrtəmɑːstər 'sɜːdʒənt/ noun a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO), usually holding the rank of colour sergeant (C/Sgt) or staff sergeant (S/Sgt), responsible for the logistic support of a company. Abbr CQMS

Company Sergeant Major /'kʌmpəni 'sɜːdʒənt 'meɪtʃər/ noun a senior non-commissioned officer in the British Army who ranks above a sergeant, but below a regimental sergeant major. Abbr CSM. Abbr CSM

company team /'kʌmpəni 'tiːm/ noun a US combined arms grouping based on a tank or mechanized infantry company (equivalent to a company and squadron group or a squadron and company group in the British Army)

compass /'kʌmpəs/ noun an instrument designed to calculate direction by indicating magnetic north

compass bearing /'kʌmpəs,ˈbɛriŋ/ noun a magnetic bearing obtained by using a compass

Compass Call /'kʌmpəs kɔ:l/ noun US an air-force role, involving the use of EW aircraft to jam enemy communications

compassionate leave /ˌkɒmpəˈseɪʃənət ləv/ noun leave granted when a serviceman has problems at home (such as the death of a relative)

compatibility /ˌkɒmpəˈtɪbrəlɪti/ noun being able to fit in or work with other types of equipment

compatible /ˌkɒmpəˈtreɪtəbəl/ adjective able to fit in or work with other types of equipment
compatriot /ˈkɒmpətrɪət/ noun someone of the same nationality
compliance /ˈkɒmpləns/ noun the act of complying with e.g. an order or the terms of a treaty
comply with /ˈkɒmplə, ˈwɪð/ verb to carry out an instruction, order or request, or the terms of a treaty o The troops refused to comply with the order to withdraw.
compo /ˈkɒmpəʊ/ noun a tinned or dehydrated food supplied to the British Army (informal; short for 'composite rations')
component /ˈkɒmpənənt/ noun 1. part of something (especially machinery or instruments) o We’ll need to replace many of the components of this radio. 2. part of a combined arms force
component commander /ˈkɒmpə, ˈkɒmənəndər/ noun the commander of one component of a combined arms force (e.g. the air component commander coordinates the use of all aircraft in the force, regardless of whether they are provided by the air force, navy or army)
composite /ˈkɒmpəzɪt/ adjective made up of several parts
composite armour /ˈkɒmpəzɪt ˈɔːmər/ noun same as combination armour
composite rations /ˈkɒmpəzɪt ˈræʃən/ plural noun o compo
composition /ˈkɒmpəˈzɪʃən/ noun the particular parts or ingredients which go together to form something o They changed the composition of the assault force by replacing a squadron of tanks with two infantry companies.
compound /ˈkɒmpənɔʊd/ noun 1. a secure area enclosed by a fence 2. a mixture of two or more substances
compound armour /ˈkɒmpənɔʊd ˈɔːmər/ noun same as combination armour
compromise /ˈkɒmprəmeɪz/ verb 1. to settle a dispute by agreeing to accept some of the other party’s demands o We will have to compromise on this issue. 2. to reveal or to allow your intentions, location or secrets to become known (usually unintentionally) o The ambush has been compromised. o Our security codes have been compromised.
computer /ˈkɒmpətər/ noun an electronic device used for storing and processing data
computer virus /ˈkɒmpətər ˈvɜːrəs/ noun a secret code which is fed into an existing programme, in order to sabotage a computer system by destroying or disrupting data stored on it
comrade /ˈkɒmred/ noun a fellow soldier, worker, etc.
comment /ˈkɒmment/ noun 1. an act of bringing something together o He concentrated his forces for the attack. 2. to come together o The division will concentrate around Bocksheim. 3. to focus your attention, energy or resources on something o They concentrated on destroying the enemy rail network.
concentrated /ˈkɒnsentred/ adjective intense or strong o a concentrated barrage
concentration /ˌkɒnsənˈtreɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of bringing something together 2. an act of coming together 3. an act of focusing your attention, energy or resources on something
concentration area /ˌkɒnsənˈtreɪʃən ˈɛəriə/ noun an area where the units of a large tactical grouping (such as a brigade or division) come together to reorganize, before starting the next phase of an operation
concentration camp /ˌkɒnsənˈtreɪʃən ˈkæmp/ noun a camp where people are interned in harsh conditions
concentration of firepower /ˌkɒnsən'trɛtɪn/ noun the utilization of all weapons available aimed at the same target

concept of operations /ˈkonsept əv ˈpɒrət(ɪ)ʃ(ə)n/ noun a general outline of how an operation is intended to proceed

concertina wire /ˈkɒnsətɪnə tiːnə ˌwɛəə/ noun barbed wire rolled into a series of loops, which can be compressed for storage and transportation, but easily extended for use as an obstacle

conchie /ˈkɒnʃi/ noun a conscientious objector (slang)

concrete /ˈkɒnkrɪt/ noun a building material composed of cement, gravel, sand and water ○ Concrete blockhouses were built along the frontier.

concurrent /ˈkɒnkrɛnɪt/ noun happening at the same time as something else

concussed /ˈkɒnkdʒəst/ adjective suffering from concussion

conclusion /ˈkɒnkwəljuːn/ noun 1. a temporary incapacity caused by a blow to the head ○ He is suffering from concussion. 2. shock ○ He was killed by the concussion from an exploding shell.

condensation trail /ˌkɒndən ˈseɪʃ(ə)n træl/ noun full form of contrail

condition /ˈkɒndɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the state of something such as a piece of equipment, especially whether it is clean and working properly

conduct /ˈkɒndʌkt/ verb 1. to lead or guide somebody 2. to carry out e.g. military operations or an investigation ● noun the way in which somebody behaves ○ The Geneva Convention governs the conduct of military personnel in wartime.

cone /kaʊn/ noun a shape which is round at the base, tapering to a point

cone of fire /ˈkɑːn əv ˈfaɪər/ noun a shape like a triangle made when guns in two positions fire at the same target

confidential /ˌkɒnfɪˈdɛnʃ(ə)l/ adjective secret

comment: The security classification of information varies according to its importance e.g.: restricted, confidential, secret, top secret, etc.

confine /ˈkɒnfain/ verb 1. to keep within specific limits 2. to imprison ○ They were confined in a barn.

confined to barracks /ˈkɑːn,feɪnd tə ˈbaːraks/ noun a punishment by which a soldier is not allowed to leave the barracks ○ He was awarded 10 days CB. Abbr CB

confirm /ˈkɒnfərm/ verb to say that something is true or correct ○ Aerial photographs confirmed the enemy’s movements.

confirmation /ˌkɒnfəˈmeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a statement that something is true or correct ○ We need confirmation of the chemical attack.

confiscate /ˌkɒnfɪskeɪt/ verb to take something away from someone, with authority ○ All privately owned radios were confiscated.

conflict /ˈkɒnfɪkt/ noun a state of hostility or war ○ The whole region is in a state of conflict. ○ We are trying to settle the conflict by diplomatic means.

confluence /ˌkɒnfjuəns/ noun a place where two rivers join ○ Koblenz lies at the confluence of the Rhine and the Mosel.

confront /ˈkɒnfrənt/ verb 1. to take a hostile attitude towards someone or something ○ We were confronted by the 7th Infantry Regiment. 2. to deal with a problem or difficulty ○ We need to confront the lack of discipline in this battalion.

confrontation /ˌkɒnfrəntəˈʃ(ə)n/ noun aggressive or hostile behaviour ○ This confrontation could lead to war.

confusion /ˌkɑːnˈfjuːz(ə)n/ noun 1. a situation where no one knows what is happening ○ The whole headquarters is in a state of confusion. 2. loss of order and cohesion ○ The enemy retreated in confusion.

conifer /ˈkɑːnʃər/ noun a tree which does not lose its leaves in winter (such
coniferous /konˈnifərəs/ adjective relating to trees which do not lose their leaves in winter (such as firs, pines, spruce, etc.). Compare deciduous

conquer /ˈkɒŋkər/ verb to gain control over an enemy’s territory by defeating his armed forces. Also called conqueror ['kɒŋkərər] 1. The victorious army conquered one state after another.

conscript /ˈkɒnskrɪpt/ noun a person who joins the armed forces because he is forced to do so by law, rather than because he wants to. Compare volunteer

consort /ˈkɒnsɔːrt/ verb to select someone for compulsory military service. All men over the age of 18 were conscripted.

constraint /ˈkɒnstrænt/ noun something which restricts someone’s actions

construction troops /ˈkɒnstrəkʃən truːps/ plural noun troops who are trained and equipped to build large installations, e.g. roads, railways or bridges

consulate /ˈkɒnsoʊl/ noun an official appointed to live in a foreign city in order to protect the interests of his own countrymen

consumer logistics, operational logistics noun logistics concerned with the receiving and storing of supplies

contact /ˈkɒntækt/ noun 1. the ability to communicate with another person or grouping 2. a first sighting of the enemy (usually resulting in an exchange of fire)

contact report /ˈkɒntækt rɪˈpɔːt/ noun information relating to a sighting of the enemy

contain /ˈkəntərn/ verb 1. to hold This box contains live ammunition. 2. to prevent or restrict the movement of a group of people or vehicles. We have managed to contain the enemy in the western end of the town.

container /ˈkəntərn/ noun 1. anything which is used to contain something. The room was full of ammunition containers. 2. a very large metal case of a standard size for loading and
contaminant /ˌkɒnˈtəmɪnt/ adjective infected or polluted © The contaminated clothing was burnt.

contamination /ˌkɒnˈtəmɪneɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of contaminating something © The enemy was not responsible for the contamination of the water supply. 2. something which contaminates (such as a biological weapon, chemical agent, radioactive fallout, etc.) © There are still traces of contamination.

continent /ˈkɒn.tɪnənt/ noun 1. one of the major land areas in the world (Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Australia, Antarctica, Europe) 2. © the Continent (in Britain) the rest of Europe, as opposed to Britain itself which is an island © on the Continent in Europe © to the Continent to Europe © when you drive on the Continent remember to drive on the right

contingency /kənˈtændʒənsi/ noun an action or situation which is considered possible or likely and which could affect another action or situation (NOTE: The plural form is contingencies.)

contingency planning /kənˌtændʒənsiˈplænɪŋ/ noun planning for a possible future operation

contingent /ˈkɒntɪndʒənt/ noun a small military force which forms part of a larger grouping © The British contingent is made up of marines and reconnaissance units.

COMMENT: Contingent is normally used to describe the different members of a multinational force, e.g.: the British contingent, the German contingent, etc.

contour /ˈkɒntɔːr/ noun a line on a map connecting points of equal altitude

contract soldier /ˈkɒntræktˈsɑːldər/ noun an ex-serviceman serving in the armed forces of a foreign state

contrail /ˈkɒntreɪl/ noun a white trail of vapour given off by an aircraft in flight (normally at high altitudes) © Hel-lo 2, this is 22, contrails heading southwest. © Full form condensation trail

contravene /ˈkɒntrəˈviːn/ verb to act contrary to a law or code of conduct © Your actions contravene the Geneva Convention.

contravention /ˈkɒntrəˈvenʃən/ noun an act of contravening a law or code of conduct

control /ˈkɒntrəl/ noun 1. the power to direct the actions of people or things © You must keep your men under strict control © the men are out of control. © He lost control of his vehicle. © in control of having power over something © the rebels are in control of the southern part of the country 2. © the controls the instruments by which a machine or device is operated © I wasn’t familiar with the controls of the aircraft © verb to direct the actions of people or things © He was unable to control his platoon.

controller /ˈkɒntrəʊlər/ noun someone who controls

control station /ˌkɒntrəˈsteɪʃən/ noun 1. the station which is responsible for the orderly operation of a communications network

control tower /ˌkɒntrəʊlˈtɔːr/ noun an observation tower on an airfield or airport used to direct the landing and take-off of aircraft

convalesce /ˈkɒnvələs/ verb to recover your health after illness or injury

convention /ˈkɒnvənʃən/ noun a formal agreement

conventional /ˈkɒnvənʃənl/ adjective non-nuclear © We will be defeated if we have to rely on purely conventional weapons.

convoy /ˈkɒnvɔɪ/ noun a group of ships or vehicles travelling together

cookhouse /ˈkʊkˈ豪s/ noun a place where food is cooked

cook off /ˈkʊk ˈɒf/ verb (of ammunition) to explode prematurely in the
breath of the weapon because it is too hot

**coolant** /ˈkuːlənt/ noun a fluid designed to stop an engine from overheating

**cooperative logistics** /ˈkɒəpərətɪv ˈləʊdʒɪstɪks/ noun logistics involved in the manufacture, procurement, and storage of supplies

**coordinate** /ˈkəʊɔrdɪnət/ noun, one of a series of two-digit numbers shown on a map grid in order to produce grid references 2. a grid reference 3. What are your coordinates? (NOTE: The coordinates running from left to right are known as eastings, while the coordinates running from the bottom to the top are known as northings.) 4. verb /kəʊɔrdɪnɪt/ to manage the actions of two or more people or groups so that they work towards a common goal 5. The attack was not properly coordinated.

**coordinating authority** /ˈkəʊɔrdɪnɪtɪŋ ˈɔrthɒrəti/ noun, a authority given to a NATO commander to coordinate the work of various agencies and forces from different countries

**cop** /kɒp/ noun a policeman or policewoman (informal)

**copilot** /ˈkəʊpəlɪət/ noun a second pilot of an aircraft crew

**Copperhead** /ˈkɒpəhed/ noun an American-designed laser-guided anti-tank artillery round

**copse** /ˈkɒps/ noun a small wood

**copy** /ˈkɒpi/ noun, something produced to be the same as something else 1. Local gunsmiths are producing good copies of the AK-47 assault weapon. 2. one specimen of a document or publication, where several specimens have been produced 3. need two copies of the report. 4. to produce a copy 5. The Chinese are trying to copy the latest Russian tank. 6. US to receive a radio transmission (radio terminology) 7. copy that I have received (and understood) your message 8. do you copy? are you receiving me? 9. affirmative, roger

**cord** /ˈkɔrd/ noun a thick rope of twisted fibres, normally used for tying things together 1. Cord is thinner than string, and thinner than rope.

**cordite** /ˈkɔrdɪt/ noun smokeless explosive used as propellant for bullets and other projectiles

**cordon** /ˈkɔrdən/ noun a line of men or series of outposts designed to control, monitor or prevent movement into or out of an area. 1. The cordon went in at first light. 2. He broke through the cordon. 3. to place a cordon around an area. 4. The village was cordoned off.

**cornet** /ˈkɔrnɪt/ noun a second lieutenant in certain cavalry regiments

**corporal** /ˈkɔpərəl/ noun, a junior non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the army, marines or air force. 1. lance-corporal 2. US a junior non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the army or marines 3. abbr Cpl

**corporal major** /ˈkɔpərəl ˈmɛrdʒər/ noun a rank used by the Household Cavalry as an equivalent to staff sergeant and sergeant major

**corporal of horse** /ˈkɔpərəl əv ˈhɔs/ noun a rank used by the Household Cavalry as an equivalent to sergeant. Abbr CoH

**corps** /kɔrs/ noun, 1. a tactical army grouping of two or more divisions 2. an administrative grouping used by certain specialist troops (e.g. the Army Air Corps, the Royal Corps of Signals, the US Marine Corps, etc.)

**corpse** /kɔːps/ noun a dead body

**corpsman** /ˈkɔrmən/ noun US a specialist soldier trained to give first aid on the battlefield

**Corps of Drums** /

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**Corps of Drums** /ˈkɔːs əv ˈdrʌms/ noun a band of drummers and fifes players belonging to a battalion or regiment (also known as the Drums or the Fife and Drums)
corps support command

/ˈkɔːp səˈpɔːrt kəˈmɑːnd/ noun US full form of COSCOM
correct /ˈkɔːrkt/ adjective 1. true or accurate 2. (of artillery or mortar fire) on target ■ verb 1. to amend or put right ○ He corrected the timetable. 2. to make calculations and issue instructions in order to bring artillery or mortar fire onto a target ○ He corrected onto the second enemy position.
correction /ˈkɔːrktʃərn/ noun 1. an act of correcting something 2. a calculation made by a forward observer and sent to an artillery or mortar unit in order to bring fire onto a target 3. the process of directing artillery or mortar fire onto a target

counter /ˈkəʊntər/ adjective contrary to ○ Your attack was counter to my orders. ■ verb to take action in order to prevent or impede another action taking place ○ We countered the tank threat by mining all the likely approaches.
counter-air /ˈkəʊntər ˈeə/ adjective relating to operations directed against the enemy air force
counterattack /ˈkəʊntərətˈæk/ noun a retaliatory attack on an enemy force which is in the process of attacking or has just completed an attack ○ The enemy counterattacked was successfully beaten off. ■ verb to mount a counterattack ○ B Company counterattacked while the enemy were reorganizing.
counter-battery fire /ˈkəʊntər ˈbætəri ˈfaɪə/ noun an artillery attack on an enemy artillery fire-position ○ We lost three guns through counter-battery fire.
counter-concentrate /ˈkəʊntər ˈkɒntəntreɪt/ verb to bring forces together to repel an enemy attack
counterespionage /ˈkəʊntər ˈɛsˌpɒnzhən/ noun action taken to impede the activities of enemy spies
counterfire /ˈkəʊntər ˈfaɪə/ noun an attack on the enemy’s artillery assets
counterinsurgency /ˈkəʊntər ˈɪnˌsɜːrənsi/ noun action taken to destroy an insurgency. Abbr COIN. ○ insurrection, rebellion, revolt, revolution
counterinsurgency operation /ˈkəʊntər ˈɪnˌsɜːrənsi ˌɒpərətʃən/ noun a military operation mounted to destroy armed resistance to the established government or foreign domination
counterintelligence /ˈkəʊntər ɪnˌtɪljənsi/ noun methods used by governments or armies to stop enemy agents gaining information about their plans and activities
countermand /ˈkəʊntərmænd/ verb to cancel an order or instruction (usually made by someone else) ○ The general countermanded the brigade commander’s order to withdraw.
countermeasure /ˈkəʊntərməˈzuər/ noun an action or procedure designed to neutralize a danger or threat
countersign /ˈkaʊntəsɛn/ noun words, letters or numbers used as a verbal recognition signal, usually in the form of a challenge and a reply  A sentry should use the countersign when he does not recognize a person  

country /ˈkʌntri/ noun 1. land forming the territory of a nation or state 2. the country rural district or region (consisting of agricultural land, villages and small towns as opposed to large towns and cities  Guerillas are still operating in the country. 3. terrain  We will have to cross some difficult country.  
countryside /ˈkʌntrisɛd/ noun 1. a rural district or region 2. terrain consisting of agricultural land, woodland and villages  

cover /ˈkʌvər/ noun 1. a series of obstacles or practical tasks forming part of a test or competition 3. a direction taken by a ship or aircraft  The ship was heading on a course of 220°. 4. off course going in the wrong direction  

court-martial /ˈkɔːrtˈmærtʃəl/ noun the trial of someone serving in the armed forces by the armed forces authorities under military law  The court-martial was held in the army headquarters. 5. (NOTE: court-martialing = court-martialed)  
cove /ˈkɒv/ noun a small sheltered bay or inlet  

courage /ˈkʌrədʒ/ noun the ability to control fear  (also known as physical courage)  
courageous /ˈkʌrədʒəs/ adjective able to control your fear  
courier /ˈkəriər/ noun a person who takes something (e.g. a message, weapon, etc.) from one place to another  The gunman escaped, but we captured the courier and the weapon.  

course /kɔːrs/ noun 1. a series of lessons, lectures and practical exercises in a specific subject  I am going on a survival course. 2. a series of obstacles or practical tasks forming part of a test or 

61 covering fire
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>covert</td>
<td>adjective 1. not public; not divulged; private 2. ; the inability to control your fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>covert operation</td>
<td>an attempt to conceal true facts by lying or concealing information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cover-up</td>
<td>noun a attempt to conceal true facts by lying or concealing information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coward</td>
<td>noun someone who cannot control his or her fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowardice</td>
<td>noun 1. the inability to control your fear 2. the military offence of running away from the enemy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cowardly</td>
<td>adjective 1. (of a person) unable to control fear 2. (of an action) done against someone who cannot retaliate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coxswain</td>
<td>noun a person who steers a boat or ship 2. a senior petty officer on a small ship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coy</td>
<td>abbreviation company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP</td>
<td>abbreviation command post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cpl</td>
<td>abbreviation corporal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO</td>
<td>abbreviation chief petty officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPX</td>
<td>noun a radio exercise involving only the command elements of a grouping. Full form command post exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CQB</td>
<td>noun the skill of fighting at very close range (e.g., FIBUA, jungle fighting, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CQB range</td>
<td>noun a CB range in the wood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>close quarter battle</td>
<td>Full form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CQMS</td>
<td>abbreviation company quartermaster sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA</td>
<td>noun a brigadier in command of a division's artillery assets. Full form commander royal artillery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ATTENTION:** Although regiments and batteries are nominally allocated in support of specific brigades and battle groups respectively, artillery is considered to be a divisional asset and batteries may be tasked to support other groupings as the tactical situation dictates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>crab</td>
<td>noun a member of the Royal Air Force (army slang)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crack</td>
<td>adjective elite, of very high quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>craft</td>
<td>noun a boat or ship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>craftsman</td>
<td>noun a private in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME). Abbr CIn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crag</td>
<td>noun a rocky summit of a hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crampons</td>
<td>noun a set of spikes which are fitted to the sole of a boot for climbing on snow or ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crane</td>
<td>noun a tall machine with a long arm, designed for lifting heavy objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cramp-hat</td>
<td>noun a derogatory term used by members of the Parachute Regiment to describe any soldier who is not a trained paratrooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crash</td>
<td>noun a violent collision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crash landing</td>
<td>noun a landing made by an aircraft in an emergency, without using its wheels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crash out</td>
<td>verb (informal) 1. to deploy at short notice from a base or position in response to an incident or threat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crate</td>
<td>noun a large container made of wood or metal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crater</td>
<td>noun a hole in the ground made by an explosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crawl</td>
<td>verb to move on your hands and knees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creek</td>
<td>noun 1. a small stream 2. a narrow inlet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
creep /kriːp/ verb to move slowly and cautiously. He crept up to the bunker.

creeping barrage /ˌkriːpiŋ ˈberəʒ/ noun artillery bombardment which is constantly adjusted, so that the shells continue to land in front of friendly troops as they advance. We will advance behind a creeping barrage.

creeping bombardment /ˌkriːpiŋ ˈbɔrnəmənt/ noun same as creeping barrage

crest /krest/ noun the top of a hill or ridge

crevasse /krəˈvæs/ noun a large crack in the surface of a glacier or mass of snow. He fell down a crevasse.

crew /kruː/ noun 1. a team of people who man a ship, aircraft or vehicle. The crew of the helicopter which was brought down have all been rescued. 2. a team of people who operate a weapon or equipment.

crewman /ˈkruːmən/, crewmember noun a member of a crew

crime /kraɪm/ noun 1. an illegal act which is punishable by law. 2. illegal activity in general

criminal /ˈkraɪmɪnəl/ adjective relating to crime. a noun someone who commits a crime

crippled /ˈkrɪpld/ adjective 1. (of people) physically disabled. 2. (of vehicles) badly damaged and unable to function properly

crisis /ˈkraɪsɪs/ noun a very difficult or dangerous situation

crisis management /ˈkraɪsɪs ˌmænɪdʒmənt/ noun the act of taking rapid decisions to deal with a crisis. (NOTE: The plural form is crises /ˈkraɪsɪz/.)

critical point /ˈkrɪtɪkl ˈpɔɪnt/ noun 1. a location or position which could influence the outcome of an operation. 2. the point midway between two airbases from which a plane will take the same time to reach either base. Also called waypoint

cross /kros/ verb to move from one side of a feature to the other. The enemy are crossing the river.

cross-attachment /ˈkrɒʃəˈtətʃən/ noun an attachment to a different arm or service. (e.g. a platoon of armoured infantry attached to a tank squadron)

crossfire /ˈkrɒsfɛər/ noun fire directed at a target from two or more different locations. We were caught in a crossfire.

cross-grain /ˈkrɒs grɛtn/ adverb across the grain of the country. We'll have to move cross-grain.

crossing /ˈkrɒsɪŋ/ noun 1. a place where a railway line, river, road or other feature can be crossed. 2. a bridge or ford. The enemy have captured several crossings. 3. an act of crossing a feature, or obstacle. The enemy is preparing a river crossing.

crossing point /ˈkrɒsɪŋ pɔɪnt/ noun a place where e.g. a river can be crossed

crossroads /ˈkrɒsrɔʊdz/ noun a place where two or more roads cross over each other

cross-servicing /ˈkrɒsˌsɜːvɪsɪŋ/ noun work done by one service for another

crosswind /ˈkrɒswɪnd/ noun a wind which blows across your direction of travel

Crotale /ˈkrɒtəl/ noun a French-designed short-range surface-to-air missile (SAM)

crowd /ˈkraʊd/ noun a large group of people

crown /ˈkraʊn/ noun 1. a ceremonial head-dress worn by a king or queen. An insignia used in some badges of rank of the British Army (e.g. a single crown denotes major, while a crown and a star denotes lieutenant-colonel). 2. a head-dress worn by a queen.

cruise /kruːz/ verb to make a long journey by sea

cruise missile /ˈkruːz mɪsɪl/ noun an American-designed low-flying missile which is capable of navigating itself to a target. Tomahawk
cruiser /'kru:zər/ noun a large ocean-going warship, armed with missiles or guns, which is capable of spending long periods at sea without support

CS /si:/'es/ noun a type of tear agent. Full form orthochiorobenzylidene malononitrile. Also called CS gas
C/S abbreviation call sign

CSAR /'sɪsə'seɪ/ 'ɔːz/ noun an operation mounted to locate and rescue aircr̄w who have been shot down over enemy territory. Full form combat search and rescue

CS gas /si: es 'gesəʊ, tear gas /ˈtɛər ɡɛs/ noun a type of gas which irritates the eyes and causes choking

COMMENT: CS gas is normally used by riot police for crowd control.
C/Sgt abbreviation colour sergeant

CSM abbreviation 1. Company Sergeant Major 2. US command sergeant major

CSS /si:'es/ noun a resupply of ammunition, food, fuel and other necessities on the battlefield ① We need to practise CSS on the move. Full form combat service support

cul-de-sac /'kʌl da ˌsækə/ noun a street or road which suddenly ends, so that the only way out is to go back the way you came. Also called dead end

culminating point /'kʌlmiŋ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a point at which an attacking force is unable to continue its attack or even defend itself (because of casualties, shortages of fuel, ammunition, and rations, and sheer physical exhaustion) ① The enemy attack had reached its culminating point.

culvert /'kʌlviət/ noun a small tunnel used to carry drainage water under a road ① The bomb was placed in a culvert.

cupola /'kjuːpələ/ noun a revolving turret housing a gun or machine-guns, which is fitted to a warship, aircraft or fighting vehicle

curfew /'kɜːfjuː/ noun a regulation requiring people to be off the streets during a specified period, usually at night ① The military commander ordered a dusk-to-dawn curfew: ○ Soldiers patrolled the streets during the curfew.

custody /'kʌstədi/ noun imprisonment or being held under close arrest ① He was taken into custody.

cutlass /'kʌtlɔs/ noun a short sword with a curved blade, formerly used in the navy and now only used on ceremonial occasions

cut off /'kʌt 'ɒf/ verb 1. to prevent someone from retreating or from rejoining his comrades ② to surround a unit so that it can neither retreat, nor be reinforced or supported ① The platoon was cut off when the rest of the company withdrew. ③ to stop the supply of food, power, water, etc. ① The electricity has been cut off. ④ to prevent movement to or from a location ① The village has been cut off by snow; ○ isolate

cut-off group /'kʌt əf, ˈgrʊp/ noun a small group of soldiers positioned on the likely approaches to or exits from the killing area of an ambush, in order to prevent any of the survivors from escaping

cutter /'kʌtə/ noun 1. a tool used for cutting ② a small armed naval boat

cutting /'kʌtɪŋ/ noun a man-made channel allowing a road or railway to pass through an area of high ground. Compare embankment

CV abbreviation carrier vessel (NOTE: CV is often used as an abbreviation for aircraft carrier)

CVBG abbreviation carrier battle group

CVN abbreviation aircraft carrier (nuclear powered)

CVR /ˈsɪvr, ˈvɜː/ noun a light, fast-moving armoured vehicle designed for reconnaissance. Full form combat vehicle reconnaissance

CVR (T) /ˈsɪvr, ˈvɜː/ noun an armoured reconnaissance vehicle fitted with tracks (especially the British-designed Scimitar and Scorpion light tanks). Full form combat vehicle reconnaissance tracked
CVR (W) /ˈsɪː ə rə ljuː/ noun
an armoured reconnaissance vehicle fitted with wheels (as opposed to tracks).
Full form combat vehicle reconnaissance wheeled

CVW abbreviation carrier air wing

CX /ˈsɪks/ noun a type of blister agent. Full form dichloroformixime.
Also called phosgene oxime
DELTA - Dd

D-30 /ˈdɛstɪ/ noun a Soviet-designed 121.92mm light artillery piece
DA /ˈdeɪə/ noun a type of vomiting agent. Full form diphenylchloroarsine
dagger /ˈdæɡər/ noun a long knife with a thin blade, designed for stabbing
daisycutter /ˈdeɪziˌkʌtaɪ/ noun • BLU-82
dam /dæm/ noun a barrier designed to restrict the flow of water, in order to make a reservoir or to prevent flooding
dam close 
 danger 
 damage /ˈdemɪdʒ/ noun harm done to something
danger /ˈdɛndʒər/ noun 1. a situation where people may be killed or injured
danger close US deliberately calling friendly artillery fire down on top of your own positions
danger close 2. something which may cause harm or injury
danger area /ˈdɛndʒərərɪə/ noun an area within which casualties may occur
dangerous /ˈdɛndʒərəs/ adjective 1. likely to cause harm or injury
  2. This vehicle is in a dangerous condition
• The international situation is now extremely dangerous.
dannart wire /ˈdænər t/ ‘wais/ noun barbed wire
dare /deər/ verb to do something in the knowledge that it is dangerous or risky
  1. The sergeant dared his men to follow him up the hill. (Note: Dare is followed by the infinitive, and can be used with or without to.)
  2. ‘Who dares wins’
  [motto of the Special Air Service]
daring /ˈdeərɪŋ/ adjective involving risks
  1. It was a daring plan.
  2. They carried out a daring escape from the POW camp.
dash /dæʃ/ noun 1. movement at high speed
  2. The enemy made a dash for the coast.
dash (the shorter signal is the dot) • verb to move at high speed
  1. He dashed to the latrine.
dashboard /ˈdæsbəʊd/ noun an instrument panel of a vehicle or aircraft
data /ˈdeɪtə/ noun information
database /ˈdeɪtəˌbæs/ noun information stored on a computer
  1. Hackers tried to get into the Pentagon database.
date /deɪt/ noun the number of a particular day, month and year
date of birth /ˌdeɪt əv/ ‘bɜːθ/ noun the number of the day, month and year when a person was born
  1. Abbreviated DOB

date-time group /ˌdeɪt ˈtam ˈgruːp/ noun timing, consisting of day of the month, time, zone and, if necessary, month and year (e.g. 1645hrs (GMT) on 23 September 2001)
  1. Abbreviated DTG
• Comment: If the month and year are not included, then you can assume
that the date-time group applies to the current month and year.

davit /ˈdɑːvɪt/ noun a small crane on a ship for suspending and lowering a lifeboat
dawn /dɔːn/ noun the time of day when it is starting to get light. v daybreak, first light. Compare dusk
daybreak /ˈdeɪbrep/ noun the time of day when it is starting to get light. v dawn, first light
daysack /ˈdeɪsæk/ noun a small rucksack for carrying supplies or clothing during an operation

dc /ˌdiːˈsɪː/ noun a type of vomiting agent. Full form diphenylcyanoarsine
dcos /ˈdɪkəs/ abbreviation deputy chief of staff

d-day abbreviation destroyer (with guns)
d-day /ˈdiːd/ noun the day on which an operation starts. v D-minus-two days before D-Day = D-plus-three days after D-Day

COMMENT: Other letters are also used to mark the start of an operation. In the Gulf War of 1991, the start of the ground operation was designated as G-day.

ddg abbreviation destroyer (with guided missiles)
dead /ded/ adjective 1. no longer alive v After the attack, 50% of the battalion were left dead or wounded. 2. (of radios, etc.) not working n plural noun 2. the dead people who have died or have been killed v After the battle, troops were sent to collect and bury the dead.
dead end /ˈded ənd/ noun a street or road which suddenly ends, so that the only way out is to go back the way you came
deadfall /ˈdedfɔːl/ noun a dead branch which falls away from a tree as a result of wind or simply because of its own weight

COMMENT: Deadfall is a serious and constant hazard in jungle regions.

dead ground /ˌded grɑːnd/ noun an area of ground which provides cover from view (e.g. the reverse slope of a hill) v The company formed up in dead ground to the enemy position.

dead letter-box /ˌded ˈlɛtə ˌboks/ noun a secret location used to deposit and collect messages, equipment, etc.
deadly force /ˈdedli ˈfɔːs/ noun an action such as the firing of a weapon at someone, which can cause death or serious physical harm

dead on arrival /ˌded ɒn əˈreɪv(ə)/ adjective found to be already dead on reaching a hospital or casualty clearing station. Abbr DOA
dead reckoning /ˌded ˈrɛkənɪŋ/ noun a method of calculating your position entirely from the compass bearing on which you have been travelling and the distance which you have covered COMMENT: Dead reckoning is used at sea or in terrain where there are no obvious features (e.g. desert or jungle). However, as a result of satellite navigation and other modern technology, it is rapidly becoming a forgotten skill.
deadly /ˈdedli/ noun an act of dying or being killed

death's head /ˈdedθs hed/ noun a traditional insignia consisting of a human skull over two crossed bones

deadfall /ˈdedfɔːl/ noun 2.

deadhead /ˈdedhed/ noun a group who assassinate or execute people

debar /ˈdɛbɑːr/ verb to land from a ship. Also called disembark. Compare embark
debarkation /ˌdɪbɑːrˈkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an act of landing from a ship. Also called disembarkation. Compare embarkation
debouch /ˈde bʊʃ/ verb to come out of a re-entrant, valley or wood v We engaged the enemy as they were debouching from the valley.
debrief /ˈdɪbriːf/ verb to question people who have taken part in a mission or operation. Compare brief

debriefing /ˈdɪbriːfɪŋ/ noun 1. an act of debriefing someone 2. a meeting where debriefing is carried out. Compare briefing
debris US /ˈdɪbriː/ noun pieces of something which has been destroyed or badly damaged. 
We found debris from the crashed plane.

debus /dɪˈbʌs/ verb to get out of a bus or other vehicle. 
The platoon debussed on the objective.

decamp /ˈdɛkəmp/ verb to leave suddenly. 
The enemy had already decamped.

decoration /dɪˈs ærtʃən/ noun 1. something which is used to draw the enemy into an ambush or to make him reveal his location or intentions. 
2. something which is used to draw a guided missile away from its intended target (e.g. chaff or flares) 
verb to present the enemy with a target in order to draw him into an ambush or to make him reveal his location. 
A small patrol was used to decoy the enemy into the ambush.

decode /dɪˈkəʊd/ verb to convert from code into normal language. Compare encode, decipher, decrypt.

decommission /dɪˈkəmʃən/ noun taking a ship out of operational service with the navy. Compare commission.

decommissioning /dɪˈkəmʃənɪŋ/ verb to remove or neutralize contamination (such as a chemical agent, radioactive fallout, etc.). 
We had to decontaminate our vehicles. Compare contaminate.

decoy /dɪˈkoʊ/ noun a medal (usually for bravery or outstanding achievement) or a much-decorated pilot. 
verb to award a medal to someone (usually for bravery or outstanding achievement). 
He wore his decorations to the ceremony.

decrease /dɪˈkriːz/ verb to become less. 
verb to diminish. 
verb to reduce. 

decide /dɪˈsaɪd/ verb to make up one’s mind. 
verb to come to a decision. 
verb to make a judgment. 
verb to determine. 
verb to determine the result of. 
verb to determine the outcome of.

decisive /dɪˈsæsvi/ adjective 1. of an event. 
(settling an issue (such as a campaign or war) 
It was a decisive victory.

2. of a person. 
capable of making a decision quickly. 
He’s not very decisive.

decisively /dɪˈsæsvli/ adverb in a decisive way. 
We need to act decisively before the enemy recovers.

deck /dɛk/ noun a floor or level in a ship. 
verb to hit the deck. 
verb to throw yourself flat on the ground or floor, usually to protect yourself.

declaration /dɪˈklərēʃən/ noun a formal announcement.

declaration of war /dɪˈklərēʃən/ noun a formal announcement by one country to another, saying that they are now at war with each other.

declare /dɪˈklɛr/ verb to make a formal announcement. 
verb to declare war on someone to inform the government of another country that a state of war exists. 
verb to declare a state of war. 
Britannica had declared war on Germany.

decipher /dɪˈsɪfər/ verb to convert from code into normal language. Compare encode, decipher, decrypt.

decryption /dɪˈsɪpтрən/ noun the process of deciphering. 
verb to decipher.

decrypt /dɪˈkrɛpt/ verb to convert from code into normal language. Compare encode, decipher, decrypt.

deep interdiction /dɪp ɪntrɪˈdɪkʃən/ an interdiction against targets in the enemy’s rear areas or home territory.

deer /dɪr/ noun a large brown four-legged wild animal (often with horns on its head). 
Several deer came running out of the wood. (Note: The plural form is also deer.)
defaulter /drˈfɔltər/ noun someone who has been accused or found guilty of a military offence. Defaulters will parade at 0745hrs.
defeat /drˈfıst/ noun the act of losing a battle, campaign or war. The enemy will not recover from this defeat. Messengers brought back news of the naval defeat.
defector /drˈfekta/ noun someone who abandons his own country in favour of an enemy power. Napoleon's army was defeated by the Russian winter.
defeatist /drˈfıstist/ adjective believing that defeat or failure is inevitable. That is a very defeatist attitude.
defect /drˈfekt/ noun a fault or imperfection. This equipment has several defects.
defective /drˈfektiv/ adjective not working properly. This equipment is defective.
defence /drˈfang/ noun 1. an act of resisting an attack. The enemy put up a stubborn defence. 2. a military power. The government has cut its spending on defence.
defences /drˈfensiz/ plural noun fortifications built to protect a place. The enemy easily breached our defences.
defence stores /drˈfens stɔəz/ plural noun the material used in the construction of field fortifications (e.g. barbed wire, corrugated iron, sandbags)
defend /drˈfend/ verb 1. to resist an attack. The town was defended by a small group of soldiers. 2. to represent an accused person in a court of law or court-martial. (legal) He was defended by a major. 3. to justify an action or opinion. He found it difficult to defend the CO's decision.
defended locality /drˈfendd ləʊˈkeɪlistɪ/ noun an area containing several defensive positions, which are able to provide each other with mutual support.
defense /drˈfens/ noun US spelling of defence.
defensive /drˈfensiv/ adjective relating to defence.
defensive belt /drˈfensiv belt/ noun an area prepared for defence, surrounding something which must be protected. The minefields were part of a defensive belt surrounding the enemy communications centre.
defensive counter-air operations /drˈfensiv ˈkoʊntər ˈeərəpərəʃənz/ plural noun the use of lighter aircraft and air defence weapons to protect one's own territory and forces.
defensive fire task /drˈfensiv ˈtɑsk/ task/ noun a pre-determined artillery target, which has been registered and given a target number. Abbr DF
defensive position /drˈfensiv pəˈziʃən/ noun an area prepared for defence. Compare offensive
defensive systems officer /drˈfensivˈsɪstəmzˌɒfɪsər/ noun full form of DSO
defensive tactics /drˈfensivˈteɪktɪks/ plural noun tactics intended to resist attack.
deficiency /drˈfɪʃ(ə)nəl/ noun an item of equipment which is reported lost or mislaid. Platoon commanders are to report all deficiencies ASAP.
deficient /drˈfɪʃ(ə)nt/ adjective lost or mislaid. He is deficient on his helmet. Go to go deficient to report the loss of an item of equipment. You'll have to go deficient on your helmet.
defilade /drˈfɪləd/ adjective from observation and direct fire by a natural or man-made obstacle. The anti-tank missiles were sited in defilade positions. A defilade position is an area prepared to give us covering fire.
defile /drˈfɪl/ verb to move in file formation. A pass or valley which forces an advancing body of soldiers or
other tactical grouping to move in a narrow column

defoliant /dɪˈfɒlɪənt/ noun something which kills vegetation by removing leaves

defoliate /dɪˈfɒliət/ verb to remove the leaves from, and usually kill, vegetation

defoliating agent /dɪˈfɒliətɪŋ ,ɛrdʒənt/ noun a chemical designed to kill vegetation (such as Agent Orange)
defuse /dɪˈfjuːz/ verb 1. to remove the fuse from an explosive device 2. to reduce tension between people 3. the object of the air strikes was to degrade the country’s offensive capability.
degrade /dɪˈɡreɪd/ verb 1. to make something smaller or weaker 2. to destroy military assets belonging to another state, in order to reduce that state’s ability to mount offensive operations 3. The object of the air strikes was to degrade the country’s offensive capability.
degree /dɪˈgriː/ noun 1. a unit of measurement for angles or bearings 2. a unit of measurement for temperature (NOTE: There are 360 degrees in a circle. 360 degrees is the equivalent of 6,400 mils. The symbol for degrees is ° (214º).)

COMMENT: Many armies use mils instead of degrees in order to measure bearings, because they offer greater precision.
delay /dɪˈlei/ noun 1. an act of arranging or causing an action to take place later than originally planned 2. He was not responsible for the delay in implementing the airstrikes 3. an act of making someone late or slowing someone down 4. a period of time lost as a result of a delay 5. There will be a delay of forty minutes 6. He must go to the hospital 7. a delay caused by weather

delaying force /dɪˈleiɪŋ fɔːs/ noun a small force used to slow down an enemy advance while the main force prepares or strengthens a line of defence

deliberate attack /dɪˌlɪbərət əˈtæk/ noun an attack which is mounted once full reconnaissance, planning and preparation have been carried out
delta /dɛltə/ noun a triangular area of land or marsh at the mouth of a river 1. the Danube Delta 2. delta wing /dɛltə wɪŋ/ noun a triangular aircraft wing
demilitarized zone /dɪˈmɪlɪtərɪzaʊn/ noun an area or region in which the presence of military forces is forbidden under the terms of a treaty or other international agreement. Abbr DMZ
demining /dɪˈmɛnɪŋ/ noun the act of removing mines from an area
demo /dɪˈməʊ/ noun a demonstration (informal)
demob /dɪˈməʊb/ verb to demobilize (informal)
demobilize /dɪˈməʊbəlɪzaɪ/ verb to return conscripted servicemen to civilian life
demolish /dɪˈmɒlɪʃ/ verb to destroy a structure (such as a bridge or building)
demolition /dɪˈməʊʃ(ə)n/ noun an act of demolishing something
demolition gun /dɪˈməʊʃ(ə)n ɡʌn/ noun a large-calibre gun, which is fitted to an armoured engineer vehicle for the purpose of demolishing buildings or destroying obstructions
demolitions expert /dɪˈməʊʃ(ə)n ɪkspɜːt/ noun a person who specializes in carrying out demolition
demonstrate /dɪˈməʊnstrɪt/ verb 1. to show someone how something is done 2. He demonstrated the use of the respirator 3. to take part in a public assembly or procession in order to express an opinion or grievance 4. They were demonstrating against the invasion of their country
demonstration /dɪˌməʊn streɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an act of showing someone how something is done 2. We were given a demonstration of how to load the mortar 3. a public assembly or procession in order to express an opinion or griev-
The demonstration was organized to protest against the invasion of their country. 3. A show of military force intended to intimidate the enemy or to divert the enemy’s attention. Our battalion made a demonstration to the enemy’s front while the rest of the brigade moved round to attack the flank.

Demonstrator /ˈdɪmɪstrətər/ noun 1. Someone who demonstrates something. 2. Someone who takes part in a demonstration to protest against something.

Demoralization /ˌdɪmərələˈzeɪʃən/ noun Loss of morale (usually as a result of defeat or high casualties). Demoralization is evident throughout the entire chain of command.

Demoralize /ˌdɪmərəlaɪz/ verb To destroy someone’s morale.

Demote /ˈdɛmət/ verb To reduce to a lower rank (usually as a punishment).

Denial /ˈdɛnɪəl/ noun An act of denying something.

Deny /ˈdɛnɪ/ verb 1. To say that something is untrue. 2. To prevent someone from using or having access to something.

Depart /ˈdɑːpt/ verb To leave a location.

Department /ˈdɑːptmənt/ noun 1. Part of an organization. Which department do you work in? 2. A major section of the British government headed by a Secretary of State. 3. A major section of the US government headed by a Secretary or a spokesman for the US Department of Defense.

Department of Defense, Defense Department noun The US government department in charge of the armed forces. Also called The Pentagon. Abbr DOD

deputy chief of staff /ˌdɪpjuˈtɪʃ əf / noun The second most senior
derail /dɪˈreɪl/ verb to make a train come off the rails

derelict /ˈdɛrɪlikt/ adjective 1. (of buildings and ships) abandoned and no longer maintained 2. US negligent ○ He was derelict in his duty. 3. noun an abandoned building or ship which is no longer maintained

dereliction of duty /dɛˈriʃən kə ˈdjʊt/ noun a failure to carry out your duty

descend /dɛˈsɛnd/ verb to go down
descent /dɛˈsɛnt/ noun an act of going down

desert /dɛˈzɜrt/ noun a region where there is very little water and therefore hardly any life or vegetation 1. verb to leave a military unit without permission ○ He was accused of deserting his post. 2. adj adjective with no people present ○ The village was deserted.
deserter /dɛˈzɜrtər/ noun a serviceman who leaves his unit without permission
desertion /dɛˈzɜrʃən/ noun a military offence of leaving a unit without permission ○ The punishment for desertion was execution by firing squad.

COMMENT: Desertion implies an intention to absent oneself permanently, while temporary absence is usually classified as absent without leave (AWOL).

Desert Storm /dɛˈzɜrst/ noun an operation mounted by an international coalition to recapture Kuwait in 1991, following its invasion by Iraq. ○ the Gulf

designator /dɛzɪˈnɛtər/ noun 1. laser target designator

destination /dɛzɪˈstɛnʃən/ noun 1. a location to which a person or thing is going ○ Our destination is Hamburg.
destroy /dɪˈstreɪ/ verb to damage something completely ○ The factory has been destroyed.

destroyer /dɪˈstreɪər/ noun a medium-sized high-speed warship used to support amphibious or strike forces.

COMMENT: In the British Navy, the destroyer’s primary role is air defence (AD).
destruction /dɪˈstrɛkʃən/ noun an act of destroying something ○ He was responsible for the destruction of the village.
detach /dɪˈtætʃ/ verb to remove a soldier or sub-unit from their parent unit, in order to assign them to a separate mission or task ○ 6 Platoon has been detached to guard the hospital. Compare attach

detachment /dɪˈtætʃmənt/ noun 1. an act of detaching a soldier or sub-unit ○ He is on detachment to the air force. 2. a small administrative or tactical grouping (normally attached to or supporting another unit) ○ Two detachments of sappers arrived on the scene.
detachment commander /dɪˌtætʃmən kəˈmorəˌzɪd/ noun an officer who is in command of a detachment
detail /dɪˈtiːl/ noun 1. one of several items of information which relate to the same subject ○ He gave me some details on the tactical situation. 2. to go into detail to give all the information available ○ in detail item by item 3. part of a diagram, photograph or picture which is magnified for closer examination ○ We studied a detail showing the bridge. 4. a written order or instruction ○ Have you read the company detail today? ○ to go into detail 1. to give a piece of information item by item ○ He detailed the duties for the day. ○ detailed support arrangements 1. technical arrangements 2. to assign a soldier or unit to a specific task ○ He was detailed to guard the prisoners.
detain /dɪˈtɛn/ verb to confine someone or restrict his movements
det-cord /dɛtˈkɔrd/ noun an explosive substance contained in a thin length of plastic tube, which is used as an ex-
tours to avoid the minefield.

which deters an explosive device used to detonate an explosive charge or to detonate a larger explosive charge. Full form detonating cord

detect /drˈtɛkt/ verb to indicate the presence of an object or substance
detector /drˈtɛktər/ noun a device designed to indicate the presence of something
detector paper /drˈtɛktər ˌpeɪpər/ noun a type of specially treated paper, which is designed to detect the presence of chemical agents
detention /drˈtenʃən/ noun the confinement of a serviceman who has been found guilty of a military offence

detention /drˈtenʃən ˌkɔst/ noun full form of det-cord
detonation /drˈteɪnəʃən/ noun 1. an act of detonating an explosive charge 2. an explosion
detonator /drˈteɪnətər/ noun a small explosive device used to detonate an explosive charge
detour /drˈtoʊər/ noun an alteration to a planned route 1. We had to make a detour to avoid the minefield. 2.
detrain /driˈtrɛn/ verb to get out of a train
de-turf /drˈtɜrf/ verb to carefully remove the turf from the ground, so that it can be replaced and will continue growing 1. We came under fire before we had even finished de-turfing the trenches.
devastate /dɪˈvɑːstət/ verb to cause great destruction
devastation /dɪˈvɑːstəʃən/ noun 1. an act of devastating an area 2. widespread destruction
device /dɪˈvɛs/ noun an instrument or machine which performs a function

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direct fire /dərɪkt 'faɪə/ noun fire from weapons which are pointed directly at their targets (e.g. rifle, anti-tank gun, guided missile)
direct fire /dərɪkt 'faɪə/ adverb in a straight line or by the shortest route 74 The squadron moved direct to the bridge.
direct support /dərɪkt 'səːpɔːst/ noun assistance from another unit or arm in which the unit being assisted has control over how the assistance is used 74 The battalion had a battery of guns in direct support for the entire attack.
direct weapon /dərɪkt 'wepən/ noun a weapon which is pointed directly at its target (e.g. a rifle, anti-tank gun, guided missile)
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directing staff /dərɪkt,rek'tɪŋ stæf/ noun officers and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) who act as instructors on a course. Abbr DS
direction /dərɪkt'sɛn/ noun 1. a line or course along which anything moves or looks, or along which anything lies □ The enemy tanks were moving in a south-easterly direction. 2. a bearing (usually a grid reference) to an artillery or mortar target 3. control or guidance □ He was expected to work without direction from his superiors. 4. instructions on how to go to a destination □ The sergeant gave us directions to the fuel dump.
direction-finding /dərɪkt'fɪndɪŋ/ adjective relating to equipment which is designed to locate radio sets or radar by intercepting their emissions □ The enemy has good direction-finding equipment.
directive /dərɪktɪv/ noun an order or instruction which indicates an intended result but does not specify how that result should be achieved.
directive command /dərɪktɪv kem/ noun a doctrine of command and control where commanders at all levels are informed of the intended result of an operation, but are then free to exercise their own initiative in order to achieve that result, with minimum interference from higher command. Compare restrictive control
directly /dərɪktli/ adverb 1. immediately, without any delay □ Move to the bridge directly. 2. in a straight line, without deviation □ Move directly to the bridge.
direct mean point of impact /dərɪkt mɛn pɔɪnt əv 'mɛrpəkt/ noun full form of DMPI
direct support /dərɪkt 'səːpɔːst/ noun assistance from another unit or arm in which the unit being assisted has control over how the assistance is used 74 The battalion had a battery of guns in direct support for the entire attack.
direct weapon /dərɪkt 'wepən/ noun a weapon which is pointed directly at its target (e.g. a rifle, anti-tank gun, guided missile)
direct fire 74
discharge noun /ˈdɪstrər/ 1. the release of a person from duty. 2. an act of carrying out a duty. 3. He was accused of obstructing the sergeant in the discharge of his duty. 4. an act of firing a weapon. 5. verb /ˈdɪstrə/ 1. to release a person from duty. 2. to carry out a duty. 3. to fire a weapon. 4. He discharged his weapon into the crowd.

discharge on request /ˈdɪstrə tʃɑrəst/ noun US full form of DOR.

discharge papers /ˈdɪstrəpərəs/ plural noun a document proving that a person has been discharged from the armed forces.

dishonourable discharge /ˈdɪstrənərəl/ adjective designed to enforce discipline.

disiplinary offence /ˈdɪstrənplərən/ noun an offence which is punishable under military law.

discipline /ˈdɪstrplən/ noun 1. control which an army has over its soldiers' actions and behaviour. 2. The British Army is famous for its discipline. 3. rules and regulations which maintain control. 4. Your actions were contrary to good order and military discipline. 5. self-control. 6. verb to punish. 7. He was disciplined under Section 69 of the Army Act 1955.

DISCOM /ˈdɪstrkəm/ noun US an organization responsible for the resupply of a division. Full form divisional support command.

dismount /ˈdɪstrmaʊnt/ verb to get out of a vehicle. 1. The infantry dismounted 100 metres from the objective. 2. from a firm or secure position. 3. to remove someone from their job. 4. He dismissed the clerk. 5. He dismissed the officer. 6. to release servicemen at the end of a parade. 7. Company, dismiss! 8. verb to stop fighting with the enemy and withdraw. 9. Compare engage.

dismounted /ˈdɪstrmaʊnt/ adjective (of armoured or mechanized infantry) on foot. 1. This will be a dismounted attack.

disengagement /ˌdɪsmənˈgɛndʒmənt/ noun an action of stopping fighting with the enemy. Compare engagement.

disguise /ˈdɪstrəz/ noun anything which alters the appearance of something in order to conceal its true identity. 1. verb to alter the appearance of something in order to conceal its true identity. 2. The chemical weapons factory was disguised as a hospital.

dishonor /ˈdɪstrnər/ noun, verb US spelling of dishonour.

dishonourable discharge /ˈdɪstrnərəbl/ adjective US spelling of dishonourable discharge.

dishonour /ˈdɪstrnər/ noun a state of disgrace resulting from an action or failure. 1. Your actions have brought dishonour to the regiment. 2. verb to do something which causes dishonour.

dishonourable /ˈdɪstrnərəbl/ adjective causing dishonour.

disintegrate /ˌdɪstrɪntəˈɡreɪt/ verb to come apart. 1. The plane started to disintegrate in mid-air.

disk /disk/ noun US ID disc.

dislodge /ˈdɪstrldʒ/ verb to remove from a firm or secure position. 1. The gun became dislodged from its mounting. 2. We were unable to dislodge the enemy from the village.

dismiss /ˈdɪsmaɪs/ noun, verb 1. to send someone away. 2. He dismissed the clerk. 3. to remove someone from their job. 4. The brigade commander has been dismissed.

dismissal /ˈdɪsməs/ noun an act of dismissing someone.

disengage /ˌdɪstrɪnˈɡeɪdʒ/ verb to stop fighting with the enemy and withdraw. Compare engage. 1. to break contact.
disobedience 76

disobedience /ˌdisəˈbidʒəns/ noun a failure or refusal to carry out an order or command

disobey /ˌdisəˈbeɪ/ verb to fail or refuse to carry out an order or command

disorder /ˌdɪskɔrd/ noun 1. a lack of order or cohesion (NOTE: disorder – disorient – disorientate – disorientated.) 2. a breakdown of law and order (NOTE: The police are unable to deal with the disorder in the capital.)

disorient /ˌdɪskəˈrənt/ verb US to destroy a person’s awareness of his exact location (NOTE: disorientate – disorientation) British English is disorientate – disorientated.)

disorientate /ˌdɪskəˈrəntət/ verb to destroy a person’s awareness of his exact location (NOTE: disorientate – disorientation). The US spelling is disoriented – disorientated.)

disoriented /ˌdɪskəˈrəntɪd/ adjective unsure of your exact location (NOTE: The British English term is usually disoriented.)

dispatch /ˈdɪspætʃ/ noun 1. a written line of an object which is designed to break up the outline of an object 2. an official military report a written line of an object which is designed to break up the outline of an object 3. a messenger (NOTE: Messengers were dispatched to HQ.)

dispatch rider /ˌdɪspætʃ riˈdɛr/ noun an army motorcyclist used for delivering messages

dispersal /ˌdɪspərsəl/ noun an act of dispersing

dispersal point /ˌdɪspərsəl pɔɪnt/ noun the location where the sub-units of a grouping divide and go off in different directions

disperse /ˌdɪspərs/ verb 1. (of a crowd or group) to split up and go off in different directions (NOTE: The crowd dispersed when baton rounds were fired.) 2. to make something split up and go in different directions (NOTE: The soldiers fired into the air to disperse the crowd.) 3. to send information or instructions to several different locations (NOTE: Orders were dispersed to the units.) 4. (of a chemical agent) to become weaker and eventually disappear (NOTE: This gas takes about five minutes to disperse.)

displaced person /ˌdɪspɛld pɜrsən/ noun a person who is forced to leave his or her home as a result of war or some other disaster (NOTE: refugee)

displacement /ˌdɪspləˈment/ noun the amount of water moved when a solid object is placed in it (NOTE: This ship has a displacement of 17,000 tons.)

disposal /ˌdɪspəˈzəl/ noun an act of getting rid of something

dispose of /ˌdɪspəz əf/ verb 1. to get rid of (NOTE: I disposed of the contaminated clothing.) 2. to kill (NOTE: He used a knife to dispose of the sentry.) 3. to destroy (NOTE: We used a missile to dispose of the tank.)

disposition /ˌdɪspəˈzəʃən/ noun the positioning of troops on the ground

dispositions /ˌdɪspəˈzəʃənz/ plural noun orders for the positioning of troops

disregard /ˌdɪsrɪˈɡɑrd/ verb to ignore (NOTE: Disregard my last order.)

disrupt /ˌdɪsrɪˈpɔrt/ verb to cause disorder, to interrupt an activity in progress (NOTE: Our mission is to disrupt the enemy’s lines of communication.)

disruption /ˌdɪsrɪˈpɔrtʃən/ noun an act of disrupting something

disruptive pattern /ˌdɪsrɪˈpɔrtɪv ˈpərtntʃən/ noun a camouflage pattern, which is designed to break up the outline of an object

disruptive pattern material /ˌdɪsrɪˈpɔrtɪv ˈmətərɪəl/ noun full form of DPM

dissemination /ˌdɪsəˈmenʃən/ noun an act of sending information or instructions throughout a grouping or other organization (NOTE: The dissemination of the orders took longer than expected.)

dissident /ˌdɪsdənt/ noun 1. a person who opposes the established government of his own country (where such opposition is illegal) or who opposes the system of government itself (especially totalitarian forms of government such as communism or fascism) (NOTE: The
police have been arresting known dissidents. 2. a person who actively opposes the leadership of his own political party or group. Dissidents are trying to subvert the peace talks. [adjective being a dissident] The bombing was the work of dissident nationalists.
distance /'distəns/ noun 1. the space between two locations. 2. a distance the area at the limit of a person’s vision. We saw them in the distance. 3. the middle distance the area half way between an observer’s location and the horizon
distant /'distənt/ adjective far away. We are aiming at a distant target.
Distilled Mustard /dɪstɪld 'mʌstəd/ noun HD
distress /'dɪstrɛs/ noun 1. great unhappiness or fear. The regulations caused great distress to the civilian population. 2. danger. In distress in danger; (of ship) likely to sink
distress signal /'dɪstrɛs 'sɪgn(ə)/ noun a signal signifying that a person, ship or aircraft is in danger
district /'dɪstrɪkt/ noun an area (normally defined for administrative purposes)
ditch /dɪtʃ/ noun a man-made channel used for drainage. [verb (of aircraft)] to make an emergency landing in the sea. We were forced to ditch in the sea.
Div abbreviation division
dive /dʌv/ noun the act of diving. [verb] 1. to throw oneself head first into water. 2. to operate underwater (usually with breathing apparatus). 3. (of submarines) to submerge. 4. (of aircraft) to make a steep descent
dive-bomb /dʌv,bɒm/ verb to make a steep descent in order to drop a bomb. They tried to dive-bomb the cruiser.
dive-bomber /dɪv,bɒmə/ noun an aircraft which makes a steep descent in order to drop a bomb
dive-bombing /dɪv,bɒmɪŋ/ noun an attack where the aircraft makes a steep descent to drop a bomb directly onto a target
diver /'daɪvər/ noun a person who operates underwater (usually with breathing apparatus). [frogman
diversion /'dɪvərs(ə)n/ noun 1. an attack or raid intended to distract the enemy while another operation is carried out elsewhere. The attack was just a diversion. 2. feint, an alternative route when the road ahead is closed. The convoy was late because of a diversion.
diversionary /'dɪvərs(ə)njəri/ adjective relating to a diversion. This is a diversionary attack.
divert /'dɪvərt/ verb 1. to change the direction in which something is heading. 2. to divert someone
division /'dɪvɪʒ(ə)n/ noun a tactical army grouping of two or more brigades. Abbr Div/divisional /'dɪvɪʒ(ə)nl/ adjective relating to a division. He reported to divisional headquarters.
divisional support command /di'veɪʒ(ə)n ˈsɜːpt kəmˈɔːndɪ/ noun US full form of DISCOM
division commander /di'veɪʒ(ə)n kəˈmʌndər/ noun an officer who is in command of a division
dixie /dɪksɪ/ noun a large rectangular metal cooking-pot, used for cooking in the field. As a punishment, you can clean all the dixies.
DM /,diː 'em/ noun a type of vomiting agent. Full form diphenylaminochloroarsine. Also called Adamsite
DMPI /'dɪmpli/ noun the exact grid reference of a target for an air attack. Full form direct mean point of impact
Dmr abbreviation drummer
DMZ abbreviation demilitarized zone
DNBI abbreviation US disease non-battle injury
DOA abbreviation dead on arrival
DOB abbreviation date of birth
doc /dɒk/ noun a doctor (informal)
dock /dɒk/ noun a small area of water enclosed by wharves, where a ship can be loaded and unloaded. [verb (of ships)] to go into a dock
dockyard /ˈdɒkjaːrd/ noun a place where ships are built and repaired
doctrine /ˈdɒkrɪn/ noun the standard teaching on a subject; standard principles which guide an action
document /ˈdɒkjʊmənt/ noun 1. any piece of written material (but not a book, pamphlet or newspaper, etc), which provides information, identification, evidence or instructions ○ We found a lot of documents in the enemy command post. 2. a serviceman’s personal records ○ His documents haven’t arrived from the depot yet.
DOD abbreviation US Department of Defense
dog /dɒg/ noun an intelligent meat-eating animal with four legs which can be trained to work with man
dogfight /ˈdɒgfɪt/ noun a battle between aircraft
dog-handler /ˈdɒghændlə/ noun a person trained to work with dogs
dogleg /ˈdɒglɛg/ noun a movement to the side at an angle to the normal direction of advance ○ We made a dogleg to avoid the village.
dogtag /ˈdɒgtæg/ noun a metal or plastic disc or lozenge, bearing a soldier’s personal details, which is worn round the neck (informal) ○ ID disc
dogwatch /ˈdɒgwɔtʃ/ noun one of two short periods of duty which alternate each day, in order to change a person’s daily routine (naval terminology)
dominate /ˈdɒmnɪteɪ/ verb 1. to have control over someone or something 2. (of ground) to look down on ○ This hill dominates the entire valley.
donga /ˈdɒŋɡa/ noun in South Africa, a dry riverbed
doollally /ˈduːlɛli/ adjective insane (slang) ○ He’s gone completely doollally.
DOP abbreviation drop-off point
DOR /dɔːr/ ‘Or/ verb US to remove someone from a training course at his or her request ○ He was DOR’d from the SEAL programme. Full form discharge on request

dose /dəʊs/ noun 1. an amount of medicine given to a person 2. an amount of radiation received by a person 3. an infection with a venereal disease (informal)
dosimeter /ˈdəʊsmɪtər/ noun an instrument which measures radiation
dossier /ˈdɒsɪər/ noun a set of documents containing information about someone or something
dot /dɒt/ noun a shorter signal in Morse code (the longer signal is the dash)
double file /ˈdʌbləfɪl/ ‘falt/ noun two parallel lines of men or vehicles moving one behind the other
downdraught /ˌdaʊndrɔːt/ noun a strong downward current of air given off by a helicopter’s rotors
downstream /ˌdaʊnˈstrıːm/ adverb in the direction in which a river or stream is flowing ○ We moved downstream. ○ The enemy are crossing downstream of the town. Compare upstream
downwind /ˌdaʊnˌwɪnd/ adverb in a position where the wind is blowing from another location towards your own location ○ B Company was downwind of the nuclear explosion. Compare upwind

DP /diːt/ ‘piː/ noun a type of choking agent. Full form trichloromethyl chloroformate. Also called Diphosgene
DPICM /diːpiː ˈem/ noun US one of several small bomblets, which are released by airburst from an artillery shell. Full form dual-purpose improved conventional munition
DPM /diːpiː ˈem/ noun a camouflage combat uniform ○ He was wearing DPMs. Full form disruptive pattern material (NOTE: The American English term is BDU)
draft /ˈdrɑːft/ noun 1. especially US a method of selecting men for compulsory military service ○ He went to Canada to avoid the draft. ○ conscription 2. a group of newly conscripted recruits 3. a group of reinforcements ○ verb to select men for compulsory military service ○ All men over 18 were drafted into the armed forces ○ conscript
draft-dodger /draft_ˌdɒdʒə/ noun
someone who tries to avoid doing compulsory military service

drag /d्रæɡ/ noun
a natural force which slows down a flying object
verb
to pull along the ground
○ The guns were dragged into position.

Dragon /ˈdræɡən/ noun
an American
hand-held anti-tank guided missile (AT-GM)

dragon’s teeth /ˈdræɡənz_ˌtɪθ/ plural noun
concrete pillars used as an obstacle for tanks

dragoon /drɔˈɡuːn/ noun
a heavy cavalryman who could also fight as an infantryman (historical)

COMMENT: Some modern armoured regiments retain their historical title as Dragoons.

Dragunov /ˈdræɡyʊnˌnuː/ noun
a Soviet-designed 7.62mm sniper rifle

drainage channel /ˈdreɪndʒ/ noun
a ditch designed to remove surplus water

Draken /ˈdraʊkən/ noun
Saab-35

draw /dʁɔː/ verb
○ to collect or be issued with something ○ You will draw rations at 1500 hours. (NOTE: drawing – drew – have drawn)

dress /dreshape/ noun
1. clothing ○ to put on clothing ○ For operations in winter, the troops are dressed in white uniforms.
2. to apply a dressing to a wound ○ He went to the RAP to have his wound dressed.
3. to correct the alignment of soldiers on parade ○ right dress! form a straight line, aligned on the soldier at the right end of the line (used as a command)

dressing /ˈdresɪŋ/ noun
1. an absorbent pad and bandage used to cover a wound
2. an alignment of soldiers on parade ○ The dressing is terrible.

dressing station /ˈdresɪŋˌsteɪʃən/ noun
a place where battle casualties receive emergency medical treatment before being moved back to a field hospital

dress rehearsal /dreshape_ˈrɛhərəl/ noun
a final rehearsal just before the operation starts

drift /drift/ noun
1. the effects of a current or wind on the course of a ship or aircraft ○ The convoy was slowed down by the strong drift.
2. a bank of snow formed by the wind ○ The mountain road was blocked by snow drifts.
3. in South Africa, a ford ○ We can cross the river at Rorke’s Drift.

verb
to be moved by a current or wind ○ The ship’s steering broke and she drifted into a minefield.

drill /drl/ noun
1. a routine procedure ○ The unloading drill is designed to prevent accidents.
2. the practising of ceremonial movements ○ There was one hour of drill every morning.

verb
1. to teach a routine procedure through repeated practice ○ The sergeant drilled his recruits in the use of the mortar.
2. to teach ceremonial movements through repeated practice ○ We spent two hours drilling on the parade ground.

drill round /ˈdrɪl_roynd/ noun
a round which is not live, used to practise weapon-handing drills

drink /drɪŋk/ verb
1. to swallow liquid ○ The men are drinking up their water too quickly.
2. to drink alcohol ○ He was charged with drinking on duty.

drinking water /ˈdrɪŋkɪŋ_ˌwɔːtə/ noun
water which is safe to drink

drip /drɪp/ noun
an apparatus, consisting of a bottle or other container and a tube, which is designed to introduce liquid gradually into a person’s body, either through a needle inserted into a vein or through an orifice (e.g. mouth, nose, rectum)
○ Every man was taught how to insert a drip.

drive /draiv/ noun
1. energy and motivation ○ He has plenty of drive.
2. a move forwards ○ The enemy’s drive towards the coast was halted.

verb
1. to operate and steer a vehicle ○ He drives a tank.
2. to travel by vehicle ○ She drove to the hospital.
3. to make someone do something ○ He drove his men on to take the position.
4. to push in a certain direction ○ They drove on to take the rebel stronghold.

verb
1. to force an enemy to retreat ○ We drove back repeated enemy attacks.
1. dropping supplies at night.

Mensdorf.

aerial divisions in the area of

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DZ abbreviation drop zone

DSO /dɪˈsoʊ/ noun US an aircrew member on a bomber, who detects and locates threats to the aircraft (e.g. enemy aircraft, radar, missiles, etc). Full form defensive systems officer. Compare OSO.

DU abbreviation date-time group

dual-purpose improved conventional munition /djuˈrɪpektʃənɪnmjʊn/ a bomb with a guidance system which fails to fire or explode. It is simply dropped by an aircraft onto its lower head and upper body instinctively to avoid a projectile.

duck /dʌk/ verb to lower your head and upper body instinctively to avoid a projectile.

duckboard /dʌkˈboʊd/ noun strips of wood nailed together, in order to provide a dry path across muddy ground.

dug /dʒɪŋ/ adverb protected by field fortifications.

dugout /ˈdʒaʊt/ noun a shelter dug into the side of a trench.

dumb bomb /dʌm ˈbɔm/ noun a bomb without a guidance system which is simply dropped by an aircraft onto its target (informal). Compare smart bomb.

dum-dum bullet /dʌmdʌmˈbʌltʃ/ noun a bullet modified to expand when it hits a person or animal, thereby causing a terrible wound.

dummy /ˈdʌmi/ adjective imitation (for the purposes of deception) (informal). The engineers have been constructing dummy positions on the ridge.

dummy run /ˈdəmi ˈrʌn/ noun an act of practising an operation before doing it for real.

dump /dʌmp/ noun a temporary store in the field.

dust /dʌst/ noun fine particles of sand, soil or any other material. It is your duty to obey orders. Specified tasks which a person is required to do as part of his job. England expects every man to do his duty. (Nelson)

duty officer /ˈdjuːti ˈɒfɪsər/ officer of the day, orderly officer.

dynamite /dəˈnæmɪt/ noun an explosive material made from nitroglycerine.

dysentery / ˈdɪs(ə)ntərɪ/ noun a disease which inflames the intestines, causing severe diarrhoea.

81 DZ

abandon a vehicle. The truck was dumped at the side of the road.

dune /djuː/ noun a bank or small hill of loose sand formed by the wind.


duration /djuˈrəʃən/ noun the length of time that an activity continues.

dusk /dʌsk/ noun the period between sunset and when it is fully dark. Compare dawn.

dust-off /ˈdʌst əf/ noun US the evacuation of casualties by helicopter (radio terminology). We require dust-off at grid 342639.

dust storm /ˈdʌst stɔːrm/ noun a strong wind producing dense clouds of dust.

duty /ˈdjuːti/ noun 1. a moral or legal obligation. It is your duty to obey orders. 2. specified tasks which a person is required to do as part of his job. That is not one of my duties. Off duty. At work. On duty. At work. England expects every man to do his duty. (Nelson)

duty officer.

dumping /ˈdʌmpɪŋ/ noun the action of increasing an operation before doing it for real.

dysentery / ˈdɪs(ə)ntərɪ/ noun a disease which inflames the intestines, causing severe diarrhoea.

DZ abbreviation drop zone.
ECHO - Ee

E-2 /ˈtiː/ noun an American-designed airborne early warning aircraft, with a large disc-like antenna (radome) mounted on the fuselage, which is capable of being used from an aircraft carrier. Also called Hawkeye

E-3 /ˈtiːrɪː/ noun an American-designed airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft, which is based on a passenger airliner, and has a large disc-like antenna (radome) mounted on the fuselage. Also called Sentry

EA abbreviation engagement area

EA-6 /ˈiːeɪkeɪs/ noun an American-designed electronic warfare aircraft, based on the A-6 Intruder. Also called Prowler

Eagle /ˈiːgəl/ noun F-15

ear-defenders /ˈɜːrdɪfendəz/ plural noun a device which is placed in or over the ears, in order to protect them from noise. Ear-defenders must be worn on the range.

earphone /ˈɜːrfaʊn/ noun part of the headset for a radio or other audio equipment, which is put on the ear to listen to a transmission or signal

earpiece /ˈɜːrpɪs/ noun part of a radio or telephone handset, which is put in the ear to listen to a transmission

earthmover /ˈɜːθmʌvə/ armoured combat earthmover

earthwork /ˈɜːθwɜːk/ noun man-made

ease /ɪz/ verb to move something gently and carefully, to ease springs to perform the final action of the unloading drill for an automatic or semi-automatic weapon; after checking that the breech is clear of ammunition, let the working parts go forward and pull the trigger

east /ɪst/ noun 1. one of the four main points of the compass, corresponding to a bearing of 90 degrees or 1600 mils 2. an area to the east of your location o The enemy are approaching from the east. 3. o the East the part of the world to the east of Europe o the Far East the region consisting of China, Japan and neighbouring countries o the Middle East the region consisting of Arab countries (such as Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates) and Israel o the Near East the region consisting of countries of the eastern Mediterranean (such as Cyprus, Lebanon, Turkey) 4. the eastern part of a country • adjective relating to east o the East Gate o an east wind a wind blowing from the east • adverb towards the east o The enemy is moving east.

eastbound /ˈɪstbaʊnd/ adjective moving or leading towards the east o an eastbound convoy

easterly /ˈɪstəlɪ/ adjective 1. towards the east • to move in an easterly direction to move towards the east 2. (of wind) from the east

eastern /ˈɪstən/ adjective relating to the east o The eastern part of the country.

Eastern Bloc /ˈiːstən/ noun 'bloc' noun a term sometimes given to the Warsaw Pact

Eastern Europe /ˈiːstən/ noun a region consisting of countries which were allied to the USSR during the Cold War (such as Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Serbia and Montenegro)
elements of a tactical grouping

The one in front

echelon

echelon systems. Full form

effectively disrupt weapons and
computers

echelon attack

attack made by several units deployed side by side, where one unit sets
off first, followed after an interval by the second, followed after another interval
by the third, and so on. Also called attack in echelon

weather conditions. Full form

effectively disrupt weapons and

Echelon the administrative elements of a tactical grouping

Echelon the administrative elements of a tactical grouping

ECM abbreviation
electronic counter-measures

ECMM abbreviation
electronic counter-measures

ECOMOG abbreviation

Economic Community of West African States cease-fire monitoring group

economy of force

a situation in which you do not waste your military assets and, if practicable, use fewer forces than normal on your initial tasks, so that you will have the maximum forces available for your main effort

ECP abbreviation

equipment collection point

ED /diː/ noun a type of blister and vomiting agent. Full form ethylidichlorroarsine

EF-111A /ˈɛf ˌɛl 11/ noun an American-designed electronic warfare (EW) aircraft. Also called Raven effective enemy fire

EFP abbreviation explosively formed projectile
egress 84

**egress** /'gresh/ noun a means or route out of a building or area

**eject** /'dʒekt/ verb 1. to throw or drive someone or something out. 2. The enemy have been ejected from the village. 3. My rifle is not ejecting the empty cases properly. 4. To use an ejector seat.

**ejection** /'dʒekʃn/ noun an escape from an aircraft using an ejector seat

**ejection seat** /'dʒekʃn sət/ noun same as ejector seat

**ejec-** /'dʒekt/ noun something which ejects (such as the part of a firearm which ejects the empty cases)

**ejector** /'dʒektər/ noun a seat designed to eject a pilot or crew member from a damaged aircraft

**élan** /'eələn/ noun great enthusiasm and drive

**electromagnetic bomb** /ˌeltrəmægnetɪk/ 'pʌls/ noun full form of e-bomb

**electromagnetic pulse** /ˌeltrəmægnetɪk/ 'pʌls/ noun a surge of electromagnetic radiation given off by a nuclear explosion, which causes electrical equipment (such as radios, vehicle batteries, etc.) to stop working. Abbr EMP

**electronic** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk/ adjective relating to the use of electricity

**electronic counter-countermeasures** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk kəntəˈkʌntəmikz/ plural noun standard procedures designed to minimize a unit's chances of being located by the enemy through emissions given off by its electrical equipment. Abbr ECM

**electronic intelligence** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk ɪnˈtɛlɪdʒəns/ noun full form of ELINT

**electronic silence** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk ˈsɪləns/ noun a state when all radios and other transmitting equipment (such as radar) must be switched off. 2. to impose electronic silence to start electronic silence. 3. to lift electronic silence to end electronic silence

**electronic target range** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk ˈtærəɡt ,reɪndʒ/ noun full form of ETR

**electronic warfare** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk ˈwɔːfər/ noun the location and suppression of an enemy's electronic equipment. Abbr ELW, EW

**electronic warfare officer** /ˌeltrəˈntrɪk ˈwɔːfər ˈɔfɪsər/ noun a component of an EW aircraft who navigates the aircraft and operates its electronic warfare equipment. Abbr EWO

**element** /ˈeləmənt/ noun part of a grouping. 2. Elements of the enemy advance guard have been sighted.

**elephant** /ˈeləfnt/ verb 1. You don't know how you'll react until you've seen the elephant. 2. to see the elephant US to experience combat for the first time. 2. You don't know how you'll react until you've seen the elephant.

**elevate** /ˈelɪvət/ verb 1. to put something in a higher position. 2. to raise the barrel of an artillery piece or mortar

**elevation** /ˌelɪˈveɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of elevating something. 2. The elevation is too high. 3. the angle at which the barrel of an artillery piece or mortar is raised in order to engage a target. 4. elevation: 51 degrees! 5. an area of high ground. 6. An enemy battalion is dug in on that elevation.

**elevator** /ˈelɪvətər/ noun 1. a machine which takes people up or down from one floor to another in a building. 2. a moving part of the tailplane of an aircraft, which is used to control pitch

**eliminate** /ˈɪlɪməneɪt/ verb 1. to get rid of. 2. That option has been eliminated. 3. to kill. 4. We must eliminate the sentries before the main assault goes in.

**ELINT** /ˈelɪnt/ noun information on the enemy, which is obtained through the monitoring of his electronic transmissions, usually by specially equipped aircraft. Full form electronic intelligence
elite /ˈelɪt/ adjective of very high quality ○ He commands an elite regiment of Presidential Guards.

ELW abbreviation electronic warfare

embankment /ˈembaŋkment/ noun a man-made bank of soil or stone used as a barrier, or to carry a railway or road. Compare cutting

embark /ˈembark/ verb to go on board an aircraft or ship (in order to travel somewhere). Compare debarkation

embarkation /ˌembəˈkeʃən/ noun an act of going on board an aircraft or ship. Compare embarkation

embassy /ˈembəsi/ noun a building used by an ambassador and his or her staff

embed /ˈembed/ noun a journalist who travels with a military unit involved in a war and reports on their activities. ■ verb to send a journalist to accompany a military unit during fighting and to report on it, especially a unit which is operating in a combat zone. The TV reporter was embedded with an armoured cavalry unit in the Iraqi desert en route to Baghdad.

embrasure /ˈembrəs/ noun an opening in a wall or parapet, through which a weapon can be fired. Compare firing port

embus /ˈembəs/ verb to get into a bus, in order to travel somewhere. Compare debus

EMCON /ˈemkən/ noun measures to reduce emissions which can be detected by the enemy ○ We have a strict EMCON policy. Full form emission control

emergency /ˈemˌkrɛʒərni/ noun a situation where immediate action is required in order to prevent injury or damage or some other serious misfortune

emergency rations /ˌemˌkrɛʒərni rəˈtɛnz/ plural noun small amounts of food and other supplies carried for use in an emergency

emergency rendezvous /ˌemˌkrɛʒərni rɛnˈdəvəs/ noun the location where people assemble in the event of an emergency. Abbr ERV

emission /ɪˈmɪʃən/ verb 1. an act of emitting something ○ This engine has been designed to produce a lower emission of heat. 2. something emitted ○ We must reduce our emissions.

emission control /ɪˈmɪʃən kəlˈtrən/ noun a prepared firing position for an artillery piece or other large weapons system ○ The camp is surrounded with gun emplacements.

emplane /ɪˈpleɪn/ verb to go on board an aircraft (in order to travel somewhere) ○ We emplane at 0600hrs.

empty case /ˈempti kəs/ noun a cartridge which has been fired

encamp /ɪˈkæmp/ verb to set up a camp ○ They were encamped by the river.

encampment /ɪˈkæmpmənt/ noun a place where troops are camped

encipher /ɪˈsafər/ verb to convert from normal language into code. Compare decipher. ○ encode, encrypt

enclosure /ɪˈkloʊzl/ noun a piece of territory, belonging to one state or occupied by one ethnic group, which is surrounded by territory belonging to another state or occupied by a different ethnic group ○ a Muslim enclave, surrounded by Orthodox territory

encode /ɪˈkəʊnd/ verb to convert from normal language into code. Compare decode. ○ decipher, encrypt

encounter /ɪˌkɔntər/ noun 1. a meeting which happens by chance ○ He did not report the encounter. 2. a military engagement which happens by chance ○ Three of our men were killed in the encounter. ■ verb to meet or make contact by chance ○ We didn’t encounter any enemy ○ The invading force encountered only light resistance.

encrypt /ɪˈkrɛŋpt/ verb to convert from normal language into code. Compare decrypt. ○ decipher, encode
### endemic

**endemic** /en'demɪk/ **adjective** (of disease) regularly affecting a large proportion of the population of an area or region. *Malaria is virtually endemic amongst the local population.*

**ENDEX** /'endeks/ **abbreviation** end of exercise

**enemy** /'enmɪ/ **adjective** referring to a state which is at war with your own country. *Enemy snipers attacked the convoy.* *She listened to enemy propaganda on the radio.* Compare **friendly**.

**enfilade** /'enflɪd/ **adjective** capable of engaging the entire frontage or length of a formation or position. *Our advance was halted by heavy enfilade fire.*

**enemy lines** /'enmɪ 'lɛnz/ **plural noun** the forward positions of the enemy. *We were operating behind enemy lines.*

**enforce** /'ɪnfrəʊs/ **verb** to use force or the law in order to make someone do something

**enforcement** /'ɪnfrəʊsmənt/ **noun** an act of enforcing something

**engage** /'ɪŋdʒeɪv/ **verb** to start to fight or shoot at someone. *You engage, and then you see what happens* [Napoleon]

**enquiry** /'ɪŋkwəri/ **noun** an official investigation into the cause of an incident

**enlist** /'ɪnlist/ **verb** to join the armed forces as a career. *He enlisted at the age of 18.*

**enlisted man** /'ɪnlistt ma'n/ **noun** US any serviceman who is not an officer (NOTE: The British English term is other rank (OR)).

**enlistment** /'ɪnlistmant/ **noun** the act of joining the armed forces

**engine** /'endʒər/ **noun** 1. a specialist soldier trained in the construction and demolition of bridges, field fortifications, obstacles, roads, etc. 2. a mechanic on a ship

**engineering** /'endʒərɪŋ/ **noun** 1. the construction and use of engines and other mechanical devices. 2. the construction or demolition of buildings, installations, roads, etc.

**engineer officer** /'endʒər 'nɜrə , 'ɪŋfər/ **noun** an officer in the navy who specializes in ship's engines

**engine temperature indicator** /ˌendʒɪn 'tempəri tʃə , 'ɪndɪkətor/ **noun** an instrument on a dashboard or in a cockpit which shows the temperature of the engine

**English Channel** /ˈɪŋglɪʃ 'tʃænl/, the Channel **noun** a stretch of water between England and France

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**ensign** /'ensərn/ **noun** 1. a flag. 2. an officer who carries a flag on parade. 3. a second-lieutenant in the Brigade of Guards. 4. US the lowest officer rank in the navy

**entanglement** /'entərəŋmənt/ **noun** an obstacle to infantry constructed from barbed wire

**entrench** /'entrɛntʃ/ **verb** to dig a trench (as a field fortification). **to dig in**

**entrenched** /'entrɛntʃt/ **adjective** protected by trenches and other field fortifications. *The enemy was well entrenched to the north of the hill.*

**entrenching tool** /'entrɛntʃɪŋ 'tʃɔl/ **noun** a lightweight tool carried by infantrymen in order to dig trenches.
envelop /əˈvɛləp/ verb to manoeuvre against the flanks or rear of an enemy force in order to surround them

envelopment /əˈvɛləpmənt/ noun an attack made on one or both of the enemy’s flanks or rear, and usually accompanied by a frontal attack a double envelopment an envelopment attacking both of the enemy’s flanks a single envelopment an envelopment attacking one of the enemy’s flanks only

evelopors /əˈvɛləpərz/ plural noun the surrounding area o They concentrated the bombing on the environs of the city.

EOD /ˈiːoʊdiː/ noun a chemical agent, gas, liquid, etc. used to create a potentially lethal situation that increases the range. Full form explosive ordnance disposal, a bomb disposal.

epaulet /ˈepələt/ noun US spelling of epaulette

epaulette /ˈepələt/ noun 1. a shoulder decoration on a uniform jacket o Aides-de-camp wear gold epaulettes. 2. a semi-detachable flap on the shoulders of a uniform jacket, designed to carry badges of rank or unit insignia

epidemic /ˌepɪdɛmɪk/ noun a rapid spreading of an infectious disease through a community o We’ve got an epidemic of typhus in the town.

EPW abbreviation enemy Prisoner of War

Equator /ˈekwətər/ noun an imaginary line running around the earth, exactly halfway between the North and South Poles. the Line

equerry /ɪˈkwɛrri/ noun an officer who acts as personal assistant to a member of the British Royal Family o He has been appointed an equerry to the Prince of Wales.

equip /ɪˈkwɪp/ verb to provide someone with equipment o We equipped the platoon with shovels. (NOTE: equipped – equipped)

equipment /ɪˈkwɪpment/ noun any article which a person needs in order to carry out a task (e.g. clothing, radios, tools, weapons, vehicles, etc.)

era /ˈɛrə/ noun a distinct period of time o from the 1960s era introduced during the years 1960–69 o The M-60 is an American 1960s-era main battle tank.

ERA abbreviation explosive reactive armor

ERFB /ˈɛrɪfb/ noun an advanced aero-dynamic design for artillery shells, which increases their range. Full form extended range full bore.

ERFBB abbreviation extended range full bore base bleed.

ERV abbreviation emergency rendezvous

escalate /ɪˈskələt/ verb to increase in seriousness or intensity o Fighting in the area has escalated in recent months.

escalation /ˌɪskəˈleɪʃən/ noun an increase in the intensity or seriousness of something o an escalation in troop movements.

escape /ɪˈskɛp/ noun an act of escaping o His daring escape from the POW camp. a verb 1. to get away from captivity o Three prisoners escaped during the night. 2. to escape capture to avoid being captured. 3. to survive a potentially lethal situation o The pilot of the crashed helicopter escaped with minor injuries. 4. of a chemical agent, gas, liquid, etc. to leak o Gas escaped into the cabin.

escape capsule /ɪˈskɛp ˌkæpsjʊəl/ noun an enclosed box with seats and survival equipment, in which crew members can escape from an aircraft.

escarpment /ˈɛskərmpmənt/ noun a steep slope along the edge of a plateau o We saw a column of vehicles moving along the base of the escarpment.

escort /ˈɛskərt/ noun/a person, vehicle or aircraft or ship which accompanies an individual or group in order to protect them o a verb /ˈɛskərt/ to act as an escort. o The convoy was escorted by two destroyers.

ESDI abbreviation European Security and Defence Identity

espionage /ˌɛspɪˈnɑʒ/ noun the use of spies, surveillance equipment, etc., in
esprit de corps 88

order to collect information about the enemy

1. has an establishment of 28 men.

2. find out or verify a piece of information that is only an estimate.

3. are 3,000 enemy troops in the camp, but where the targets are raised and lowered is expected to arrive. Abbr ETR

establishment 1. an act of establishing something 2. the number of men, vehicles and equipment which should be held by a grouping at full strength 3. to set something up

estimate noun /ˈestɪmeɪt/ an approximate idea of distance, size, time, etc., obtained by judgement rather than by accurate measurement 1. We have estimated the number of men, vehicles and equipment of an establishment of 28 men.

2. we have estimated the full strength of the enemy.

3. The enemy is now estimated to have an establishment of 28 men.

estimated time of arrival noun /ˈestɪmətɪd ˈtɜːrəl/ the time when a vehicle, group of soldiers, etc., is expected to arrive. Abbr ETA

ETA abbreviation estimated time of arrival

ethic 1. relating to race or cultural background

2. a systematic attempt by the main population to drive members of an ethnic minority away from their homes by the use of force (including intimidation, destruction of property, physical violence and even murder)

3. a smaller group of people who have a different racial or cultural background to the main population

ETR /ˈeːtr/ a shooting range where the targets are raised and lowered by electricity. Full form electronic target range

European Command /ˈjʊərəpi ˈkəmən/ noun US the department of US forces responsible for defending American national interests in Europe and also Israel, Syria and Lebanon. Full form European Command

Eurofighter /ˈjʊərəfətʃər/ noun a European multirole fighter aircraft, produced by a consortium of companies from the UK, Germany, Italy and Spain. Also called Typhoon

European Security and Defence Identity /ˈjʊərəpi ˈsɪəri ˈdefenz ˈaɪdətəti/ noun full form of EUCOM

European Security and Defence Identity /ˈjʊərəpi ˈsɪəri ˈdefenz ˈaɪdətəti/ noun full form of EUCOM

evacuate /ˈevəkweɪt/ verb 1. to remove people from their homes because of danger and make them stay elsewhere until that danger is over 2. The civilian population was evacuated across the river.

evacuation procedure noun /ˈevəkweɪʃən prəˈriːd/ a procedure for getting people out of a place in an organized way

evacuee noun /ˈevəkju ˈiː/ a person who has been evacuated

evade /ˈevəd/ verb to take avoiding action 1. We managed to evade the enemy patrols.

evasion noun /ˈevəʒən/ the skill of avoiding enemy forces (usually after escape from capture or encirclement)

evasive /ˈevəsiv/ adjective intended to evade a danger or threat 1. We were forced to take evasive action.

evergreen /ˈɛvərgrɛn/ noun a tree which does not lose its leaves in winter (such as a fir, pine, spruce, etc.). Compare deciduous:

cone, fir

EW abbreviation electronic warfare
EW0 /'i:swə/ abbreviation electronic warfare officer

exclude /k'sklju:d/ verb 1. to keep someone or something out ○ The aim is to exclude enemy ships from our territorial waters. 2. to not include ○ The plane was carrying 215 men, excluding the crew.

exclusion zone /'késklju:ʒən/ noun an area or region, defined by a state or by international agreement, which the armed forces or shipping of another state are not allowed to enter ○ In 1982, the British Government declared a 400-mile exclusion zone around the Falkland Islands.

exclusive /'késklju:ʒəv/ adjective not including ○ Our sector is exclusive of the main road. Compare inclusive

execute /'eksjuːʃən/ verb 1. to kill a person who has been found guilty of an offence for which the punishment is death ○ He was executed for cowardice. 2. to carry out a planned task ○ We were unable to execute our mission.

execution /'eksjuːʃən/ noun 1. an act of killing a person who has been found guilty of an offence for which the punishment is death 2. a method by which a planned task is carried out ○ to put a plan into execution to carry out a plan ○ ‘The art of war is a simple art and all in the execution. There is nothing vague about it, it is all common sense’. [Napoleon]

executive officer /'eksjuːtiv 'offisər/ noun US an officer responsible for coordinating staff functions within a headquarters. Abbr XO

COMMENT: In many groupings, the XO is also the second in command (2IC).

exercise /'eksəsaɪz/ noun 1. an act of practising the skills that a unit or sub-unit will be required to carry out on operational service 2. a physical activity designed to improve or maintain fitness ○ You should take more exercise. ○ These exercises are designed to improve your arm muscles.

exercises /'eksəsaɪziz/ plural noun a military training plan ○ The fleet is taking part in NATO exercises in the Mediterranean. ○ Joint Anglo-Spanish exercises will be held next week. ○ manoeuvres, war games

execute /'eksətjuːt/ verb to break down a grouping into smaller groups which can withdraw by different routes through territory controlled by the enemy. Compare infiltrate

exfiltrate /'eksəfɪlət/ verb to use up a resource completely ○ We have exhausted our fuel supply.

exhaust /ˈɛksəst/ noun smoke and waste gases expelled from a running engine or motor ○ verb to use up a resource completely ○ We have exhausted our fuel supply.

exhausted /ˈɛksəstəd/ adjective 1. (of resources) completely used up ○ Our ammunition is exhausted. 2. (of people) very tired and weak, as a result of hard physical activity ○ After two weeks in the jungle, the commandos returned to base completely exhausted.

exhaustion /ˈɛksəʃən/ noun a total loss of strength (as a result of strenuous physical activity) ○ The three escaped prisoners were picked up by one of our patrols in a state of complete exhaustion.

exhaust pipe /ˈɛksəst pærp/ noun a pipe through which the exhaust is expelled from an engine or motor

Exocet /ˈɛksəset/ trademark a trademark for a French-designed short-range radar-guided anti-ship missile, usually launched from a ship or aircraft

expedite /ɪkspədaɪt/ verb to carry out an action or task

expedient force /ɪkspənt 'foːs/ noun a military grouping sent on a special mission overseas ○ The expeditionary force landed under cover of darkness.

explode /ɪkˈspleʊd/ verb to burst outwards due to a release of internal energy ○ The bomb exploded at five o’clock.

exploit /ɪkˈsplɔɪt/ verb to take advantage of something ○ The general failed to exploit the breakthrough.

exploitation /ɪkˈsplɔɪteɪʃən/ noun a continuation of a successful attack af-
after the objective has been taken, in order to destroy the enemy’s ability to conduct an orderly withdrawal or organize a defence or counter attack.

**explosion** /ɪkˈspləʊs(ə)n/ noun an act of exploding. The bombing raid set off a series of explosions at the munitions factory.

**explosive** /ɪkˈspləʊsɪv/ adjective 1. designed or liable to explode. Nitrogen-based fertilizers can be used to make an explosive substance. 2. liable to cause an outburst of violent behaviour. The Chief of Police described the situation as 'explosive'.

**explosively formed projectile** /ɪk,ˈspləʊzvli, ɪndɪmd prəˈdʒektɪl/ noun an anti-tank warhead where high explosive is packed around a shallow hemispherical metal plate (on impact, the plate forms itself into a solid metal projectile, which is capable of penetrating armour). Abbr EFP

**explosive ordnance** /ɪk,ˈspləʊsɪv ˈɔrɪdnəns/ noun a general term for any projectile or device which contains an explosive substance or which uses an explosive substance as its propellant.

**explosive ordnance disposal** /ɪk,ˈspləʊsɪv ɔrɪdnəns ˈdɪsəpleɪs/ noun the disarming and safe destruction of explosive ordnance (such as booby-traps, misfires, captured ammunition). Abbr EOD

**explosive reactive armour** /ɪkˌsplaʊˈzɪv riˌækтив ˈæmɔr/ noun secondary armour, containing a thin layer of explosive, fitted to the outside of an armoured vehicle. It is designed to counter the effect of an anti-tank projectile by exploding outwards when hit. Abbr ERA

**ex-serviceman** /eks ˈsɛrvɪsmən/ noun a man who formerly served in the armed forces. The parade was attended by ex-servicemen. (NOTE: The American English term is veteran.)

**extract** /ɪkˈstrækt/ verb 1. to remove one object from another. He extracted the empty case from the gun. 2. to move out of an area of operations. We will extract by helicopter. 3. to move someone out of an area of operations. The patrol was extracted by helicopter. Compare insert

**extraction** /ɪkˈstrækʃən/ noun an act of extracting. Compare insertion
FOXTROT - Ff

F-4 /ɛf 'fɔːt/ noun an American-designed multirole fighter aircraft, suitable for use from aircraft carriers. Also called Phantom (NOTE: The plural is F-4s /ɛf 'fɔːts/.)

F-14 /ɛf 'fɔːtɪn/ noun an American-designed multirole fighter, designed to operate from an aircraft carrier. Also called Tomcat (NOTE: The plural is F-14s /ɛf 'fɔːtɪnz/.)

F-15 /ɛf 'fɔːtɪn/ noun an American-designed fighter aircraft with a secondary attack role. Also called Eagle (NOTE: The plural is F-15s /ɛf 'fɔːtɪnz/.)

F-16 /ɛf 'skistɪn/ noun an American-designed multirole fighter aircraft, with advanced fighter-ground-attack (FGA) capability. Also called Fighting Falcon (NOTE: The plural is F-16s /ɛf 'skistɪnz/.)

F-22 /ɛf 'twenti 'tjuː/ noun an American-designed stealth fighter aircraft. Also called Raptor

F-111 /ɛf ,wɛn rˈlev(o)n/ noun an American-designed attack aircraft. Also called Aardvark (NOTE: The plural is F-111s /ɛf ,wɛnˈlevzn/.)

F-117A /ɛf ,wɛn ˈsevəntɪn ˈeɪ/ noun an American-designed stealth attack aircraft. Also called Nighthawk (NOTE: The plural is F-117As /ɛf ,wɛnˈsevəntɪn ˈeɪz/.)

FA-18 /ɛf ɪt ˌɛtˈtɪn/ noun an American-designed lightweight multirole fighter aircraft. Also called Hornet (NOTE: The plural is FA-18s /ɛf ɪtˌɛtˈtɪnz/.)

FAA abbreviation Fleet Air Arm

FAARP /ˈfeɪrp/ noun US a place where forward units can replenish ammunition and fuel during an advance. Full form forward arming and refuelling point

Fablon /ˈfeɪblɒn/ trademark a trade-mark for a clear adhesive plastic sheet, which is used to make maps waterproof and allow them to be marked with Chinagraph or Lumocolor

Fabrique Nationale /ˈfebrɪk nəˈneɪəl/ noun full form of FN

FAC abbreviation forward air controller

face /fets/ verb 1. to look towards a particular direction ○ They occupied positions near the top of the hill, facing north. 2. to be likely to have to undergo something ○ He faced a court-martial after his ship rammed the harbour wall.

face-veil /ˈfeɪts veɪl/ noun a garment made of net-like fabric, which is usually worn round the neck as a scarf but can also be used as a small camouflage net ○ We used a couple of face-veils to break up the outline of the machine-gun.

facilitate /ˈfæsɪlɪteɪt/ verb to make something easier (i.e. to assist) ○ Our mission is to facilitate the extraction of the patrol.

faction /ˈfækʃn/ noun a small group which disagrees with the main body of an organization or population and makes trouble ○ The conflict between the different factions may lead to civil war.

factory /ˈfækt(ə)rɪ/ noun a large building or complex where things are manufactured

FAE abbreviation fuel-air explosive

fag /fæɡ/ noun a cigarette (slang) ○ Put that bloody fag out!
fall /fɔːl/ noun 1. a descent to the ground (usually out of control) o He broke his leg in the fall. 2. (of places) capture o The fall of Singapore. ■ verb 1. to descend to the ground (usually out of control) o He fell out of the vehicle. 2. to be killed in action o His grandfather fell at the Battle of the Somme. 3. (of places) to be captured o The town finally fell to the rebels. (NOTE: falling – fell – have fallen)

fall back /ˈfɔːl ˈbæk/ verb to withdraw (usually under strong pressure from the enemy or as a result of a strong enemy threat) o 3 Brigade has fallen back towards Soltau. ■ pull back

fall in /ˈfɔːl ˈɪn/ verb to take your place on a formal parade o The squad fell in in front of the sergeants’ mess.

fall of shot /ˈfɔːl əʊt/ noun the place where a projectile strikes

fall out /ˈfɔːl əʊt/ verb to leave a formal parade

fallout /ˈfɔːl əʊt/ noun the radioactive dust produced by a nuclear explosion

fall upon /ˈfɔːl əˈpʌn/ verb to attack o Government soldiers fell upon the refugees.

FA MAS /ˌfeɪ.ˈmeɪs/ noun a French-designed 5.56mm assault weapon

Fantan /ˈfæntæn/ noun a NATO name for the Chinese-designed Q-5 fighter aircraft

farm /fɔːrm/ noun 1. an area of land used for the cultivation of crops or rearing and fattening of livestock 2. a complex of buildings, including the farm-house, which form part of a farm

farmer /ˈfɔːrmər/ noun a person who owns and manages a farm

farmhouse /ˈfɔːrmhaus/ noun the home of a farmer

farrier /ˈfærɪər/ noun a person who fits horseshoes onto horses

fascine /ˈfæsəsɪn/ noun a bundle of logs or plastic pipes or other material used to fill a ditch so that vehicles can cross it

fast attack vehicle /ˌfɑːst əˈtæk,ˈvɪətɪk(ə)r/ noun full form of FAV

fatigue /ˈfætɪdʒ/ noun 1. a non-military task or duty (such as cleaning toilets, cleaning up rubbish, peeling potatoes, etc.) 2. being tired o They are all suffering from fatigue.

fatigues /ˈfætɪɡz/ plural noun clothing worn for carrying out a fatigue

FAV /ˌfeɪ.ˈviː/ noun an American-designed light all-terrain vehicle fitted with medium machine-guns, ATGM or other weapons systems. Full form fast attack vehicle

FC abbreviation force commander

FDC /ˌfiː.ˈdiː/ noun a command post which coordinates the fire of several batteries. Full form fire direction centre

FDO /ˌfiː.ˈdiːəʊ/ noun a person who controls the taking off and landing of aircraft on an aircraft carrier. Full form flight deck officer

feature /ˈfiːtʃər/ noun 1. any natural or man-made thing which is visible on the ground 2. a distinctive piece of high ground (such as a hill, knoll, ridge, saddle, etc.) o We must capture that feature.

FEBA /ˌfiːbə/ abbreviation forward edge of the battle area

F Echelon /ˌfiː.ˈeʃələn/ noun the fighting elements of a tactical grouping

federal riot gun /ˌfɛdərəl ˈreɪtɨt ˈgʌn/ noun a gun designed to fire baton rounds. Abbr FRG

feint /ˈfɛnt/ noun an attack which is not followed through, but is intended merely to test the enemy’s defences or to give him a false idea of your own intentions o The attack was just a feint. ■ diversion

fence /ˈfɛns/ noun a barrier made of vegetation, wire or wood, which encloses an area of ground and is designed to control or prevent access

fence out /ˈfɛns əʊt/ verb to prepare a jet fighter for action (i.e. by switching on your weapons systems, RWR, HUD, etc)

Fencer /ˈfɛnsər/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed SU-24 fighter-bomber
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ferret /ˈfɛrɪt/ noun</td>
<td>a small British-designed armoured car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ferry /ˈfɛri/ noun</td>
<td>a boat used to transport people or vehicles across a river or lake or narrow stretch of sea, as part of a regular service. The brigade will cross the Channel by ferry. The verb to carry people, vehicles, etc., across a river, lake, narrow stretch of sea, Small boats ferried the whole battalion across the river.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fertilizer /ˈfətəlaɪzər/ noun</td>
<td>a chemical substance used by farmers to stimulate the growth of crops. Comment: Fertilizers with a high nitrogen content are often used by terrorists to produce homemade explosives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fever /ˈfiːvər/ noun</td>
<td>sickness, where a person’s body temperature is higher than normal. He has a slight fever.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIBUA /ˈfɪbjuər/ abbreviation</td>
<td>fighting in built-up areas. I am going on a FIBUA course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field /fild/ noun 1.</td>
<td>a well-defined piece of agricultural land (usually enclosed by a fence). They bivouacked in a corner of a field. 2. the field area where a battle or other military operation takes place. He performs far better in the field than in barracks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field ambulance /ˈfɪld əmˈbɛləndʒər/ noun</td>
<td>a battalion-sized medical unit (usually attached to a brigade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fieldcraft /ˈfɪldkɹæft/ noun</td>
<td>basic infantry skills of camouflage and concealment and tactical use of ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field dressing /ˈfɪld ˈdresɪŋ/ noun</td>
<td>a camouflaged dressing designed to treat serious wounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field engineering /ˈfɪld ˈɪnɜrdʒiŋ/ noun</td>
<td>tasks carried out by engineers in support of ground forces (such as the construction, repair and demolition of bridges, construction of field fortifications, construction and removal of obstacles, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field firing range /ˈfɪld ˈfɜːrɪŋ ˈreɪndʒ/ noun</td>
<td>an area of open ground, where soldiers can practice shooting in battle conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field fortification /ˈfɪld ˈfərtɪfɪkʃən/ noun</td>
<td>an improvised fortification prepared on the battlefield (e.g. anti-tank ditch, bunker, trench, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field-glasses /ˈfɪld ˈɡlɑːsɪz/ plural noun</td>
<td>an optical instrument with a lens for each eye, designed for looking at distant objects. Binoculars, telescope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field gun /ˈfɪld ɡʌn/ noun</td>
<td>an artillery piece designed to be moved easily over all types of ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field hospital /ˈfɪld ˈhɒspət(ə)l/ noun</td>
<td>a mobile hospital set up on or near to the battlefield, which is capable of providing surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field kitchen /ˈfɪld ˈkɪtʃən/ noun</td>
<td>a mobile kitchen set up on or near a battlefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field marshal /ˈfɪld ˈmɑːʃəl/ noun</td>
<td>the most senior officer rank in the army. Abbrev FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field officer /ˈfɪld ˈɒfɪsər/ noun</td>
<td>an army officer of any rank above captain and below general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field of fire /ˈfɪld ɒv ˈfɜːr/ noun</td>
<td>an area of ground in which there is sufficient visibility to shoot at targets. This position has excellent fields of fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field pack /ˈfɪld ˈpæk/ noun</td>
<td>a large pack designed to carry the equipment a soldier will need while on the battlefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field rank /ˈfɪld ˈreɪŋk/ noun</td>
<td>any army rank above captain and below general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field training exercise /ˈfɪld ˈtreɪnɪŋ ˈeksəsaɪz/ noun</td>
<td>a training exercise in which military skills are practised in field conditions. Abbrev FTX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fife /fɪf/ noun</td>
<td>a musical instrument, like a little metal pipe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Fifes and Drums /ˈfɪfs ən ˈdrʌms/ plural noun | a band of drummers and
fifth-columnist /ˈfaɪtθ-kləʊmən/ noun a fifth-columnist belonging to a battalion or regiment

fifth-columnist /ˈfaɪtθ-kləʊmən/ noun an agent or saboteur operating secretly within the territory of an enemy state

fight /fæt/ verb to use physical force against another person, army, etc., in order to defend yourself or to inflict injury ① The battle of Waterloo was fought outside the town of Brussels. ② They fought for possession of the hilltop. (NOTE: fighting – fought)

fight back /fæt/ˈback/ verb to defend yourself, to resist attack ① We were surprised that the garrison fought back so strongly.

fighter /ˈfætə/ noun 1. a light fast-moving aircraft designed to attack other aircraft. ① attack aircraft, strike aircraft 2. a fighting soldier ① Guerrilla fighters attacked our troops from the cover of the woods. ② The Gurkhas are some of the best fighters in the world.

COMMENT: The word ‘fighter’ is often used by the layman to describe any light fast-moving aircraft. Specialists (e.g. aircrew, air-defence, etc.) would be more specific, and would classify an aircraft by its primary role: e.g. attack, fighter, interceptor, EW, etc.

fighter-bomber /ˈfætəˌbɒmbə/ noun an aircraft which is designed to drop bombs on or fire missiles at targets on the ground, and is also capable of defending itself against enemy fighter aircraft

fighter controller /ˈfætə ˈkɒntrələ/ noun an air traffic controller who works in permanent partnership with the pilot of a fighter aircraft, following his progress on radar and directing him to intercept enemy aircraft

fighter ground-attack /ˈfætəˌɡraʊnd ˈɑːtk/ noun an attack by fighter aircraft on a target on the ground. Abbr FGA

fighting /ˈfætɪŋ/ noun an action of warfare ① Fighting continued along the whole front line. ② Their troops are experienced in guerrilla fighting.

Fighting Falcon /ˈfætɪŋ ˈfɔːlkon/ noun F-16

fighting in built-up areas /ˈfætɪŋ ɪnˈbɪlt əˈkɔriəz/ noun special skills relating to combat in towns and villages. Abbr FIBUA

fighting order /ˈfætɪŋ ˈɔrədəl/ adjective equipped with webbing only

fighting patrol /ˈfætɪŋ ˈpɑːtrəul/ noun a large well-armed patrol sent out on an offensive operation (e.g. snatching a prisoner for interrogation)

fighting strength /ˈfætɪŋ ˈstreŋθ/ noun the number of men or vehicles available to a unit for the purposes of fighting

figure US /ˈfɪɡə/ noun a number ① a six-figure grid reference

figures /ˈfɪgəz/ plural noun minutes (radio terminology) ① I will be with you in figures ten.

file /fæl/ noun a tactical formation where men or vehicles move one behind the other ① verb to move in single file ① The men filed along the jungle path.

fin /fɛn/ noun a thin, flat projection on an aircraft, missile or other projectile, which provides extra stability during flight

final protective fire /ˈfæn(ə)lə/ noun, τεκτίντες /ˈfænə/ a pre-determined artillery target, registered on or just in front of your own position, as a defensive measure in the event of being overrun by the enemy ① The company commander called for his FPF. Abbr FPF

fire /faiər/ noun 1. flames and heat from a substance which is burning, or a small heap of burning material which is being used to provide heat ① We saw a fire in the distance ① to catch fire to start burning ① on fire in the act of burning ① The tank was on fire and burning fiercely. ② The discharge of a gun or missile ③ the effect of bullets or other projectiles hitting a target and its vicinity ④ The platoon came under heavy fire from the farm. ⑤ under fire situation of being...
shot at ○ ‘Hello 2, this is 22, we are under fire from the village, wait out 1. verb to discharge a gun or missile or to detonate an explosive device ○ He fired at the leading tank. ○ The Claymore failed to fire. ○ to fire for effect (of artillery or mortars) to fire rounds as quickly as possible ○ Ten rounds, fire for effect! ○ fire, open fire! start shooting ○ cease fire! stop shooting ○ hold your fire! don’t shoot ○ to open fire to start firing at someone or something

fire-and-forget weapon /ˈfɑːrəndɪfəg ˈwɛpən/ noun a missile equipped with a guidance system which requires no further action from its operator, once it is locked onto its target

fire and manoeuvre /ˈfɑːrə ənd ˈmænər / noun a tactic of moving in bounds, where one soldier or vehicle or sub-unit moves, while another soldier or vehicle or sub-unit gives covering fire ○ The platoon made good use of fire and manoeuvre in the assault.

firearm /ˈfɑːrərm/ noun a hand-held gun (such as a pistol, rifle or assault weapon)

firebase /ˈfɑːrbɛs/ noun 1. US a fortified base location containing heavy weapons which can provide fire support to troops operating in the surrounding area ○ B Company is at Firebase Alfa. 2. troops giving fire support during an attack ○ The firebase was ordered to move forward.

fire-bomb /ˈfɑːrb ˈbɒm/ noun a bomb designed to set buildings alight ○ incendiary bomb a verb to drop fire-bombs on ○ The centre of the town was fire-bombed.

fire break /ˈfɑːrə brea k/ noun an open space between two areas of woodland, which is designed to prevent the spread of fire, but can also often be used by vehicles

fire brigade /ˈfɑːrə ˈbreɪdʒ/ noun an officially organized body of men trained to fight fires

fire control /ˈfɑːrə kanˈtrəʊl/ noun the direction of a unit or sub-unit’s weapons in battle

fire support coordination line /ˈfɑːrə səˈpɔːrt kəˈmənˌdɪŋ ˈlайн/ noun a real or imaginary line behind the fire support coordination line

fire direction centre /ˈfɑːrə dɪˈkən tɪŋ ˈsentə/ noun full form of FDC

fire discipline /ˈfɑːrə ˈdɪsplən/ noun personal judgement preventing unnecessary wastage of ammunition

firefight /ˈfɑːrfəft/ noun an exchange of fire between opposing forces ○ A fierce firefight developed on the edge of the village ○ battle, engagement, skirmish

Firefly /ˈfɑːrflai/ trademark a trademark for a small pocket-sized strobe ○ We’ll need a Firefly to signal to the chopper.

fireman /ˈfɑːrɪˌmæn/ noun a member of the fire brigade ○ Several firemen were attacked during the riot.

fire mission /ˈfɑːrɪmɪʃən/ noun a specific artillery or mortar task ○ ‘Hello 42C, this is 2. Fire mission, over.’ ○ We only have enough rounds for one more fire mission.

fireplan /ˈfɑːrəplæn/ noun 1. a plan outlining the sequence in which specific or potential targets will be engaged by individual weapons or sub-units ○ The battalion mortars were included in the artillery fireplan. 2. a document showing the fireplan ○ All company commanders were given a copy of the artillery fireplan.

fire position /ˈfɑːrə ˈpəʊzɪʃən/ noun any location from which a weapon is discharged ○ The sniper found himself a good fire position in the church tower.

firepower /ˈfɑːrə ˈpəʊər/ noun the destructive capacity of guns, missiles and other weapons ○ The firepower available to the brigade was enormous.

firestorm /ˈfɑːrəstroʊm/ noun an extensive burning caused by fire-bombs, producing artificial winds which can suck heavy objects into the fires

fire support /ˈfɑːrə səˈpɔːrt/ noun additional fire provided by another unit or arm ○ A squadron from the Royal Hussars will be providing fire support for this attack.

fire support coordination line /ˈfɑːrə səˈpɔːrt kəˈmənˌdɪŋ ˈlайн/ noun a real or imaginary line behind the forward line of enemy troops (FLET),
fireteam noun 1, an infantry grouping of 4 men (half of a section) 2. US an infantry grouping of 4 men (one third of a squad)

during formation and as shelter from enemy fire

firing pin noun a little metal pin which hits the end of a round in the breech of a rifle to detonate it

firing point noun the location from which an engineer detonates an explosive device (as in bridge demolition)

firing port noun an aperture in the side of a vehicle through which a soldier can fire his personal weapon

firing position noun a position in which a soldier or a gun is ready to fire

firing post noun a missile launcher. The anti-tank platoon had three firing posts on the forward edge of the village.

firing range noun same as range 3

firing squad noun a detachment of soldiers delegated to execute a condemned prisoner

first aid noun basic emergency treatment given to a casualty before proper medical treatment is available

first aid kit noun a box or pack containing bandages and dressings for use if someone is hurt or wounded

first dogwatch noun the period of duty from 1600-1800hrs

first lieutenant noun a junior officer in the army, marines or air force (equivalent of a lieutenant in the British Army)

first light noun the time of day when daylight first appears. Be ready to move at first light. dawn, daybreak

first-line noun relating to resources (e.g. ammunition, fuel, rations) actually carried by the fighting troops, as opposed to those carried by the echelons or stored in dumps or depots. All companies have drawn their first-line ammunition.

First Parade noun the first daily task for any unit or sub-unit equipped with vehicles, where routine maintenance and daily checks are carried out on each vehicle. He was late for First Parade.

first-parade verb to carry out the routine tasks of First Parade. Your platoon has not been first-parading its vehicles properly.

first sergeant noun a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the army or marines (normally responsible for administration and discipline within a sub-unit)

first watch noun the period of duty from 2000-2359hrs

Fishbed noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed MiG-21 fighter aircraft

fit adjective physically strong and healthy, especially as a result of taking regular exercise

fitness noun a person’s physical state

fitter noun a vehicle mechanic

fix verb 1. to mend. He’s trying to fix the radio. 2. to engage or threaten an enemy force (usually from the front) in order to divert his attention, and hold
him in his current positions, while your main forces manoeuvre to envelop him or mount a flanking attack.

**fixed-wing aircraft** /ˈfɪkswdʒ/ noun a conventional aircraft, with wings fixed to the fuselage (as opposed to helicopters and VTOL aircraft)

**flag** /flæɡ/ noun a square or rectangular piece of fabric attached to a pole, displaying colours or insignia: flag of truce, white flag a white flag displayed by soldiers wishing to surrender, or by a messenger indicating to the enemy that they should stop shooting

**flag-captain** /ˈflæɡˌkeptn/ noun a captain of a flagship

**flag-lieutenant** /ˈflæɡˌlɪˈtɛntnt/ noun the aide-de-camp (ADC) to an admiral

**flag-officer** /ˈflægˌɔfʃər/ noun a naval rank of admiral, vice admiral or rear admiral

**flagship** /ˈflæɡʃɪp/ noun a warship used as a command vessel by the commander of a fleet or flotilla

**flail** /flæl/ noun a set of revolving chains attached to the front of a tank or armoured engineer vehicle, designed to clear a way through a minefield by detonating the mines in its path

**flak** /flæk/ noun anti-aircraft fire

**flak jacket** /ˈflækˌdʒækɪt/ noun a vest fitted with panels of synthetic material (e.g. Kevlar) designed to protect a soldier from shrapnel and low-velocity bullets. ○ body armour, bulletproof vest

**flame** /flɛm/ noun burning gas which forms the yellow part of a fire ○ inflammation of a body part

**flamethrower** /ˈflæməθrəʊər/ noun a weapon which squirts a jet of burning liquid at a target

**flammable** /ˈflæməb(ə)l/ adjective easy to set on fire. Same as inflammable

**flank** /flæŋk/ noun the left-hand or right-hand side of a military force which is deployed in a defensive position or tactical formation ○ The army’s right flank was exposed. ○ verb 1. to manoeuvre around the enemy’s flank ○ The enemy tried to flank us on the right.

2. to be positioned next to ○ 6 Brigade is flanking us on the left. ○ The president stood at the saluting base, flanked by several officers.

**flanker** /ˈflæŋkər/ noun a soldier, vehicle or sub-unit assigned to guard a formation’s flank on the move ○ B Squadron will provide flankers for the advance.

**flanker** /ˈflæŋkə/ noun the NATO name for the Soviet-designed SU-27 fighter aircraft

**flanking** /ˈflæŋkɪŋ/ adjective relating to movement on the enemy’s flank

**flanking attack** /ˈflæŋkɪŋ əˈtæk/ noun an attack on the enemy’s flank

**flanking movement** /ˈflæŋkɪŋ ˈmʌvment/ noun a manoeuvre around the enemy’s flank

**flannelette** /ˈflænlət/ noun a strip of fabric used to clean the barrel of a weapon

**flare** /flɛr/ noun a pyrotechnic which emits a bright light in order to improve visibility at night ○ Flares were dropped over the target zone.

**flash** /flæʃ/ noun 1. a sudden emission of bright light ○ We saw a bright flash to the left. 2. flame and heat given off by an explosion ○ Several sailors were injured by flash. 3. a coloured patch of cloth worn on the uniform to distinguish a unit or grouping ○ He was wearing yellow flashes. ○ Some Scottish regiments wear tartan flashes on their bonnets. ○ verb 1. to produce a brief emission of light ○ He flashed his torch three times. 2. to send a radio message with the highest priority ○ We flashed the information to HQ.

**flash eliminator** /ˈflæʃ ɪˌlɪmɪnətər/ noun perforations at the muzzle of a machine-gun or assault weapon, designed to reduce the flashes produced when firing

**flash hood** /ˈflæʃ ˌhʊd/ noun a fire-resistant covering for the head and face, worn by sailors in battle to reduce the effects of flash.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>flashlight</strong></td>
<td>/flaʃˈlaɪt/ noun US a handheld battery-powered device for producing light.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flash message, flash signal</strong></td>
<td>noun a high priority radio message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flat</strong></td>
<td>/flæt/ adjective 1. (of surfaces) completely level o The terrain is flat. 2. (of batteries) without electrical charge o The battery is flat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flèchette</strong></td>
<td>/flɛʃɛt/ noun an anti-personnel projectile in the form of a tiny dart, designed to be released in large numbers by certain types of explosive projectile (especially canister rounds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flee</strong></td>
<td>/flɪ/ verb to run away from danger o The American Pacific Fleet was based at Pearl Harbour. o The enemy fleet could be seen on the horizon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flesh wound</strong></td>
<td>/flɛʃ ˈwʊnd/ noun a wound which does not damage a bone or organ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flight control</strong></td>
<td>/flaɪt ˈkɔntrəl/ noun 1. the direction of aircraft within a specific airspace 2. a unit (usually located on the ground) which directs aircraft within a specific airspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>flight crew</strong></td>
<td>/flaɪt ˈkruː/ noun US an aircrew</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. to transport men or objects by aircraft
4. to march or travel by aircraft
5. to fly over a certain place as part of a ceremony. Compare march past
6. to fly a noise-making device designed to warn ships in foggy conditions
7. to fly behind someone or something else
8. to fly over an embankment and bridge carrying one road over another
9. to fly a state of confusion on the battlefield owing to smoke, noise and limited information
10. to fly an event to come after another event

follow-on force attack
1. to move behind someone or something else
2. to pursue
3. to come after another event

follow-on forces
1. a series of leaves or other vegetation
2. a supply dump
3. a 7.62mm assault weapon
4. a 5.56mm light machine-gun
5. a 7.62mm general purpose machine-gun
6. a 5.56mm light machine-gun
7. a flying officer
8. an outdated word for "enemy"
9. a thick cloud of water vapour at ground level, which reduces visibility
10. a supply dump

flood plain
1. a valley bottom which becomes covered by water when the river floods
2. a forward line of own troops
3. a small group of warships or other vessels
4. a mass of debris or other objects found floating in water
5. a flight lieutenant
6. an operation designed to warn ships in fog of war
7. a supply dump
8. an outdated word for "enemy"
9. a 7.62mm assault weapon
10. a 5.56mm light machine-gun
11. a flying officer
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follow through

over the lead when required ○ We will attack the enemy’s follow-on forces with aircraft and missiles.

Follow through /ˈfɒləʊ ˈðruː/ verb to continue an action to its finish ○ The enemy were able to counter-attack because the assault was not followed through.

Follow up /ˈfɒləʊ ˈʌp/ verb to take further action ○ We followed up the attack by shelling the enemy as they withdrew.

Folly /ˈfɒli/ noun 1, a stupid action ○ To attack now would just be folly. 2, an ornamental building (in a park or garden) ○ There was a sniper in the folly.

FOO abbreviation forward observation officer

Foot /fʊt/ noun 1, part of the body on which a person or animal walks ○ On foot not in a vehicle ○ to go on foot to walk 2, a unit of linear measurement corresponding to 12 inches or 30.48 centimetres (NOTE: In meanings (a) and (b), the plural of foot is feet.) 3, the foot, foot soldiers the infantry (historical)

Footbridge /ˈfʊtbrɪdʒ/ noun a small bridge designed for pedestrians (i.e. not suitable for vehicles)

Foothold /ˈfʊthoʊld/ noun the capture of a small area of enemy territory, which can be used as a base for mounting or supporting further attacks ○ We have gained a foothold on the enemy position.

Foothold Line /ˈfʊthoʊld ˈlайн/ noun a tactical manoeuvre carried out under fire, in which men or vehicles withdraw to form an extended line out of direct enemy fire, prior to breaking contact or redeploying. Compare baseline

Foot March /ˈfʊt mɑrʃ/ noun an organized journey along roads or across country by soldiers on foot

FOR /fɔːr/ noun a suffix meaning FORCEnoun used in the titles of contingents engaged in international peacekeeping operations

Forage /ˈfɔrædʒ/ verb to search for food. ○ to live off the land

COMMENT: Foraging usually refers to the act of taking food from the civilian population without paying for it.

Forage Cap /ˈfɔrædʒ ˈkep/ noun a peaked military head-dress with a flat top (usually worn in barracks or on parade)

Foray /ˈfɔrə/ noun an operation into enemy territory (usually a raid or reconnaissance) ○ He was wounded on a foray behind the enemy lines. (NOTE: The verb form is to make a foray.)

Force /fɔrs/ noun 1, the use of physical strength ○ We had to use force to remove the protesters. 2, a military power ○ If diplomacy fails, we will have to consider using force. 3, an unspecified military grouping ○ A large force of tanks is heading this way. 4, the forces a general title for army, navy and air force ○ the forces are expected to receive a pay increase in the new year ○ verb 1, to make someone do something against his/her will ○ The enemy forced the captured soldiers to tell them where their commander was. 2, to achieve something with the use of strength or great effort ○ They forced their way through the crowd. 3, to break a lock or fastening ○ The window has been forced.

Forced Landing /ˈfɔːrd laɪndʒ/ noun an emergency landing made by an aircraft on unprepared ground ○ We had to make a forced landing in a potato field.

Forced March /ˈfɔːrd mɑrʃ/ noun movement by infantry over a long distance on foot ○ A series of forced marches enabled us to reach the Danube in four days.

Force Flow /ˈfɔːrz flɔʊ/ noun the movement and number of troops and the logistics of moving them by land, sea, and air into or out of a theatre of operations or a deployment zone

Force Multiplier /ˈfɔːrz ˈmʌltɪplər/ noun any activity or equipment which increases the combat effectiveness of a military grouping without actually increasing its firepower (such as engineer support, electronic warfare, deception, surprise)

Force-Orientated Mission /ˈfɔːrs ˌɔrɪənteɪtɪd/ noun a mission
101 forward

forest /ˈfɔːrst/ noun a very large area of woodland

Forger /ˈfɔːdʒər/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed YAK-38 fighter aircraft

fork /fɔrk/ noun a place where a single road divides into two. Abbr FOD

formation /fɔrˈmeɪʃən/ noun 1. arrangement of aircraft, ships, troops or vehicles for movement or tactical purposes. The tanks were moving in formation. 2. a military grouping. Several large enemy formations have crossed the river. 3. a grouping. He was posted to a different formation.

forming-up point /fɔrˈmɪŋ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a place where soldiers or vehicles of a grouping get into tactical formation before commencing the next phase of an operation. Abbr FUP

form up /fɔrm ˈʌp/ verb to get into tactical formation prior to commencing the next phase of an operation

fort /fɔrt/ noun a small fortified building. The rebels are based in hill forts to the north of the capital.

fortification /fɔrtɪˈfɪkeɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of preparing buildings or ground for defence. He was put in charge of the fortification of the town. 2. an earthwork, structure or obstacle prepared for defensive purposes. There is a strong line of fortifications along the coast.

fortify /fɔrtɪˈfaiə/ verb to prepare buildings or ground for defence. The enemy occupies strongly fortified positions to the north of the river.

fortress /fɔrˈtɛs/ noun a fortified place or town. They retreated to a fortress overlooking the Danube.

forward /fɔrˈwɔːd/ adverb 1. straight ahead. The tank moved forward slowly. 2. beyond. The OP was deployed forward of the main position. 3. to the front line. The battalion is moving forward tonight. Abbr FOD

foreign /ˈfɔrniər/ adjective 1. belonging to or coming from another country. 2. coming from outside. He had a foreign object in his eye.

foreign aid /ˈfɔrniər ˈeɪd/ noun assistance in the form of money, food or other necessities, provided by one nation to another in times of trouble.

foreigner /ˈfɔrniər/ noun a person who comes from another country. 

Foreign Legion /ˈfɔrni ˈlɛʒən/ noun a force of foreign volunteers serving in a state’s army (such as the French Foreign Legion or the Spanish Foreign Legion).

foreign national /ˈfɔrni ˈneɪʃənəl/ noun a person who is a citizen of another country. 

foreign object damage /ˈfɔrni, ˈɒb’dʒekt ˈdæmɪdʒ/ noun damage to a jet aircraft caused by an object being sucked into the air intakes. Abbr FOD

foreign occupation /ˈfɔrniˌkʃən/ noun the occupation of territory by military forces of another state.

forenoon watch /ˈfɔrnən wɔtʃ/ noun the period of duty from 0800–1200hrs

with the principal aim of destroying enemy forces.

force projection /ˌfɔrs prəˈdʒekʃən/ noun the process of identifying and planning for possible future operations.

forces of occupation /ˈfɔrsz əv ˈnəkʃən/ plural noun military forces which occupy territory belonging to another state.

ford /fɔrd/ noun a place on a river or stream where the water is shallow enough for men to wade across or for vehicles to drive through. A verb to cross a river or stream by wading or driving through the water.

forecast /fɔrˈkeɪst/ noun a statement of what is likely to happen in the near future, especially of what the weather will be like in the next few days.

forecastle /ˈfɔrkəsl/ noun the forward part of a ship. Also called fo’c’sle.

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<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>forward air controller</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd ˈɛə kənˌtrəʊəl/ noun an air-force or artillery officer or NCO operating from an aircraft or attached to ground troops in order to direct close air support. Abbr FAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward area</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd ˈɛəriəl/ noun an area occupied by troops who are close to or in contact with the enemy. Everyone had to wear body armour in the forward areas. o front, front line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward arming and refuelling point</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd əˈmɪŋ ən riˈfjuːlɪŋ/ noun US full form of FAARP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward defence</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd dɪˈfɛns/ noun the NATO doctrine of stopping an invasion as close to the border as possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward edge of the battle area</td>
<td>forward line of own troops noun a line formed by the positions of friendly forces which are closest to the enemy. Abbr FEBA, FLOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward observation officer</td>
<td>forward observer noun an artillery officer or NCO attached to an infantry or armoured unit, or operating from an aircraft in order to direct artillery fire. o spotter. Abbr FOO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward operating base</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd əˈpərɛrɪŋ ˌbeɪs/ noun full form of FOB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forward slope</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːwəd ˈslaʊp/ noun the side of a hill which is facing the enemy. o The enemy are dug in on the forward slope. o reverse slope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>four-star general</td>
<td>/ˈfɔːrstɑːr ˈɡeɪnəl/ noun a general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox</td>
<td>/fɒks/ noun a British-designed wheeled armoured reconnaissance vehicle (CVR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foxbat</td>
<td>/fɒksbæt/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed MiG-25 fighter aircraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foxhole</td>
<td>/fɒksˈhəʊl/ noun US a hole in the ground used by infantrymen as a fire position and as shelter from enemy fire. (NOTE: The British English term is fire trench.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foxhound</td>
<td>/ˈfɒkshaʊnd/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed MiG-31 interceptor aircraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foxtrot</td>
<td>/ˈfɒkstrɒt/ noun the sixth letter of the phonetic alphabet (F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFP</td>
<td>/ef piːˈɛf lʌn/ a pre-determined artillery target, registered on or just in front of your own position, as a final defensive measure in the event of being overrun by the enemy. o The company commander called for his FFP. Full form final protective fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frag</td>
<td>/fref/ verb US to deliberately wound an unpopular or unreliable comrade, while giving the appearance that he was hit by enemy fire. (slang) o The sergeant was fragged by his own men. (NOTE: This word is derived from fragmentation grenade, a common means of fragging in Vietnam.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fragmentation</td>
<td>/ˈfrægmenˈtʃənt/ noun a piece which has broken off an object. o He was hit by fragments from a shell. o verb to break up into separate parts. o The minefields will force the enemy formations to fragment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fragmentation grenade</td>
<td>/ˈfrægmenˈtʃənt ɡrænəd/ noun an anti-personnel grenade designed to explode into fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fragmentation mine</td>
<td>/ˈfrægmenˈtʃənt ˈmiːn/ noun a landmine which is designed to explode into fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fragment of an order</td>
<td>/ˈfrægmenˈtʃənt əv ən ˈoʊdər/ noun full form of FRAGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRAGO</td>
<td>/ˈfrægəʊ/ noun US an amendment to part of a set of orders. Full form fragment of an order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRAGPLAN</td>
<td>/ˈfræɡplæn/ noun US a list of actions for dealing with different contingencies which might occur during the course of an operation. Full form fragmentary plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fraternization</td>
<td>/frəˈtɛnəˌzɪʃən/ noun an act of fraternizing. o Fraternization with civilians is prohibited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### fraternize  `/frətənaɪz/`  **verb** to be friendly towards enemy troops or enemy civilians.  
*We aren’t allowed to fraternize with the local population.*

### fraticide  `/frətɪsad/`  **noun** casualties caused by friendly units firing on each other in error.

### friendly  `/ˈfrɛndlɪ/`  **adjective** on the same side in a conflict or war (i.e. not enemy).

### friendly fire  `/ˈfrɛndli /ˈfaɪə/`  an incident where friendly forces fire on their own troops or vehicles by mistake.  
*He was killed by friendly fire.* Also called blue on blue.

### friendly forces  `/ˈfrɛndlɪ ˈfaɪərəz/`  plural noun your own forces or the forces of your allies (i.e. not the enemy). Compare enemy.

### frigate  `/ˈfrɪɡet/`  **noun** a medium-sized warship used to escort other ships or to carry out missions on its own.  
**Comment:** In the British Navy, the frigate’s primary mission is anti-submarine warfare (ASW).

### free rocket over-ground  `/frɪˌrɛktəʊ ˈəʊvərˈɡraʊnd/`  **noun** full form of FROG

### Freestyle  `/ˈfrɪstəl/`  **noun** a NATO name for the Soviet-designed YAK-41 fighter aircraft

### freight  `/fret/`  **noun** goods or supplies carried by an aircraft, vehicle or train. Compare cargo.

### frenzied  `/ˈfrenzɪd/`  **adverb** the target has not been destroyed (forward air controller jargon).  
*Hello Cowboy this is G33, frenzied, frenzied over.*

### frequency  `/ˈfrikwənsi/`  **noun** a radio setting.  
**(Note: The plural form is frequencies.)**

### FROG  `/frɒɡ/`  **noun** a ground-attack aircraft.

### frontage  `/ˈfrentɪdʒ/`  **noun** the distance along the front of a tactical formation or defensive position.  
*The brigade advanced on a wide frontage.*
frontal /frənt(ə)r/ adjective towards the front of something

frontal attack /frənt(ə)l ə tæk/ noun an attack on the front of an enemy position (as opposed to the flank)

frontier /frəntɪər/ noun a region on the border between two states

front line /frənt ˈlaim/ noun the forward positions of an army at the front. o forward area

front-line troops /frənt ˈlaim trops/ plural noun soldiers serving on the front line

frost /frɒst/ noun 1. freezing conditions, which cover the ground and other surfaces with ice o There’s going to be a hard frost tonight. 2. frozen grass o We could see tracks in the frost.

frostbite /ˈfrɔstbaɪt/ noun an injury caused to fingers, toes, ears, nose or other parts of the body as a result of freezing conditions o He lost six toes through frostbite.

fruit salad /fruːt ˈsæləd/ noun rows of small narrow colourful campaign, service, and combat decorations, worn by military personnel on the upper left area of their uniforms (slang)

FSCL /ˈfjuːsl/ noun a real or imaginary line behind the forward line of enemy troops (FLET), beyond which friendly aircraft can attack targets without requiring the directions or permission from friendly forward air controllers (FAC). Full form fire support coordination line

COMMENT: During a rapid advance by friendly forces, it will be necessary to constantly readjust the FSCL, not only to prevent fratricide from friendly aircraft, but also to allow those aircraft the maximum freedom to engage enemy targets to the rear. One solution to this problem is to have several pre-planned FSCLs which can be activated as the advance proceeds.  

FTX abbreviation field training exercise

gasmask /ˈɡæsmæsk/ noun one of the two main types of protective breathing apparatus which fit over the nose and mouth to prevent dust, gases, or toxic fumes entering the respiratory system. It consists of a facepiece which is held on the face by means of a mouthpiece and a filter unit attached to a breathing tube. A breathing system enables the user to breathe the air from the filter unit, or to breathe air directly from the atmosphere. A second breathing system contains a reservoir bag which is used as a source of oxygen in emergencies. (NOTE: The British English term is gas mask.)

FOD abbreviation foreign object debris

fuze /fjuːz/ noun 1. a length of fast-burning cord which is lit from a safe distance in order to activate an explosive device 2. a component designed to detonate a bomb, shell or other explosive device on impact or after a specific period 3. a component designed to prevent serious damage or fire, by safely burning out when an excessive electrical charge passes through it
fuselage /ˈfjuːzlə/ noun the main body of an aircraft

fusilier /ˈfjuːzəlɪər/ noun (historical) 1. an infantryman armed with a light musket (called a “fusil”) 2. the title of a normal infantryman in a grenadier regiment

COMMENT: Many infantry regiments still retain their historical title of Fusiliers.

fusillade /ˈfjuːzəld/ noun a prolonged period of firing of small guns

fuze noun US spelling of fuse

FV-432 noun same as AFV-432

fwd abbreviation forward
G1 /ʤiː/ 'wɜːn/ noun the department of a headquarters responsible for personnel. 

G2 /ʤiː/ 'tɜː/ noun the department of a headquarters responsible for intelligence.

G3 /ʤiː/ 'θɜːs/ noun the department of a headquarters responsible for operations and training.

G4 /ʤiː/ 'fɜː/ noun the department of a headquarters responsible for logistics.

GA /ʤiː/ 'ɡeɪəl/ noun a type of nerve agent. Full form dimethylaminoethoxy-dicyanophosphine oxide. Also called Tabun.

G-agent /ʤiː; ˈɛrdʒənt/ noun a non-persistent nerve agent.

gain /ɡeɪn/ noun an achievement or result. o We lost all our gains next day when the enemy counterattacked. | verb to achieve something. o We have gained most of our objectives. o to gain ground to move forwards. o We have gained a lot of ground since yesterday. o After the battle we found we had only gained 200m.

Gainful /ˈɡeɪnfl/ noun an SA-6, Soviet-designed low to medium altitude surface-to-air missile (SAM).

gailor /ˈɡeɪlər/ noun a garment of fabric or leather, which is worn over the ankle and lower leg in order to keep your trousers dry and to prevent small stones and other objects going into your boots. o The soldiers wore white belts and gaiters.

gale /ˈɡeɪl/ noun a very strong wind.

gallantry /ˈɡeɪləntri/ noun bravery.

gallery range /ˈɡeɪləri rɛnʤ/ noun a formal shooting range, consisting of a firing point, where several people can shoot side by side, and the butts, where targets are positioned.

galley /ˈɡeɪli/ noun a cabin or compartment on an aircraft or ship where food is prepared.

gallon /ˈɡeɪldən/ noun a unit of measurement for liquids.

COMMENT: In Britain one gallon (the imperial gallon) equals 4.546 litres; in the USA, a gallon equals 3.78 litres.

Gammon /ˈɡæmən/ noun an SA-5, Soviet-designed long-range surface-to-air missile (SAM).

Ganef /ˈɡænɛf/ noun an SA-4, Soviet-designed medium to high altitude radar-guided surface-to-air missile (SAM).

gang /ˈɡeŋ/ noun a group of people who act together for some illegal purpose. o Gangs of youths have been loot- ing the town centre.

gangrene /ˈɡæŋɡriːn/ noun a condition where tissues die and decay as a result of bacterial action, because the blood supply has been lost through injury or disease of an artery.

gap /ˈɡeɪp/ noun an interval or space. o He went through a gap in the fence. o There are large gaps between our positions.

garden /ˈɡɑːdən/ noun an area of ground (usually next to or surrounding a house) used for the growing of flowers and plants or fruit and vegetables.

garrison /ˈɡɑːrən(ɔ)n/ noun troops who occupy a fortress or town in order to defend it. o the garrison commander. o The garrison held out for three weeks.

verb to occupy a fortress or town with troops in order to defend it. o The general garrisoned the town with troops loyal to the president. o The troops garr...
was gassed during the war.

3. a verbal alarm given for a gas! Gas! (such as butane)

methylisopropoxy-
agent. Full form

craft cannon
conjunction with the ZSU-23 anti-air-
missile (SAM), normally issued to mo-

opened and closed in order to allow ac-

sance helicopter
signed and British-made reconnais-

Sarin
GB
GB
Gazelle
Gatling gun
gate
Gdsm
gaskin
gas gangrene

GBU-15 /ʤiː biː juː ɪʃˈtɪm/ noun
an American-designed glide bomb

GBU-43/B noun a huge aerial bomb
weighing 9,500 kg which explodes
above ground level. It is mainly de-
signated to clear trees and vegetation for
a helicopter landing zone. Also called
MOAB

GCI /ʤiː siːˈaʊl/ noun a ground-based
radar / We destroyed a GCI site. Full
form ground controlled interception

GCT /ʤiː tiː/ noun a French-de-
signed 155mm self-propelled gun

GD /ʤiː ˈdɪz/ noun a type of nerve
agent. Full form methylinacoloyloxy-
fluorophosphine oxide. Also called
Soman

GDP abbreviation general deployment
position

Gds abbreviation Guards

Gdsm abbreviation guardsman

Gecko /ˈgɛksoʊ/ noun an SA-8, Sovi-
et-designed low altitude surface-to-air
missle (SAM)

Geiger counter /ˈdʒiːɡər kʊntər/ noun
an instrument for measuring lev-
els of radiation

Gen abbreviation general

general /ˈdʒenərəl/ adjective 1. not
restricted, not specialized / This is a
general warning to all base personnel.
2. common to everyone or everything
noun 1. a senior army commander (not
necessarily holding the rank of general)
2. US a senior rank in the British army or

GCI /ʤiː siːˈaʊl/ noun a ground-based
radar / We destroyed a GCI site. Full
form ground controlled interception

GCT /ʤiː tiː/ noun a French-de-
signed 155mm self-propelled gun

GD /ʤiː ˈdɪz/ noun a type of nerve
agent. Full form methylinacoloyloxy-
fluorophosphine oxide. Also called
Soman

GDP abbreviation general deployment
position

Gds abbreviation Guards

Gdsm abbreviation guardsman

Gecko /ˈgɛksoʊ/ noun an SA-8, Sovi-
et-designed low altitude surface-to-air
missle (SAM)

Geiger counter /ˈdʒiːɡər kʊntər/ noun
an instrument for measuring lev-
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necessarily holding the rank of general)
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general cease-fire /ˈdʒenərəl ˈsiːs-
faɪər/ noun a cease-fire observed by all
participants in a war or armed conflict

general deployment position /ˈdʒenərəl
ˈdɛpləmənt pəˈziʃən/ noun a pre-selected position that a unit
or sub-unit will deploy to in the event of
war. Abbr GDP

general headquarters /ˈdʒenərəl ˈhefər-
kwətəˈr iz/ plural noun the head-
quartes of an army commander. Abbr

GHQ
general officer commanding /ˈdʒenərəl ˈɒfisər ˈkəmənəndɪŋ/ noun
general of the air force  108
general of the army  
general purpose  
general purpose bomb  
general purpose machine-gun  
general staff  
generator  
generic planning  
Geneva Convention  
genocide  
Gepard  
the commander of a large army grouping (usually a division). Abbr GOC  
the top rank in the US Air Force (equivalent to the British marshal of the RAF). Abbr Gen  
the top rank in the US Army (equivalent to a British field-marsh  
'general purpose' adjective suitable for a variety of different uses. Abbr GP  
a bomb which is simply dropped onto a target by an aircraft. Also called GP bomb. • ballistic bomb, iron bomb  
a machine designed for producing electricity  
'making plans for future operations where various elements have still to be identified  
'related to the conduct of military personnel in war, and dealing with subjects such as treatment of prisoners, care of the wounded, protection of civilian lives and property, etc.  
'a German-designed self-propelled anti-aircraft gun
glacier /ˈɡlæsɪər/ noun a large mass of ice in arctic or mountainous regions, which moves slowly downhill

glasshouse /ˈɡlashaʊs/ noun a military prison

glen /ɡlen/ noun in Scotland and Ireland, a valley in the mountains

glide bomb /ˈɡlaɪd bɔrn/ noun an aerodynamic bomb which is released by an aircraft several kilometres from its target and which then makes a ballistic descent to the target controlled by a guidance system

glide path /ˈɡlaɪd ˈpɑθ/ noun a path which an aircraft follows as it comes down from its cruising altitude in to land

glider /ˈɡlaɪdə/ noun an aircraft without an engine, which is used to land troops and is normally towed to the landing zone by a powered aircraft

global /ˈɡləʊb(ə)l/ adjective relating to the whole world

Global Positioning System /ˈɡləʊb(ə)l ˈpɔːzdʒ(ə)mən(t) ˈsɪstəm/ noun a satellite navigation system. Abbr GPS

Globemaster /ˈɡləʊbˌmeɪstər/ noun C-17

Glory /ˈɡlɔːri/ noun fame and honour as a result of a great achievement (such as winning a battle)

GMT abbreviation Greenwich Mean Time

Gnr abbreviation gunner

Goa /ˈɡoʊə/ noun an SA-3, Soviet-designed surface-to-air missile (SAM)

Goalkeeper /ˈɡoʊlˌkiːpər/ noun a Dutch-designed radar-controlled 30mm naval anti-aircraft cannon (CIWS), which automatically detects, tracks and engages targets

GOC abbreviation general officer commanding

goer /ˈɡoʊər/ noun a person who goes and gets things for other people (slang) (NOTE: The Irish English term is furze)

goer /ˈɡoʊər/ verb to stop moving and take up a position of defence (NOTE: going → went → have gone)

goggles /ˈɡɡəlz/ plural noun spectacles with plain glass lenses, for protecting the eyes from dust, rain, wind, etc. (NOTE: The going was extremely difficult.)

goft /ˈɡɔft/ noun the seventh letter of the phonetic alphabet (G)

gong /ˈɡɔŋ/ noun a medal (slang)

Goose-egg /ˈɡuːs ˈeɡ/ noun a tactical map-marking symbol for a defended locality, consisting of a circle or oval, intersected by a symbol for the size of grouping which occupies the locality (NOTE: You’ve marked B Company’s goose-egg on the wrong hill.

Goose-step /ˈɡuːs ˈstɛp/ noun a style of ceremonial marching, with raised steps in which the leg is kept straight (NOTE: The guards goose-stepped past the President’s tomb.)

Gopher /ˈɡɔʊfər/ noun an SA-13, Soviet-designed surface-to-air missile, usually attached to armoured and mechanized groupings

gorge /ˈɡɔrʒ/ noun a deep and narrow valley (usually with rocky sides)

gorse /ˈɡɔrs/ noun a bush with spiked leaves and yellow flowers (NOTE: The Irish English term is furze)

Gortex /ˈɡɔrtekst/ trademark a trademark for a type of waterproof material which allows condensation produced by a person’s body to escape through it

Government /ˈɡɑvərnmənt/ noun an official body of people who control all the activities of the state (NOTE: The government is sending a task force to the area. Abbr Govt)

Govt abbreviation government

GP abbreviation general purpose

hours to capture the hill they gave up and retreated to base.
GP bomb 110

GP bomb /dʒiː/ , piː 'bom/ noun same as general purpose bomb
Gp Capt abbreviation group captain
GPMG abbreviation general purpose machine-gun
GPO /,dʒiː/ ; piː 'u/ noun an officer in charge of the guns of an artillery battery when they are deployed on the gun line. Full form gun position officer
COMMENT: The gun position officer (GPO) normally accompanies the commander of the battle group which he is supporting.
GPS abbreviation Global Positioning System
GR-7 /,dʒiː/ ; aː 'sevən/ noun Harrier
grade /ɡreɪd/ noun a level of proficiency, quality, rank, etc.
gradiant /'ɡreɪdiənt/ noun the steepness of a slope
COMMENT: A gradient is usually measured as a ratio, such as 1:4 (say 'one in four').
Grail /ɡreɪl/ noun an SA-7, Soviet-designed hand-held optically-tracked surface-to-air missile (SAM)
grain /ɡreɪn/ noun 1. the edible seeds from cereal plants such as barley, maize, oats or wheat 2. This is a major grain-producing region. 2. a predominant direction in which the high ground and rivers of a region run (thereby affecting the direction of routes) 3. Well have the disadvantage of advancing across the grain of the country. 4. cross-grain
grappling-hook /ˈɡræplɪŋˌhoʊk/ noun a metal hook with three or more prongs, which is attached to a rope, and can be used as an aid to climbing or to catch and drag in an object (especially one floating in water) 4. We used a grappling-hook to get over the wall.
graticule /ˈɡrætɪkjʊl/ noun one of a number of fine lines visible in the lens of an optical instrument, as an aid to measuring distance or sighting objects
grave /ɡreɪv/ adjective serious or threatening 4. The situation is extremely grave. ▶ noun a hole in the ground, in which a dead body is buried 4. They discovered the bodies of women and children buried in shallow graves.
COMMENT: For reasons of hygiene and logistics, soldiers killed in action are usually buried in temporary graves on or close to the battlefield, until such a time as the bodies can be returned home to relatives or, alternatively, reburied in a proper military cemetery.
Graves Registration Unit /ˌɡreɪvzˌrestrjəl/ noun a unit responsible for recording the location of temporary graves in wartime
graveyard /ˈɡrævviːəd/ noun an area of ground containing graves. ▶ cemetery, churchyard
green /ɡriːn/ adjective 1. the colour of vegetation 2. inexperienced ▶ The troops were completely green.
Green Berets /ˈɡriːn bɛrɛtz/ plural noun an American special forces unit; British marines; US Army airborne special forces organization. Compare Blue Berets, red berets
Greenwich Mean Time /ˌɡriːnɪtʃ mɛn taim/ noun the local time on the meridian at Greenwich, London; used to calculate international time. Abbr GMT
COMMENT: Greenwich Mean Time is used by NATO forces on operations and is referred to as Zulu time.
greedy /ˈɡriːdi/ noun a strong plastic container designed to carry two mortar rounds and fitted with a sling for man-packing (informal) 4. Greenies will be dumped at the company RV.
gremlin /ˈɡreɪmlɪn/ noun an imaginary goblin who is blamed for unexplained mechanical failures in aircraft (informal) 4. There must be a gremlin at work in this plane!
Gremlin /ˈɡreɪmlɪn/ noun an SA-14, Soviet-designed hand-held surface-to-air missile (SAM)
grenade /ˈɡrɛnəd, ˈhænd gərənd/ noun a small bomb designed to be thrown by hand
grenade launcher /ˈɡrɛnədˌlɑːnʃər, ˈhænd ˈɡrɛnədˌlɑːnʃər/ noun a gun designed to fire small explosive projectiles
grenade necklace /'grɛndə'nekli/ noun an improvised booby trap, consisting of a series of grenades which are secured to trees or other firm objects, with trip-wires attached to the safety-pins

grenadier /'ɡrɛnədɪər/ noun an elite infantryman (historical)

grid /'grɪd/ noun 1. a system of numbered squares printed on a map in order to produce references to particular points. 2. a grid reference. 'Hello 2, this is 22, request recovery at grid 559321, over.' 3. The grid is at grid 423019.

groom /grʊm/ noun a bearing obtained from a map using a protractor

grid bearing /'grɪd 'bɛərɪŋ/ noun a bearing obtained from a map using a protractor

grid north /'grɪd 'nɔːθ/ noun north as shown on a map. Compare magnetic north

grid reference /'grɪd 'ref(ə)rans/ noun a six-figure or eight-figure reference, obtained from the coordinates of a map grid, used to denote an exact location on the map. The grid reference for the church is 656364. Also called map reference

grid square /'grɪd 'skwɛə/ noun a segment of a map grid formed by two eastings and two northings, normally showing an area of one square kilometre (note: the horizontal lines of a map grid and their coordinates are known as eastings, while the vertical lines and their coordinates are known as northings.)

Gripen /'ɡrɪpən/ noun Saab-39

groom /grʊm/ noun a person who looks after a horse

ground /'ɡraʊnd/ noun the surface of the earth to give ground to withdraw from or the enemy was forced to give ground

verb 1. to stop an aircraft from flying. 'The squadron was grounded by fog.' 2. to stop a pilot or member of an aircrew from flying. 'He was grounded until the investigation was completed.'
ground attack /'ɡraʊnd ə,tæk/ noun an attack by aircraft on a target on the ground

ground component /'ɡraʊnd kəmpənənt/ noun all ground forces, including marines (which are actually part of the navy)
ground controlled interception /'ɡraʊnd kəntroʊld ,maɪntə'sepʃən/ noun full form of GCI

ground crew /'ɡraʊnd kruː/ noun air force personnel who maintain an aircraft, but do not fly in it

ground forces /'ɡraʊnd farzəz/ plural noun military forces which operate on the ground, such as armour, artillery, engineers, infantry, etc. Also called land forces

ground of tactical importance /'ɡraʊnd əv ,tektɪk(ə)lm pərtəns/ noun an area of ground which, if captured by the enemy, could seriously affect a unit or sub-unit's ability to fulfill its mission. Vital ground

ground personnel /'ɡraʊnd pɜːsənl/ noun non-flying personnel of an air-force unit

groundsheet /'ɡraʊndʃiːt/ noun a waterproof sheet which can be spread on the ground or used to construct an improvised shelter

Comment: In many armies, the groundsheet can also be used as a waterproof cape or poncho.
ground staff /'ɡraʊnd stɑːf/ noun same as ground personnel

ground zero /'ɡraʊnd zɪərəʊ/ noun a point on the ground directly under the explosion of a nuclear weapon

group /'grʊp/ noun 1. a number of people or things which are close together or a group of trees. 2. a number of people who work together. 3. a division of the air force. verb to organize people or things into groups. The recruits were grouped into squads.
group captain /'ɡrʊp 'keptən/ noun a senior officer in the air force, above a wing commander. Abbrev Gp Capt

grouping /'grʊpɪŋ/ noun 1. a number of people, vehicles or sub-units organized together for a specific role (such as a brigade, company, regiment, squad-
Grumble

Grumble 112
ron, etc.) 2. a group of bullet-holes in a target, made by several shots which have been fired in order to test the accuracy of the weapon ○ Your grouping is two inches to the right of the aiming mark.

Grumble /'grʌmb(ə)l/ noun an SA-10, Soviet-designed medium-range surface-to-air missile (SAM)
grunt /grʌnt/ noun US an infantryman (slang)
guard /gɑrd/ noun 1. a person who protects other people or things ○ There are four guards at the front gate. 2. a person who keeps control of prisoners ○ The prisoners managed to kill their guards. 3. a military force assigned to protect other people or things ○ the Changing of the Guard a ceremonial parade in which a detachment of soldiers who are guarding a royal or presidential palace hands over to another detachment 4. a the Guards elite troops, who traditionally guard a monarch or head of state (such as a president) ○ the National Guard US a volunteer force of part-time soldiers, which can be used for home defence or the maintenance of public order, but is not deployed outside the USA ○ verb 1. to keep control of prisoners

guard dog /'ɡɑrd dɒɡ/ noun a dog trained to attack intruders

guard force /'ɡɑrd fɔ:s/ noun a force assigned to cover a likely enemy approach

guard of honour /'ɡɑrd əv 'ɔːnə/, honour guard noun a detachment of servicemen assigned to salute a dignitary on a parade or other formal occasion

guardroom /'ɡɑrdrʊm/ noun a secure location in a barracks or base, providing a command post and accommodation for the guard and also secure accommodation for prisoners

guardsman /'ɡɑrdzmand/ noun 1. a member of an elite guards regiment 2. a private soldier in the Brigade of Guards

Grumblers guerilla /'ɡərɪlə, guerilla noun an irregular soldier fighting against regular troops ○ partisan
guidance /'ɡɑrd(ə)ns/ noun 1. the process of directing someone or something to a destination 2. advice or supervision ○ He is able to work without guidance.
guidance system /'ɡɑrd(ə)nsɪstəm/ noun a component which directs a missile towards its target
guide /'ɡɑd/ noun 1. a person who shows another person the way to a destination ○ Local guides led the soldiers over the mountain pass. 2. written instructions ○ You will find the safety instructions set out in the guide. ○ verb 1. to show someone the way to a destination ○ They tried to find some local men to guide them across the desert. 2. to advise someone how to carry out a task ○ We must be guided by our instructions from HQ.
guided /'ɡɑrdɪd/ adjective equipped with a guidance system or by remote control
guided missile /'ɡɑrdɪd 'mɪsɪl/ noun a missile which is directed to its target by a guidance system or by remote control
guided weapon /'ɡɑrdɪd 'wepən/ noun a weapon whose projectile is directed to its target by a guidance system or by remote control

guideline /'ɡuɪdlain/ noun an SA-2, Soviet-designed medium-range surface-to-air missile (SAM)
Guild /'ɡʊld/ noun an SA-1, Soviet-designed medium-range surface-to-air missile (SAM)
gulf /'ɡɑlf/ noun a very large area of sea partly enclosed by land ○ oil exploration in the Gulf of Mexico ○ the Gulf 1. the Persian Gulf ○ I was in the Gulf or I served in the Gulf 2. Gulf War I or Gulf War II ○ (all senses) Desert Storm

Gulf War I /'ɡɑlf wɔ: ˈwɔn/ noun the Gulf War of 1991, following the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq

Gulf War II /'ɡɑlf wɔ: ˈtu/ noun the war fought in the spring of 2003 against
Gulf War Syndrome /ˈgulf ˈwɔːr zɔːndrəʊm/ noun the general name for various unexplained medical conditions suffered by servicemen after the first Gulf War of 1991

gunny /ˈgʌni/ abbreviation US gun-nery sergeant

gun position officer /ˈgʌn pəˈzɪʃən ˈɒfɪsər/ noun full form of GPO

gunpowder /ˈgʌnpəʊdər/ noun an obsolete explosive substance, used as propellant for muzzle-loading firearms

gunrunner /ˈgʌnˌrənə/ noun a person who imports weapons illegally

gun salute /ˈgʌn ˈsælət/ greeting made by firing guns: The Queen’s birthday is celebrated by a 21-gun salute.

gunship /ˈgʌnʃip/ noun another name for certain types of ground-attack aircraft (both fixed-wing and rotary) e.g. AC-130, Mi-24, etc. (helicopter)

gunsight /ˈgʌnsaɪt/ noun a device on a weapon, which is used by the firer to aim at a target

gunsmith /ˈgʌnsmɪθ/ noun a person who makes firearms: Local gunsmiths are producing good copies of the AK-47 assault weapon.

gunwale /ˈɡʌn(ə)l/ noun the top edge of the side of a boat or ship: Our only air defence was a couple of machine-guns clamped to the gunwale.

Gurkha /ˈɡɜːrkə/ noun an inhabitant of the mountains in Nepal, serving in a Gurkha regiment of the British or Indian Army

guts /gʌts/ noun the intestine: to have guts to be brave

guy /ɡai/ noun a man (slang)

GW2 abbreviation Gulf War II

GWI abbreviation Gulf War I

gypsy /ˈdʒɪpʃi/ another spelling of gipsy

Iraq by a coalition of US, British, Spanish and other forces

Gulf War Syndrome /ˈgulf ˈwɔːr zɔːndrəʊm/ noun the general name for various unexplained medical conditions suffered by servicemen after the first Gulf War of 1991

gully /ˈgalı/ noun a small re-entrant

gun /ˈgʌn/ noun 1. any type of firearm 2. an artillery piece

gunboat /ˈgʌnbɔːt/ noun a small vessel with heavy guns, designed to operate in shallow waters

gunboat diplomacy /ˈgʌnbɔːt dɪˈpləʊməsi/ noun political negotiation supported by the threat of military action

gun cotton /ˈgʌn ,kɒtən/ noun a type of explosive

gun crew /ˈgʌn kruː/ noun soldiers who operate an artillery piece

gunfire /ˈgʌnfɜər/ noun the firing of guns: We could hear gunfire in the distance.

gung-ho /ˈɡʌŋ həʊ/ adjective very eager to take military action (informal)

The general is a very gung-ho type.

gun group /ˈgʌŋ ˈgrʊp/ noun an infantry machine-gunner and his loader

gun layer /ˈgʌn ˈleɪər/ noun a person who aims an artillery piece

gun line /ˈgʌn lain/ noun the fire position of a battery

gunman /ˈgʌnmən/ noun a person equipped with a firearm for criminal or terrorist purposes

gunner /ˈgʌnər/ noun 1. an artillery soldier of the Gunners the Royal Artillery 2. a private in the artillery. Abbr Gnr 3. a warrant officer or senior non-commissioned officer in charge of a battery on a warship

gunnery /ˈgʌnəri/ noun the training in and operational use of artillery or large calibre guns

gunnery officer /ˈgʌnəri ,ˈɒfɪsər/ noun an officer responsible for gunnery within a unit or warship
HÔTEL - Hh

H /hɛt/ noun a type of blistering agent. Full form 2,2-dichloro-diethyl sulphide. Also called Levenstein Mustard

hack /hæk/ verb 1. to chop or cut with a sharp tool or weapon o They hacked their way through the jungle. 2. o to hack into a programme to gain unauthorised access to a computer programme o adverb (forward air controller jargon) minutes before an aircraft fires its weapons system at a target o Hello G33, this is Cowboy, hack three, over.

haemorrhage /hæmorɪdʒ/ noun loss of blood from a damaged blood-vessel o verb to suffer from a haemorrhage

hail /heɪl/ noun small round pellets of frozen rain falling to the ground o hail of bullets. shrapnel heavy small arms or artillery fire o we advanced into a hail of bullets

half-colonel /hɑːf ˌkɔːnl/ noun a lieutenant-colonel

half-track /hɑːf ˈtræk/ noun an armoured military vehicle with two wheels in front and tracks at the rear

HALO /ˈheləʊ/ noun a covert method of deploying troops by parachute: the aircraft flies at a very high altitude in order to avoid detection, and the parachutists then descend a considerable distance through the air before opening their parachutes. Full form high altitude low opening

HALO Trust /ˈheləʊ trʌst/ noun a non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to clearing mines after the cessation of an armed conflict

halt /həlt/ noun a temporary stop during a journey o After six hours marching through jungle we decided to call a halt. o verb to stop moving (especially as a command) o Halt, or I fire! o Halt! Who goes there? a traditional challenge given by sentries

hamlet /ˈhæmlət/ noun a very small village

hammock /ˈhæmək/ noun a bed, made from fabric or netting, which is suspended by cords from trees or walls (formerly traditionally used by seamen)

hand /hænd/ noun any member of a ship’s crew o All hands to action stations!

handcuff /ˈhændkʌf/ noun a pair of lockable metal bracelets joined by a short chain, which are used to bind the hands of a prisoner (handcuffs) o The policeman produced a pair of handcuffs. o verb to secure a prisoner with handcuffs o He was handcuffed and placed in the vehicle. o plasticuff

hand-grenade /ˈhænd ˈɡrɛnd/ noun a small bomb designed to be thrown by hand. o grenade handguard /ˈhændɡɑːrd/ noun part of an apparatus or machine, which prevents the operator from harming his hands while using it o The handguard is made of wood.

handgun /ˈhændɡʌn/ noun a small gun designed to be held in one hand and fired without holding it to the shoulder. o pistol, revolver

handle /ˈhænd(ə)l/ noun part of an object, which enables it to be carried by hand o The machine-gun has a carrying
handset /ˈhændset/ noun a radio or telephone apparatus containing an ear-piece and mouth piece, which is designed to be held in the hand

hand-to-hand fighting /ˈhænd ti ˈhænd ˈfætɪŋ/ noun close fighting, especially with the bayonet

hangar /ˈhæŋər/ noun a large building for the housing of aircraft

harass /ˈhɑrəs/, ˈhɑrəs/ verb to attack again and again in order to disrupt the enemy’s activities

harassing fire US ˈhɑrəsɪŋ, ˈfærəs/ noun a random artillery fire mission directed at a likely area of enemy activity, in order to disturb the enemy’s rest, disrupt his movements and inflict casualties, and so affect his morale

harbor /ˈhɑrboʊr, ˈhɑrbər/ noun, verb US spelling of harbour

harbour /ˈhaːboʊr/ noun 1. a natural or man-made place where ships can shelter from the weather: The ship was unable to enter the harbour. 2. a secure area in the field, where units can rest and reorganize before starting the next phase of an operation: We set up a harbour in the woods. ■ verb to provide shelter (especially for a deserter or escaped prisoner): He was arrested for harbouring an escaped prisoner.

hardened aircraft shelter /ˈhɑrdənd ˈeəkrɑft ˈfɛltə/ noun full form of HAS

hard-target /ˈhɑrd ˈtæɡət/ verb to move across ground in such a way as not to present an easy target to the enemy: We had to hard-target across the square.

harm /hɑrm/ noun injury or damage: He is safe from harm. ■ verb to cause injury or damage: I won’t let you harm the prisoners. ■ It is almost impossible to harm this device.

HARM /hɑrm/ noun an American-designed air-to-ground anti-radar missile (ARM). Full form high-speed anti-radiation missile

harmful /ˈhɑrmf(ə)l/ adjective able to cause harm

harmless /ˈhɑrmləs/ adjective not able to cause harm

harmonize /ˈhɑrmənaɪz/, harmonise verb 1. to make things similar, to standardize operations. 2. to make sure that all guns on an aircraft are aimed at the same target

harness /ˈhɑrnəs/ noun straps which fasten a piece of equipment to a person’s body: His parachute harness was not attached properly.

Harpoon /ˈhɑrpuːn/ noun an American-designed anti-ship missile

Harrier /ˈhɑriər/ noun a British-designed fighter aircraft with a vertical take-off capability: Sea Harrier a multirole fighter, designed to operate from aircraft carriers

Harrier AV-8 /ˈhɑriəˌæ vi; ˈɛt/ noun an American ground-attack variant, designed to operate from aircraft carriers and certain other ships

Harrier GR-7 /ˈhɑriər ˈdʒiː; əˈsevn/ noun a British multirole variant, which is especially useful for ground attack

HAS /ˈɛtʃ əˈɛs/ noun a shelter designed to protect an aircraft from artillery, bomb or missile attack. Full form hardened aircraft shelter

hash marks /ˈhæʃ ˈmɑrkz/ noun a stripe sewn on US Army uniforms, one for every two years of active duty

hatch /ˈhætʃ/ noun an opening in an aircraft, ship or vehicle, which is fitted with a cover

haven /ˈhevn(ə)n/ noun 1. an old-fashioned word for harbour. 2. a place of safety

haversack /ˈhævəsæk/ noun a canvas or webbing bag, carried slung over the shoulder

havoc /ˈhɑvək/ noun great confusion or to cause havoc in. to wreak havoc on to throw something into confusion: Atmospherics wrought havoc on our communications.
Havoc /ˈhævək/ noun the NATO name for the Soviet-designed Mi-28 attack helicopter
Hawkeye /ˈhɔːkɪ/ noun see E-2
hawser /ˈhɔːzər/ noun a thick metal wire or rope used to moor or tow a ship. Also called cable
haybox /ˈheɪboks/ noun an insulated container, designed to keep food hot for several hours. The food was brought up to the position in hayboxes.
hazard /ˈhæzəd/ noun a danger
hazard beacon /ˈhæzəd ˈbɪskən/ noun a warning beacon indicating that there is some danger to aircraft
haze /ˈheɪz/ noun a reduction in visibility caused by dust or hot air
HCN /ˈheɪdriˈsɪni/ ‘en/ noun a type of blood agent. Full form hydrogen cyanide. Also called AC
HD /‘ɛtʃ/ ‘dɪː/ noun a type of blister agent. Full form 2.2-dichloro-diethyl sulphide. Also called Distilled Mustard (NOTE: HD is simply a purer form of H (Levinstein Mustard))
HE abbreviation high explosive • noun a projectile or other explosive ordinance containing high explosive • Load with HE!
head check /ˈhɛd ʃek/ noun a check to establish that everyone is present • He took a quick head check and found two men missing.
headcount /ˈhɛdˌkaʊnt/ noun an act of counting people • The sergeant did a quick headcount.
head-dress /ˈhɛd dres/ noun a cap or hat worn as part of a uniform
heading /ˈhɛdɪŋ/ noun 1. a direction • We moved on a heading of 3.340 mils. 2. a title at the head of a page or part of a document • He prepared his report under a number of headings.
Head of Mission /ˈhɛd əv ‘mɪʃən/ noun the person in charge of a national or international mission to a particular country. Abbr HOM
headquarters /ˈhɛdˌkwɔrtərz/ plural noun 1. an administrative and command centre of a tactical grouping 2. the staff of a headquarters • Brigade headquarters are being accommodated in the school. • abbr HQ
heads /ˈhedz/ noun toilets on a ship (or in a naval or marine establishment)
headset /ˈhedˌset/ noun part of a radio or other audio-equipment, consisting of a set of earphones, sometimes with a microphone attached for speaking, which is worn on the head and is used to listen to transmissions or signals
heads-up /ˈhedz ˈʌp/ noun US notification by a commander to his subordinate commanders, informing them what he is thinking of doing
COMMENT: A heads-up should not be confused with a warning order, which is issued when the commander has definitely decided what he is going to do.
head-up display /ˈhed ˈʌp drəˌpleɪt/ noun full form of HUD
head wind /ˈhed wɪnd/ noun a wind blowing in the opposite direction to that in which an aircraft or ship is travelling
hearts and minds /ˈhɑːts ənd ˈmaɪnz/ noun to win the hearts and minds of the population the philosophy of trying to win the support of the civilian population in your area of operations (e.g. by ensuring good behaviour of troops, providing free medical care, assistance to local authorities, entertainment, etc)
heat /hɪt/ noun the state of being hot. • heat-seeking missile
HEAT /ˈhɪt/ noun an anti-tank projectile with a shaped-charge warhead • Load with HEAT! • The tank was destroyed by a HEAT round. Full form high explosive anti-tank
heat exhaustion /ˈhɪt ekˈsəstʃən/ noun physical collapse, which is caused by carrying out intense physical activity (e.g. running) in hot weather, and is potentially fatal. • We’ve got three cases of heat exhaustion.
heath /ˈhɛθ/ noun an uncultivated area of dry sandy soil, covered with bracken, heather and small bushes
heather /ˈhɛθər/ noun a low-growing plant with wooden stems and purple
florist, which covers wide areas of ground on heathland and moorland
heathland /hɛθlənd/ noun terrain consisting mainly of heath
heating device which uses a mirror to reflect sunlight on the ground
heating device /ˈheɪtɪŋ dɪˈzɛs/ noun a device equipped with a guidance system which home in on a source of heat (such as the jet pipes of an aircraft engine)
heave to /ˈhɛvə tu verb to bring a ship to a halt o Heave to immediately! o We were ordered to heave to.
heavy /ˈhevi adjective 1. weighing a lot o The troop moved through the jungle carrying heavy packs. 2. difficult to lift or support o The firing-post is too heavy for one man to carry. 3. intense o We came under heavy fire. 4. (of weapons) having a large calibre o They moved up heavy artillery.
Heckler & Koch /ˈhekəl ənd ˈkoʊk/ noun an American-designed 7.62mm assault weapon
hedge /hɛdʒ, ˈhedʒərəʊ/ noun a fence made of living plants
height /hɛrt/ noun vertical distance from the ground
hel /ˈhel/ noun the use of attack helicopters in support of ground forces o HEL is available on request.
helicopter /ˈhelɪkəptər/ noun an aircraft without wings, which obtains its upward lift by means of horizontally rotating blades (known as rotors), which are fitted to the top of the airframe
hellograph /ˈhelɪɡrɑθ/ noun a signalling device which uses a mirror to reflect sunlight o I used my shaving-mirror as a hellograph.
helipad /ˈhelɪpæd/ noun a prepared landing and take-off area for helicopters
Hellfire /ˈhɛlfaɪər/ noun an American-designed laser-guided air-to-ground missile
helm /helm/ noun a wheel or bar with which a ship or boat is steered o To take the helm to start steering a ship
helmet /ˈhelmət/ noun a protective head covering

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H-Hour

helo /ˈheləʊ/ noun US a helicopter (informal)
hemisphere /ˈhɛmɪsfər/ noun half of the earth’s surface
hemorrhage /ˈhe-mərɑɡ/ noun, verb US spelling of hemorrhage
Herc /hɛrk/ noun an informal name for the Hercules C-130 transport aircraft
Hercules /ˈhɛrkjʊlɪz/ noun, C-130
Her Majesty’s Ship /ˈherjɛstrɪ/) noun an anti-armour warhead which flattens on impact before exploding, thereby creating a shock wave which causes part of the armour’s interior surface to break off and ricochet around the inside of the vehicle o Load with HESH! o We used HESH to destroy the bunker. Full form high explosive squash-head spall
COMMENT: HESH can also be used as a general purpose high explosive round by tanks and other large calibre direct-fire guns.
hessian /ˈhɛʃən/ noun a coarse fabric used as camouflage or to make sandbags (NOTE: The American English term is burlap.)
HET /ˈhet /ˈhet/ noun US a large wheeled vehicle designed to carry a tank or other armoured vehicle over long distances by road. Full form heavy equipment transporter
HF abbreviation high frequency
H-Hour /ˈhiːt /ˈhuər/ noun the time at which an operation is due to begin o H-minus-ten ten minutes before H-Hour o H-plus-ninety ninety minutes after H-Hour o H-minus-three hours three
hide 118

hours before H-hour = H-plus-five

hide /haid/ noun 1. a concealed location where a unit or sub-unit can rest or wait in reserve. Company is in a hide at grid 221434. 2. a hiding place used by guerrillas or terrorists to conceal weapons or explosives. The is a weapons hide in the wood. verb 1. to conceal something. He hid the gun in the attic. 2. to conceal yourself. They were hiding in the cellar. (Note: hiding = hid - has hidden)

high altitude low opening /hær ɪˈɛltɪtʃjuːd ləʊ ˌɔp(ə)nɪŋ/ noun full form of HALO

High Command /hæg kəˈmɑːnd/ noun a senior command organization within a country's armed forces

higher formation /ˈheɪər fɔˈməʃən/ noun a grouping to which a smaller grouping or sub-unit belongs. Your request for a transfer has been passed to the higher formation.

high explosive /hæg ekˈsploʊsɪv/ noun 1. a powerful explosive substance used in bombs, grenades, shells, etc. 2. a bomb or projectile containing high explosive. HEAT, HESH

comment: Ordnance containing high explosive is normally painted dark green, with yellow lettering and markings.

high explosive anti-tank /hæg ekˈsploʊsɪv ənti ˈtenk/ noun full form of HEAT

high frequency /hæg frɪkˈwænsi/ noun a range of radio frequencies from 3 – 30 megahertz (MHz). Abbrev HF

highlander /ˈhɑːləndər/ noun a member of a British infantry regiment which traditionally recruits its soldiers from the mountainous regions of Scotland. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle /hæg ˈmɑːpəliˈpɜːpəs ˈwaɪəld ˈvɪzər(ə)l/ noun full form of HMMW-V

high-power microwave /hæg pəʊər ˈmætrɔˈweɪv/ noun full form of HPM

high-speed anti-radiation missile /hæg səˈpriːd ənti ˈrɛidiətʃən mɪˈsaɪl/ noun full form of HARM

high subsonic, optically guided, tube fire /hæg səbˈsʌnɪk əʊptɪk(ə)l tjuːb fайr/ noun full form of HOT

high-tech /ˈhaɪ tɛk/, hi-tech adjective using very sophisticated technology (especially computers). The enemy has very little hi-tech surveillance equipment. Full form high technology

high tide /ˈhaɪ tʌd/ noun the point at which the tide has risen to its highest level. The landing will take place at high tide.

high velocity /hæg ˈvɛlətɪˈsɪv/ adjective (of projectiles) designed to travel faster than the speed of sound. He was hit by a high velocity bullet. Compare low velocity

high-velocity bullet /hæg vɛlətɪˈbʌlt/ noun a bullet which travels faster than the speed of sound

highway /ˈhaʊwɪ/ noun UK, US a public road

hijack /ˈhaɪdʒək/ verb to seize control of an aircraft or vehicle. The guerrillas hijacked a truck and killed the driver.

hijacker /ˈhaɪdʒəkər/ noun a person who seizes control of an aircraft or vehicle. The hijackers threatened to blow up the plane if their demands were not met.

hill /hɪl/ noun an area of high ground

hillfort /ˈhɪlfɔrt/ noun an ancient fortification (usually an earthwork)

hillock /ˈhɪlk/ noun a small hill

Hind /ˈhaind/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed Mi-24 and Mi-35 attack helicopters and Mi-17

Hip /hɪp/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed Mi-8 and Mi-17 attack helicopters

hit /hɪt/ noun a shot which strikes the target at which it is aimed. We scored a direct hit on the fuel storage depot. verb 1. to shoot at a target successfully. 2. to strike a person or thing. They couldn't hit an elephant at this distance. Last words of Major General John...
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hit and run /ˈhɪt ənd rʌn/ noun an attack followed by immediate withdrawal of troops (informal)

holding attack /ˈhɔldɪŋ ət'æk/ noun an attack mounted to halt the advance of an enemy and keep him occupied, while other friendly forces conduct operations elsewhere ◇ 5 Brigade will mount a holding attack around Fallingbostel to enable the rest of the division to withdraw.

hold on /ˈhɔld ən/ verb to wait for a short period ◇ Hold on, I haven’t finished yet.

hold out /ˈhɔld aʊt/ verb to continue to defend or resist ◇ Small units of the enemy are holding out in the mountains. ◇ We can’t hold out much longer.

home in /ˈhəʊm ɪn/ verb: to home in on something (of guidance systems and locating equipment) to be guided towards something (such as an emission of radiation, heat source, radio signal, etc.)

home-made explosive /ˈhəʊm mɪd ekˈsplɔsɪv/ noun an explosive substance manufactured by terrorists or criminals from readily available ingredients (such as fertilizer)

homogeneous /ˌhəʊməˈdʒɪnɪəs/ adjective, 1. rolled homogeneous armour

honour /ˈɒnə/ noun, verb US spelling of honour

honorable /ˈɒnərəb(ə)l/ adjective US spelling of honourable

HMS /ˈhæm vɪz/ noun an American-designed all-terrain vehicle (similar to a jeep). Full form high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle. Also called Hummer

HN /ˈhɛn/ noun a type of blister agent

HNS /ˈhæns/ noun 1. 2.2 9-dichloro-3,4-dichloroethylamine

HMMW-V /ˈhæm wɪv/ noun a NATO name for a Soviet-designed Ka-50 attack helicopter

HMS /ˈhæm væn/ noun 2.2 9-dichloroethylamine

HN-1 /ˈhɛn wʌn/ noun 2.2 9-dichloroethylamine

HN-2 /ˈhɛn tuː/ noun 2.2 9-dichloro-diethylmethylamine

HN-3 /ˈhæn/ noun 2.2 9,2-trichloro-triethylamine

HNS /ˈhæns/ abbreviation host nation support

hoax /ˈhɔks/ noun a false alarm intended to waste time and resources ◇ The bomb warning turned out to be a hoax.

hog’s back /ˈhɔgz bæk/ noun a ridge of high ground

Hokum /ˈhʌkəm/ noun a NATO name for a Soviet-designed Ka-50 attack helicopter

hold /ˈhɔld/ noun 1. a storage area in an aircraft or ship ◇ We found three men hiding in the hold. 2. verb 1, to have something in your hand ◇ He was holding a pistol. 2. to have possession of ◇ The enemy are still holding the bridge. 3. to prevent the enemy from capturing ◇ We must hold this position until last light. 4. to keep someone in custody ◇ He is being held by the police.

holding action /ˈhɔldɪŋ əˈækʃən/ noun an operation intended to stop enemy forces from moving from their existing positions, in order to keep them away from another area of conflict or to cause them to use up supplies

In 1864: Sedgwick at the Battle of Spotsylvania ◇ honor

holding action noun a type of blister agent

COMMENT: HL is a combination of the agents HD and L.

HLS abbreviation helicopter landing site

HN-3 /ˈhæn/ noun 2.2 9-dichloroethylamine

HN-1 /ˈhɛn wʌn/ noun 2.2 9-dichloroethylamine

HN-2 /ˈhɛn tuː/ noun 2.2 9-dichloro-diethylmethylamine

HN-3 /noun 2.2 9,2-trichloro-triethylamine

HNS /noun host nation support

hoax /noun a false alarm intended to waste time and resources

The enemy are still holding the bridge.

We found three men (pillboxes) (such as fertilizer)

The enemy are still holding the bridge.

We must hold this position until last light. 4. to keep someone in custody ◇ He is being held by the police.
honourable 120

emy is a matter of honour. 2. an official or public recognition of a person’s achievement • verb to acknowledge a person’s achievement

honourable /ˈɔːnərəbəl/ adjective 1. behaving in a good and moral way 2. worthy of honour

honour guard /ˈɡaʊrd əv ˈbærəl/, guard of honour noun a detachment of servicemen assigned to salute a dignitary on a parade or other formal occasion

hooch /ˈhʌst/ noun US an improvised shelter, usually with some protection from enemy fire (informal) • Make sure that your hooches are well camouflaged.

Hook /hʊk/ noun a NATO name for the Soviet-designed Mi-6 transport helicopter

horizon /ˈhɔːrəzən/ noun a line in the far distance, on which the sky and ground appear to meet • Two ships appeared on the horizon.

horn /hɔːrn/ noun an instrument fitted to a vehicle, which makes a noise as a warning signal • One of the signals for a chemical attack is sounding the horn of your vehicle.

Hornet /ˈhɔːnt/ noun, FA-18

horse /hɔːs/ noun a large four-legged animal which can be ridden or used as a transport animal

COMMENT: Horses still play a prominent role in military life, especially in the British Army. Horses are ridden on ceremonial occasions and the army encourages participation in equestrian sports such as polo, steeplechasing, show jumping and foxhunting. Although they are now equipped with tanks, British and American cavalry regiments still retain many of the traditions and expressions from the days when their troopers fought on horseback.

hose /həʊz/ noun 1. a long flexible tube made of rubber or waterproof fabric, which is designed to convey liquid over a short distance and then pour it into a container or over an object • All vehicles should carry a hose for siphoning fuel. • The hoses weren’t long enough to reach the fire. 2. a long sock, reaching to just below the knee, which is worn with shorts or a kilt (no plural form) • The pipers were wearing kilts, tartan hose and spats.

hose down /ˈhəʊzd/ verb to spray an object with liquid from a hose • They hosed down the vehicles.

hospital /ˈhɒspətəl/ noun an establishment which provides surgery, medical treatment and nursing to ill and injured people

host /hɔːst/ noun a person who invites other people as guests

hostage /ˈhɒstidʒ/ noun a person who is seized and held, in order to force other people to do something (e.g. paying a sum of money) or to deter them from doing something (e.g. attacking soldiers) • The aim of the operation is to secure the release of the hostages. (NOTE: The verb form is to take someone hostage.)

hostile /ˈhɒstəl/ adjective 1. enemy • All aircraft should be considered hostile. 2. unfriendly • He was extremely hostile towards me.

COMMENT: Hostile is normally used to refer to the forces of a state which is aggressive and threatening towards your own country, but not officially at war. Enemy is used when war has actually been declared.

hostilities /ˈhɒstɪltɪz/ plural noun military action

hostility /ˈhɒstɪltɪ/ noun aggressive or threatening behaviour directed towards another person or state

host nation /ˈhɒst ˈnɛʃən/ noun a nation which receives NATO forces on its territory

host nation support /ˈhɒst ˈnɛʃən ˈsəpərt/ noun support given by a host nation to help NATO’s efforts. Abbr HNS

HOT /həʊt/ noun a European-produced wire-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW). Full form high subsonic, optically guided, tube fire

Hotel /hɔːˈtel/ noun the eighth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Hh)

hot LZ /ˈhɔt əlˈzed/ noun a landing zone which is under enemy fire (NOTE:
The British Army uses the phrase drop zone (DZ) for parachute landings.

**hot pursuit** /hɒt pə’sjœt/ noun the pursuit of terrorists, guerrillas, etc., who have just attacked someone. **We are only allowed to cross the border in the event of a hot pursuit.**

**hour** /haʊə/ noun a unit of time, corresponding to sixty minutes. **H-Hour** verb (used in the plural after a 4-digit number) to show the time. **H-Hour** is at 0600hrs.

**Household Cavalry** /ˈhauʃhəuld ˈkævələri/ noun the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals

**Household Division** /ˈhauʃhəuld diˈvɪʒən/ noun the Household Cavalry and the Brigade of Guards

**Household Troops** /ˈhauʃhəuld ˈtruːps/ noun the Household Division and the King’s Troop of the Royal Horse Artillery

**Housewife** /ˈhauʃwɒf/ noun a small mending kit, consisting of needles, thread and spare buttons

**hover** /ˈhaʊvər/ verb to remain in the air without moving in any direction. **The helicopter hovered over the village.**

**Hovercraft** /ˈhaʊvəkrɑːft/ noun an amphibious vehicle which travels over land or water supported on a cushion of air

**howitzer** /ˈhaʊtɪtsər/ noun a short-barrelled artillery piece designed to fire shells at high trajectories

**HPM** noun a bomb which sends out powerful electromagnetic impulses.

These can cause massive increases in electrical power and so destroy an enemy’s electrical and computer systems.

**HUMINT** abbreviation headquarters

**hrs** abbreviation hours

**HUD** /hjuːd/ noun a display of instrument readings or other data, which is projected onto the windscreen of an aircraft, so that the pilot doesn’t have to look down at inconvenient moments.

Full form **head-up display**

**Huey** /ˈhjuːɪ/ noun an American-designed utility/transport helicopter (UH-1)

**Huey Cobra** /ˈhjuːɪ ˈkəʊbrə/ noun an American-designed AH-1 attack helicopter

**hull** /hɔːl/ noun 1. the body of an old ship, used as a target or as a floating storehouse 2. an old tank or other armoured vehicle, used as a target on a range

**hull** /hɔːl/ noun 1. the outer covering of a ship or boat 2. the lower part of an armoured fighting vehicle 3. The explosion penetrated the hull.

**hull-down** /ˈhɔːl daʊn/ adjective positioned so that only the top parts, such as the turret of a tank are visible and exposed. **We could see the enemy fleet hull-down on the skyline.** 2. The tank was hull-down behind a wall.

**human intelligence** /ˈhjuːmən ɪntɪˈlɪdʒəns/ noun full form of **HUMINT**

**humanitarian** /ˈhjuːmən tɪˈæriən/ adjective intended to prevent or reduce human suffering and hardship. **The battalion is being sent to the disaster area to give humanitarian assistance.**

**human shield** /ˈhjuːmən ˈʃaɪld/ noun 1. a group of hostages who are placed in a location, in order to deter an attack on that location 2. a group of hostages, behind whom a person positions himself, in order to deter people from shooting at him

**HUMINT** /ˈhjuːmɪnt, ˈhʌmɪnt/ noun information about the enemy obtained
Hummer 122

from people (e.g. friendly forces, agents, civilians, POW). Full form human intelligence
Hummer /ˈhʌmər noun US an informal nickname for the HMMW-V all-terrain vehicle
hunter-killer /ˌhʌntərˈkɪlər noun a submarine designed to locate and destroy other submarines
hunter-killer submarine /ˌhʌntərˈklɪəbrəmən noun a submarine which is designed to locate and destroy enemy submarines
hussar /ˈhʌzər noun a light cavalryman (historical)

COMMENT: Some armoured regiments still retain their historical title of Hussars.

hut /hʌt/ noun a simple wooden shelter
Hydra /ˈhaɪdridə noun an American-designed unguided rocket, designed to be fired by an aircraft at a ground target
hydrogen cyanide /ˌhaɪdrəˈsaɪənd noun a type of blood agent. Abbr HCN
hygiene /haɪˈdʒɪni noun the practice of keeping oneself and your surroundings clean, in order to prevent disease. sanitation
hypothermia /ˌhaɪpəˈθɜːmiə noun an abnormally low body temperature, usually caused by exposure to wind, rain or extreme cold, which is potentially fatal. He was suffering from hypothermia.
INDIA - i

IAAG /ˈaɪeɪɡ/ noun an IRA-designed home-made hand-thrown grenade, containing a shaped-charge warhead which is designed to explode when it hits the side of a vehicle. There have been several IAAG attacks over the past month. Full form improvised anti-armour grenade

IA drill /ˈaɪə/ noun a standard procedure to be carried out in the event of something going wrong (such as an ambush, weapon misfire, equipment malfunction, etc.). Full form immediate action drill

IC /ˈaɪs/ abbreviation 1. in command of or in charge of. He is in charge of IC P at grid 434621. Over. 2. identifier point can be identified. Which sends out a signal by which a reference point can be identified. Full form identification friend or foe

ICBM abbreviation intercontinental ballistic missile

Ice /aɪs/ noun frozen water

Ice up /aɪs ʌp/ verb to become covered with ice. The aircraft crashed because the cockpit canopy had iced up.

ICM /aɪ ˈem/ noun an artillery shell filled with a quantity of anti-personnel or anti-tank bomblets, which is designed to explode in the air and scatter the bomblets onto the target area below. Full form improved conventional munition

ICP /aɪ ˈpiː/ noun the location from which the follow-up action to an incident is controlled. Hello 2, this is 22. ICP at grid 434621. Over. Full form incident control point

ICRC abbreviation International Committee of the Red Cross

ID /aɪ ˈdiː/ noun (internal) 1. identity 2. a proof of identity (such as an ID card, driving licence, passport, etc.). Do you have any ID? 3. identification

He made a positive ID on the gunman.

ID card /aɪ ˈdɪ ˌkaːd/ noun a card issued by a government or organization as a means of identification. Also called identity card

ID disc /aɪ ˈdiː ˌdisk/ noun a metal or plastic disc bearing a soldier’s personal details, which is worn round the neck. Also called identity disc, dog tag

Identification beacon /aɪˌdɛntɪˈfɪkeɪʃn ˈbiːkən/ noun a radio beacon which sends out a signal by which a reference point can be identified. Full form IFF

Identification card /aɪˌdɛntɪˈfɪkeɪʃn ˈkaːd/ noun an ID card

Identification friend or foe /aɪˌdɛntɪˈfɪkeɪʃn ˈfrend əʊ/ noun full form of IFF

Identify /aɪˈdɛntɪfای/ verb 1. to establish the identity of a person or thing. We haven’t identified the dead man. 2. to recognise a person or thing. He identified the gunman.

Identity /aɪˈdɛntɪtɪ/ noun who a person is (i.e. name, date of birth, nationality, etc.)

Identity card /aɪˈdɛntɪtɪ ˈkaːd/ noun same as ID card

Identity disc /aɪˈdɛntɪtɪ ˈdɪsk/ noun same as ID disc

Ideology /aɪˈdɒlɪˈdʒɪ/ noun a system of ideas and principles (especially political)

IED /aɪ ˈdiː/ noun a home-made bomb or mine. Full form improvised explosive device
IFF 124

IFF /ɪf/ noun technology carried in an aircraft which utilizes coded radio signals to identify other friendly aircraft. Full form identification friend or foe

IFV abbreviation infantry fighting vehicle

II abbreviation 1. image intensification 2. image intensifier

IL-76 /ɪl ˈɛl ˌseɪvəntʃən/ noun a Soviet-designed transport aircraft (NOTE: known to NATO as Candid)

illegal immigrant /ɪlˈɪɡəl/ 'immigrant/ noun an immigrant who enters a country without official permission to do so. Our main role is to catch and arrest illegal immigrants.

illum 'ɪлюm/ abbreviation illumination round

illuminate /ɪˈluːmɪneɪt/ verb to light up (with artificial light)

illumination /ɪˈluːmɪneɪʃən/ noun artificial light

illumination round /ɪˈluːmɪneɪʃən rʊnd/ noun an artillery or mortar projectile designed to produce light. Abbr illum

COMMENT: Illumination rounds are usually painted white, with black lettering and markings.

image /ˈɪmɪdʒ/ noun the appearance of an object as viewed through an optical instrument or other equipment (such as a thermal imager, radar, etc.)

image intensification /ˈɪmɪdʒ ɪntɛnsɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun passive night-viewing technology which utilizes natural light (such as ambient light, moonlight, starlight). Abbr II

image intensifier /ˈɪmɪdʒ ɪntɛnsɪfɪˈeɪʃən/ noun a night-viewing device which uses image intensification. Abbr II

immediate action drill /ɪˈmiːdɪət əˈdʒektʃən ˈdrɜːl/ noun full form of IA drill

immersion foot /ɪˈmɜːʃən fʊt/ noun a severe fungal infection of the feet, caused by wearing wet boots over a long period. Also known as trench foot

immigrant /ɪmˈgrænt/ noun a person who enters a foreign country in order to live there

immobilise /ɪˈmɒbɪlaɪz/ verb 1. to do something to a vehicle, so that it cannot be driven. 2. to do something to a machine or weapon, so that it does not work. Compare mobilize

impact /ɪˈmpækt/ noun an act of one object hitting another object

impact area /ɪˈmpækt ˈeərə/ noun the part of a live firing range where projectiles strike or come to rest

impassable /ɪmˈpɑːsəb(ə)l/ adjective impossible to travel over, through or across. The mountain roads are impassable in winter.

implementation /ɪˌmplɪˈmeɪʃən/ noun putting something into effect

implementation plans /ɪˌmplɪˈmeɪʃən ˈpleɪnz/ plural noun plans which allow NATO commanders to put into action operations which have been agreed between NATO and local forces

impregnable /ɪmˈprɛgnəb(ə)l/ adjective (of fortifications) impossible to take by force. The guerillas are based in impregnable hilltop camps.

improved conventional munition /ɪmpruːvd kənˈvɛnʃənl mjuˈnɪʃən/ noun

improvise /ɪmprəˈvaɪz/ verb to do or make something without any proper planning. We improvised a shelter out of branches.

improved anti-armour grenade /ɪmprəˈvaɪzd ənti ˈæmsər ˈgrɪːndərn/ noun full form of improved anti-armour grenade

improved explosive device /ɪmprəˈvaɪzd ɪkˈsploʊsɪv dɪˈvɜːs/ noun a home-made bomb, booby-trap or mine. Abbr IED

IMR /ɪə mɪˈr/ noun a Soviet-designed armoured engineer vehicle

inaccessible /ɪnˈɛsəsəb(ə)l/ adjective impossible to get to. The village was inaccessible after the bridge was destroyed.
inactive /nˈɛktɪv/ adjective not operating or working
incapacitating agent /ɪnˈkeɪsətɪtɪŋ/ noun a chemical designed to cause mental confusion
incendiary /ɪnˈsɛndɪərɪ/ adjective designed to set things on fire • incendiary bomb • incendiary grenade • noun a person who sets buildings, vehicles or other objects on fire as an act of sabotage • Several incendiaries have been arrested.
incendiary bomb /ɪnˈsɛndɪərɪ bɔm/ noun a bomb designed to set buildings alight
incendiary bullet, incendiary round noun a bullet which is designed to ignite after firing and burn in flight, so that the fall of shot can be observed. Also called tracer bullet
inch /ɪntʃ/ noun a unit of linear measure corresponding to 2.54 centimetres (NOTE: Inch is sometimes represented as in (8in), or as (‘8’))
incident /ˈɪnsɪdənt/ noun a significant event (such as an accident, explosion, terrorist attack, etc.) • Three people were injured in the incident. • The observers reported no further incidents during the night.
incident control point /ˈɪnsɪdənt kɔntrəl ˈpɔɪnt/ noun full form of incident control point
incite /ɪnˈsaɪt/ verb to encourage other people to do something (normally acts of disorder) • He was inciting the crowd to attack the police.
incision /ɪnˈsɪʃən/ noun a cut or incision
inclusive /ɪnˈkluːsɪv/ adjective including • Our area is inclusive of the main road. Compare exclusive
incoming /ɪnˈkɔmɪŋ/ noun artillery fire which is landing or about to land on your position
incompetent /ɪnˈkɒmptɪnt/ adjective unable to perform your role satisfactorily (due to lack of knowledge or motivation)
incursion /ɪnˈkɜːʃən/ noun an act of entering the territory of another state, without the authorization or permission of that state (usually for offensive purposes)
indecent assault /ɪnˈdiːsənt ˈɔːsəlt/ noun a sexual assault on a person which does not go as far as actual rape • An allegation of indecent assault has been made against you. (NOTE: The verb form is to indecently assault – Many of the female prisoners had been indecently assaulted.)
indecisive /ɪnˈdɛsɪv/ adjective 1. unable to make decisions easily • He is very indecisive. 2. having no clear result • The battle was indecisive.
indent noun /ˈɪndənt/ an official request for ammunition, equipment, rations, etc. • All indents are to be submitted by 2200hrs. • verb /ˈɪndənt/ to submit an official request for ammunition, equipment, rations, etc. • He indentured for winter clothing.
India /ˈɪndɪə/ noun the ninth letter of the phonetic alphabet (I)
indicate /ˈɪndɪkeɪt/ verb 1. to draw someone’s attention to something • He indicated a tree on the skyline. 2. (of vehicles) to signal the intention to turn left or right • The lorry indicated left.
indication /ˈɪndɪkeɪʃən/ noun an act of indicating something
indicator /ˈɪndɪkeɪtər/ noun an instrument which shows something
indocator lights /ˈɪndɪkeɪtər ˈlɒts/ plural noun a flashing light on a motor vehicle, which indicates that the driver is turning to the left or right
indirect fire /ɪnˈdɜːrkərt ˈfaɪər/ noun fire of weapons which are not pointed directly at the target (i.e. artillery or mortar fire)
indirect weapon /ɪnˈdɜːrkərt ˈweɪpən/ noun a weapon which is not pointed directly at its target (e.g. an artillery piece or mortar)
indiscriminate /ɪnˈdɪskrɪmɪnət/ adjective not aimed at a particular target, or not done according to a plan
indoctrinate /ɪnˈdɔkrɪnət/ verb to teach political, religious or nationalist ideas in such a way that a person accepts them without question
inf  abbreviation infantry

infantry /ɪnˈfæntri/ noun an exponent of infantry tactics. Of course, the infantry among us may disagree with me on this point.

infantry fighting vehicle /ɪnˈfæntrɪˈfɪtʃərɪvɛl/ noun an armoured personnel carrier, fitted with a gun or cannon, which is designed to transport a section of infantry around the battlefield and provide them with fire support once they are fighting on foot. Abbr IFV

infantryman /ɪnˈfæntrɪmən/ noun an infantry soldier. British infantrymen are famous for their discipline.

infect /ɪnˈfɛkt/ verb to transmit a disease or illness. The whole arm soon became infected.

infectious /ɪnˈfɛktʃəs/ adjective (of diseases) capable of being transmitted to other people. This strain of flu is highly infectious.

inferior /ɪnˈfɪəriər/ adjective 1. of a lower rank than another person. A corporal is inferior to a sergeant. 2. smaller or weaker than something else. The enemy artillery had an inferior rate of fire to our guns. 3. of worse quality than something else. Our boots are inferior to those of the Germans. a noun a person who holds a lower rank than another person. He always treats his inferiors with respect. Compare superior

infestation team /ˌɪnfɛstəˈʃənt/ noun a small special forces grouping, which operates behind enemy lines, directing artillery fire and air strikes.

infiltrate /ɪnˈfɪltreɪt/ verb to move into enemy territory in small groups by different routes, in order to avoid detection, and then to join up in order to attack an objective in force. Compare exfiltrate

infiltration /ɪnˈfɪltreɪʃən/ noun an act of infiltrating. Compare exfiltration

inflammable /ɪnˈfæməbl/ adjective easy to set on fire. Many sailors were badly burnt because their clothing was made of inflammable material.

infect /ɪnˈfɛkt/ verb to do something unpleasant to another person. The bombing inflicted heavy casualties on the civilian population. a noun the worst defeat of the war on the enemy. (NOTE: This verb is usually followed by on or upon.)

in force /ɪn fɔːs/ phrase 1. in large numbers. Enemy armour is crossing the border in force near Landschat. 2. valid. The regulations have been in force since Tuesday.

inform /ɪnˈfɔːm/ verb 1. to tell someone something. He informed me of the change in the timings. 2. to inform on someone to tell the authorities about another person’s illegal activities. He informed on his neighbour.

information /ɪnˈfɔːmeɪʃn/ noun facts (whether accurate or not) which are passed on from one person to another.

information blackout /ˌɪnˈfɔːmeɪʃnˈblaʊkəʊt/ noun the act of withholding all information from the media and general public (usually for reasons of security)

information warfare /ˌɪnˈfɔːmeɪʃnˈwɔːrfɛr/ noun the act of hacking into an enemy’s computer network in order to disrupt it (e.g. by sowing a virus) or to obtain information or to insert false information.

informative /ɪnˈfɔːrətɪv/ adjective relating to a form of red light which is used in some night-viewing devices because it is invisible to the naked eye. Abbr IR

comment: Night-viewing devices which utilize infrared light are de-
inshore

injure /ˈɪnʤər/ verb to do physical harm to someone
injury /ˈɪnʤəri/ noun physical harm to a person
inland /ˈɪnland/ adverb away from the sea ○ strong enemy forces are moving inland.
inlet /ˈɪnliːt/ noun a place where a lake or the sea cuts into the land
INMARSAT /ˈɪnˌmɑːrəsæt/ noun an insecure satellite telephone system. Full form international maritime satellite
inoculate /ˌɪnəˈkjuːlət/ verb to treat someone with a vaccine or serum, in order to prevent them contracting a disease
inoculation /ˌɪnəˈkjuːləʃən/ noun an act of inoculating someone
inoperable /ˈɪnəpərəbəl/ adjective impossible to carry out ○ The plan is now inoperable.
inoperative /ˈɪnəpərətɪv/ adjective not working properly ○ All our communications equipment was made inoperative by the nuclear explosion.
insect repellent /ˈɪnsekt ˈreplələnt/ noun a liquid designed to stop insects biting a person’s skin
insecure /ˈɪnstəˈkjuər/ adjective 1. (of objects) not properly attached or closed ○ Your magazine is insecure. 2. (of locations) undefended ○ The bridge is insecure. 3. (of communications) not coded or scrambled ○ The enemy is equipped with insecure radios.
insert /ˈɪnˌzɜːrt/ verb 1. to put one thing into another ○ He inserted a new battery into his torch. 2. to move into an area of operations ○ We will insert by helicopter. Compare extract
insertion /ˈɪnˌzɜːʃən/ noun an act of inserting. Compare extraction
in-service /ˌɪnˌsɜːvəs/ adjective currently being operated
in-service support /ˌɪnˌsɜːvəs ˈsəpərt/ noun support which is organised when in service
inshore /ˈɪnʃɔr/ adjective designed for use close to the shore ○ an inshore fishing boat ■ adverb 1. at sea but close to the shore ○ The boat was anchored in-

infrastructure /ˈɪnfəstrəktrə/ noun basic amenities and facilities upon which a modern society relies in order to function properly (such as electricity, roads and railways, telecommunications, water, etc.)
inhabitant /ˈɪnəˈhæbitənt/ noun a person who lives in a place ○ The original inhabitants were removed from their villages.
initial nuclear radiation /ˈɪnʃərəl ˈnjʊklər riˈdeɪʃən/ noun the harmful rays of energy given off by a nuclear explosion
initial terminal guidance /ˈɪnʃərəl tɛrˈmɪnəl ˈgɑrdəns/ noun US full form of ITG
initiate /ˈɪnʃeɪt/ verb 1. to start or introduce something ○ The commanding officer was forced to initiate legal proceedings. 2. to activate an explosive or pyrotechnic device ○ The Claymores were initiated electronically.
initiative /ˈɪnʃətɪv/ noun 1. the ability to assess a situation and take action, without asking for guidance ○ He lacks initiative. 2. the ability to make the enemy conform to your own movements ○ We must not allow the enemy to regain the initiative. 3. to lose the initiative to stop being able to force the enemy to react to your actions
COMMENT: The initiative is usually held by whichever side is attacking. As soon as the attackers are stopped and forced to defend themselves, they are considered to have lost the initiative.
inject /ɪnˈdʒekt/ verb to put a liquid drug or vaccine into a person’s body, using a syringe or syreette ○ I injected him with morphine ten minutes ago.
injection /ɪnˈdʒeʃən/ noun an act of injecting ○ He was given an injection of morphine.
COMMENT: There are three types of injection: subcutaneous (SC) = under the skin; intramuscular (IM) = into a muscle; intravenous (IV) = into a vein.
insignia /ˈɪnsɪgnə/ noun a decorative symbol (used to denote the identity of a unit, specialist qualification, rank, etc.)

inspect /ɪnˈspekt/ verb 1. (of people) to examine a person in order to ensure that he is correctly dressed or that he has all his equipment. The general inspected his troops. 2. to examine something in order to ensure that it is in working order. He inspected his platoon’s weapons. 3. (in the event of an accident or malfunction) to examine something in order to look for defects or signs of damage. The vehicle was inspected for defects. 4. to examine a weapon in order to ensure that it is clean or unloaded. Upon inspecting the man’s rifle he found a live round in the chamber.

inspection /ɪnˈspekʃən/ noun an act of inspecting a person or thing. The soldiers stood to attention ready for inspection.

installation /ɪnˈstæləʃən/ noun a building, complex or other permanent structure, which contains some form of technical equipment (such as communications equipment, radar, weapons system, etc.). Our target was the radar installations along the north coast.

instruct /ɪnˈstrʌkt/ verb 1. to teach. He instructs soldiers in the use of the bayonet. 2. to tell someone to do something. I instructed him to clean his rifle.

instruction /ɪnˈstrʌkʃən/ noun 1. an act of teaching something. We have two periods of map-reading instruction today. 2. an act of telling someone to do something. He did not carry out my instructions. 3. written directions telling someone how to do something. The instructions are printed on the side of the container.

instructor /ɪnˈstrʌktər/ noun a teacher.

insubordinate /ˌɪnsəˈbədɪnət/ adjective 1. unwilling to carry out orders. 2. unwilling to show respect to your superiors. He was quite insubordinate and had to be restrained.

insubordination /ˌɪnsəˈbədɪnərɪən/ noun failure or refusal to carry out an order. Showing lack of respect for a superior.

insurgency /ɪnˈsɜrʒənsi/ noun armed resistance to the established government or foreign domination.

insurgent /ɪnˈsɜrʒənt/ noun a person who uses force to resist the established government or foreign domination. rebel, revolutionary

insurrection /ɪnˈsɜərʃən/ noun armed resistance to the established government or foreign domination. insurgency, rebellion, revolt, revolution

int /ɪnt/ abbreviation intelligence

intake /ɪnˈteɪk/ noun a place where air, fuel or water is drawn into a machine.

integrate /ɪnˈteɡrət/ verb to link up several things to form a whole.

integrated logistic support /ɪnˈteɡrətəd ˈlɔɡɪstɪk ˈsərˈpɔrt/ noun support which is integrated into all parts of the project as it is being developed.

intel /ˈɪntəl/ abbreviation US intelligence

intelligence /ɪnˈtelɪdʒəns/ noun 1. any information which may be useful (especially information about the enemy). We have received some fresh intelligence on the enemy artillery. 2. people and equipment involved in the gathering, analysis and dissemination of intelligence. We are feeding false information to the enemy’s intelligence.

COMMENT: The department responsible for intelligence in a headquarters is known as G2.

intelligence officer /ɪnˈtelɪdʒənsi ˈɔfɪsər/ noun an officer responsible for intelligence. Abbr IO

intelligence summary /ɪnˈtelɪdʒənsi ˈsʌmərɪ/ noun a simple report on the enemy’s locations, strength, organization, intentions, etc., during a specific period of time. Abbr INTSUM

intend /ɪnˈtend/ verb to decide to do something.
| intent | /ɪnˈtɛnt/ | noun US | a document issued to subordinate commanders, explaining a commander’s idea of how a future operation is likely to proceed |
| intention | /ɪnˈtenʃən/ | noun | what a person has decided to do ○ We do not know the enemy’s intentions. |
| intercede | /ˌɪntəˈsɪd/ | verb | to enter a dispute in order to support another person or group ○ The priest tried to intercede on behalf of the young men. |
| intercept | /ˌɪntəˈsɛpt/ | verb 1. | to meet up with or catch persons or vehicles as they move from one place to another ○ We intend to intercept them at the river. ○ Two squadrons of fighters were sent to intercept the bombers. 2. to locate and listen to another person’s radio transmissions ○ The message was intercepted. n noun an enemy message which has been intercepted ○ Here is a transcript of our last intercept. |
| interception | /ˌɪntəˈsɛpʃən/ | noun 1. | the act of intercepting a person or vehicle 2. the act of locating and listening to another person’s radio transmission; the people who locate and listen to another person’s radio transmissions ○ These countermeasures are designed to confuse the enemy interception. |
| interceptor | /ˌɪntəˈsɛptər/ | noun | a fighter aircraft which is capable of flying great distances in order to intercept and engage enemy aircraft |
| interchangeability | /ˌɪntərˈɪnɡəlɪtɪ/ | noun | being able to be exchanged one for another |
| interchangeable | /ˌɪntərˈɪnɡəbl/ | adjective | possible to exchange one for another ○ The two parts are interchangeable. |
| intercom | /ɪntəˈkɒm/ | noun | an internal telecommunication system within an aircraft, ship or vehicle allowing crew members to speak to each other ○ The intercom is normally incorporated into the radio system. |
| intercontinental ballistic missile | /ˌɪntəkɒntɪnent(ə)l/ | noun | a guided missile which flies from one continent to another and ends its flight in a ballistic descent. Abbr ICBM. ○ ballistic missile |
| interdict | /ɪntəˈdɪkt/ | verb | to deny the enemy the use of something ○ The air strikes were intended to interdict the enemy’s supply lines. |
| interdiction | /ˌɪntəˈdɪkʃən/ | noun | the act of denying the enemy the use of something (typically, air attacks on enemy reinforcements and supply columns as they move towards the battle area) ○ Our principal role is the interdiction of the enemy railway network. |
| interfere | /ˌɪntəˈfɜːr/ | verb 1. | to involve oneself in another person’s activity without being asked ○ He is always interfering in the running of my platoon. 2. to interfere with to obstruct or hinder ○ These air strikes are designed to interfere with the enemy’s supply system. |
| interference | /ˌɪntərˈfɜːrəns/ | noun 1. | an act of interfering 2. the obstruction of a radio signal by other radio waves |
| interior | /ˈɪntrɪəriə/ | noun | the part of a country which is not close to its coastline or borders |
| interior lines | /ˈɪntrɪəriərˈlɛnz/ | plural noun | routes available in territory which is protected by the forward and flank positions of an army or other large tactical grouping ○ The general failed to take advantage of his interior lines. ○ COMMENT: Good interior lines enable a commander to move troops directly from one part of his line to another over comparatively short distances, while enemy forces may have to travel a considerable distance around his perimeter in order to redeploy against him. Of course, on the modern battlefield, he would need air and electronic superiority to enjoy this advantage. |
| interlocking arcs of fire | /ˌɪntəlkəlɪŋ/ | noun | a situation in which a weapon’s arc of fire overlaps with that of its neighbour |
| intermediate staging base | /ˌɪntəˈmeɪdɪət/ | noun | the full form of ISB |
| intern | /ɪnˈtɜːn/ | verb | to confine a person in custody (usually for reasons of national security rather than because... |
enemy aliens.

objective

battalions are engaged in internal security duties.

internal security /ɪnˈteɪnəl sɪkˈɜːrəti/ noun a state's use of its armed forces (usually in support of its civil police) to maintain or restore law and order within its own territory. Several battalions are engaged in internal security duties.

international maritime satellite /ɪntəˈnæʃənl məˈrɜːrtɛm səˈtɛlət/ noun full form of INMARSAT

interment /ɪnˈteɪnment/ noun an act of interning people. The government has ordered the internment of all enemy aliens.

COMMENT: Internment applies to civilians; military personnel would be treated as prisoners of war.

interment camp /ɪnˈteɪnment kæmp/ noun a secure location where people are interned.

interoperability /ɪntəˌpɜːrəˈbɪləti/ noun being able to operate in the place of something else

interoperable /ɪntəˈpɜːrəb(ə)l/ adj. able to operate in place of something else

interpreter /ɪnˌtɜːprɪtər/ noun a person who acts as a translator in a conversation between two people who do not understand each other’s language

interrogate /ɪnˈterəɡeɪt/ verb to ask a series of questions in a systematic way, in order to obtain information.

COMMENT: This word normally implies a confrontational situation (as when an intelligence officer is interrogating a prisoner). You interrogate an enemy, but you would debrief someone from your own side.

interrogation /ɪnˌterəˈɡeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an act of interrogating. Under interrogation he revealed the location of the camp.

intersection /ɪnˈtɛrsektʃən/ noun US a junction. Turn left at the next intersection.

interval /ɪnˈtɛrvəl(ə)/ noun a space between two persons or groups or vehicles. I want intervals of twenty-five metres between vehicles.

intervasion /ˌɪntəˈveɪʒən/ noun invading a state’s sovereign territory with the reluctant approval of that state’s government in order to deal with hostile elements within the population. Full form intervention & invasion

intervehicular information system /ˌɪntərˌvɛhɪˈkjuːlər ɪnˈfərəmənʃ(ə)n ˈsɪstəm/ noun full form of IVIS

intervene /ɪntəˈvɪn/ verb to enter a dispute between two other parties. We were forced to intervene when they attacked the refugees.

intervention /ɪntrəˈvenʃən/ noun an act of intervening. There is a strong possibility of foreign intervention.

intimate support tank /ɪnˈtɪmət səˈpɔːt tæŋk/ noun a tank which is attached to an infantry platoon for a specific phase of an attack and which fights alongside that platoon throughout the action.

intimidate /ɪnˈtɪmdeɪt/ verb to use threats in order to make someone do or not do something. The guerrillas are trying to intimidate the local people.

intimidation /ɪnˈtɪmdəʃ(ə)n/ noun the use of threats in order to make someone do or not do something. The guerrillas use intimidation to gain the support of the local people.

intraregional /ɪntrəˈriːdʒənəl/ adj. inside a region

intraregional mobility /ɪntrəˈriːdʒənəl ˈmɔːbiːlɪtɪ/ noun the ability of forces to move rapidly inside a given region.

intruder /ɪnˈtrʌdər/ noun 1. a person who enters an area or building without the authority or right to do so. 2. an unidentified person, vehicle or aircraft which enters your area of responsibility.

intruder alarm /ɪnˈtrʌdər ˈɑːlərm/ noun a device designed to detect movement.
INTSUM /ˈɪntʃəm/, intsum abbreviation intelligence summary

invade /ɪnˈvɛrd/ verb to enter another state’s territory with military forces, in order to conquer it. Troops are massed on the border ready to invade. The country was invaded by rebel armies from the south.

invasion /ɪnˈvɜːʒən/ noun an act of invading. The invasion of Britain by the Normans in 1066. They planned the invasion of the island.

invest /ɪnˈvest/ verb to surround an area or town occupied by an enemy force, in order to prevent its being reinforced and resupplied and also to prevent any withdrawal, usually with the ultimate intention of capturing the place or of compelling the enemy force inside it to surrender. Our main objective is to invest Port Stanley.

investigation /ɪnˈvestɪgeɪʃən/ noun an act of investing a town or fortress.

isege IO abbreviation intelligence officer

IR abbreviation infrared

Irish Defence Force /ˌɪə(r)ʃ ˈdəf(ə)ns/ noun the army of the Republic of Ireland (Eire). (NOTE: The Irish Defence Force should not be confused with the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which is a terrorist organization seeking to unite the British-controlled province of Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland (Eire).)

iron bomb /ˈaɪrən ‘bom/ noun a bomb which is simply dropped onto a target by an aircraft. Ballistic bomb, general purpose bomb

iron ration /ˈaɪrən ˈræʃən/ noun a small pack of food carried by a soldier in case of emergency

iron sight /ˈaɪrən saɪt/ noun a simple sight, forming part of the basic design of the weapon and consisting of a rear sight and a fore-sight, which are lined up with each other and the point of aim

irregular /ɪrˈɛɡjʊlər/ adjective not part of the regular army. The refugees were attacked by irregular troops.

ISO container /ˌaɪsəʊ kənˈteɪnər/ noun a huge metal container, which is designed to be fitted to a lorry or loaded onto a ship, in order to transport goods overseas. We lived in ISO containers until the camp had been built.
isolate /'əsəleɪt/ verb 1. to prevent movement to or from a location ○ The village has been isolated by snow. 2. to surround a unit so that it can neither retreat, nor be reinforced or supported ○ The enemy battalion was isolated and then destroyed. ○ cut off
isolated /'əsələtɪd/ adjective far from anyone or anything else ○ There are a few isolated villages in the hills. ○ The platoon was left isolated when the rest of the company withdrew.
issue /ɪˈʃuː/ noun an act of supplying servicemen with equipment, supplies, etc. ○ There will be an issue of rations at 1600hrs. ○ on issue provided by the logistical system ○ These boots are no longer on issue. ● verb to supply equipment, supplies, etc. ○ Ammunition will be issued at 1600hrs.

isthmus /'ɪsməs/ noun a narrow strip of land connecting two larger pieces of land
item /'aɪtəm/ noun an object or thing (especially one of several different things)
ITG /'aɪtɪg/ noun US a task carried out by pathfinders (i.e. advance reconnaissance, security and marking of a DZ or LZ or beach-landing site). Full form initial terminal guidance
IVIS /'aɪvɪs/ noun an American-designed computer system fitted to armoured fighting vehicles (e.g. Abrams M-1 tank), which shows the current locations of all other vehicles in the subunit and their ammunition and fuel states and which also has an e-mail facility for the transmission of orders. Full form intervehicular information system
JULIET - Jj

J1 /dʒet/ 'wɛn/ noun the department of a joint headquarters (JHQ) responsible for personnel

J2 /dʒet 'tu/ noun the department of a joint headquarters (JHQ) responsible for intelligence

J3 /dʒet 'brɪt/ noun the department of a joint headquarters (JHQ) responsible for operations and training

J4 /dʒet 'foʊ/ noun the department of a joint headquarters (JHQ) responsible for materiel

J5 /dʒet 'faʊv/ noun the department of a joint headquarters (JHQ) responsible for civil/military relations

JAAT /dʒet/ abbreviation joint air attack team

Jack /dʒæk/ noun a machine which is used to raise a vehicle or other heavy object a short distance off the ground

JAG /dʒæg/ noun US a legal department for the US armed forces. Full form judge adjutant general

Jaguar /dʒæɡwɜɹ/ noun a British/French-designed attack aircraft

Jam /dʒæm/ verb 1. to block the enemy’s radio transmissions by causing interference ○ We are being jammed. 2. (of automatic weapons) to stop firing because of a mechanical failure ○ The machine-gun jammed.

Jamming /dʒæmɪŋ/ noun an act of blocking the enemy’s radio transmissions by causing interference

Jankers /dʒæŋksəz/ noun extra fatigue duty given as a punishment (especially unpleasant tasks: e.g. cleaning out latrines) (slang)

Javelin /dʒævəlɪn/ noun 1. a British-designed hand-held optically-tracked surface-to-air missile (SAM) 2. an American-designed precision-guided anti-tank missile

JDAM /dʒeɪdæm/ noun an aircraft bomb which guides itself onto a target using the GPS system. Full form joint direct attack munition

JEEP /dʒiːp/ noun any type of light general purpose all-terrain military vehicle

COMMENT: The original jeep was an American-designed vehicle used during the Second World War. The name is derived from GP (= general purpose).

Jeopardize /dʒəˈpɜːdɪzaɪz/, jeopardise verb to place in a dangerous situation ○ Your actions have jeopardized the entire mission.

Jerry can /dʒəˈrɪkən/ noun a rectangular container for transporting fuel or water

Jet /dʒɛt/ noun 1. a stream of fire, gas or water sent out under high pressure 2. an aircraft powered by jet propulsion ○ Enemy jets bombed our positions.

Jet engine /dʒetˈɛnɪŋ/ noun an engine which uses jet propulsion

Jet fighter /dʒetˈfɪtər/ noun a fighter plane that is powered by a jet engine or engines

Jet propulsion /dʒet prəˈpɔːʃ(ə)n/ noun forward movement caused by the backward ejection of a jet of gas at high speed

Jettison /dʒetˈsɪn(ə)n/ verb to throw objects out of an aircraft, ship or vehicle because they are no longer needed or dangerous or in order to lighten the load ○ The aircraft was forced to jettison its bombs.

JHQ abbreviation joint headquarters
jigger

jigger /ˈdʒɪɡər/ noun chigger

jihad /ˈhɪd/ noun in Arabic, a holy war, waged by Muslims to defend the Islamic faith. • mujahideen

Jock /dʒɔk/ noun a Scottish soldier (informal)

join /dʒɔin/ verb 1. to become a part of something • She joined the army. 2. to come together • They joined us in the briefing room. 3. to connect two objects to each other • He joined the wires together.

joint /dʒɔint/ adjective with two or more services working together, sharing a common purpose

joint air attack team /dʒɔint ɛərˈækt tɛm/ noun an American doctrine for a coordinated attack by aircraft (both from the air force and army aviation assets), artillery and naval gunfire. Abbr JAAT

joint direct attack munition /dʒɔint dɪˈɑrtɪk mjuˈʃən/ noun full form of JDAM

joint headquarters /dʒɔint ˈhɛdoʊərətəs/ noun the headquarters of a joint force, with staff officers and other personnel from all three arms (navy, army and air force). Abbr JHQ

joint operation /dʒɔint ˈɒpərəʃən/ noun an operation involving two or more different branches of the armed forces

joint-service /dʒɔint ˈsɜrvis/ adjective performed and financed together by two or more military services

joint special operations task force /dʒɔint ˈspɛʃəl əˌtæsk fɔrς/ noun full form of JSOTF

joint surveillance and targeting attack radar system /dʒɔint ˈsɜrveiləns əˌtækt ˈrɛrdəs/ noun full form of JSTARS

joint task force /dʒɔint ˈtæsk fɔrς/ noun a large combined arms grouping involving different branches of the armed forces formed for a specific operation or campaign. Abbr JTF (NOTE: If all services are involved in an operation, then they are not specified individually; if only two services are involved jointly, then they are specified: joint Navy-Air Force manoeuvres.)

join up /dʒɔin ʌp/ verb to join the armed forces • He joined up when he left school.

Jolly Green Giant /dʒɔli ˈɡriːn ɡɪnt/ noun an unofficial nickname for the American-designed CH-53 heavy transport helicopter

joystick /dʒɔɪˈstɪk/ noun a stick used to steer an aircraft

JSOTF /dʒoʊtʃ/ noun US an elite unit of special forces personnel designed to deploy (usually by helicopter) at short notice and carry out specialised military tasks. Full form joint special operations task force

JSTARS /dʒoʊtərs/ noun American-designed technology used by special aircraft to detect moving ground targets at long range. Full form joint surveillance and targeting attack radar system

JTF abbreviation joint task force

judge adjutant general /dʒʌdʒ əˈdʒʌnt ˈdʒiːnəl/ noun US the tenth letter of the phonetic alphabet (J)

Juliet /ˈdʒuːlɪt/ noun the tenth letter of the phonetic alphabet (J)

Juliet /ˈdʒuːlɪt/ US spelling of Juliet

jump /dʒʌmp/ noun a parachute drop • He was injured on the last jump.

jump-jet /dʒʌmp dʒiːt/ noun a lighter aircraft with vertical take-off capability (e.g. Harrier, YAK-38, YAK-41)

jump-leads /dʒʌmp lɛdz/ plural noun two lengths of electrical cable, which are used to convey electrical charge from one fully-charged vehicle battery to another which has lost its charge

jumpmaster /dʒʌmpˈmɔːstər/ noun an aircrew member who controls para-troopers as they jump out of an aircraft

jump-start /dʒʌmp ˈstɑːrt/ verb to start a vehicle, whose battery has lost its charge, by pushing, towing or using jump-starts
junction /dʒəŋkʃən/ noun a place where two or more roads or railway lines meet each other
jungle /dʒʊŋgəl/ noun an area (in the tropics) which is covered by dense vegetation
junior /dʒuːniə/ adjective of low rank
the Junior Service the Royal Air Force
junior non-commissioned officer /dʒuːniə nənˈkəmʃənd ˈofɪsər/ noun a corporal or lance corporal
junior ranks /dʒuːniə ˈräŋks/ plural noun junior non-commissioned officers and privates of a unit
junior technician /dʒuːniə tekˈniʃən/ noun a non-commissioned rank in the air-force (equivalent to an experienced or well-qualified private soldier in the army). Compare senior
junk /dʒʌŋk/ noun a traditional Chinese sailing ship
jurisdiction /dʒʊəˈrɪʃən/ noun legal or other authority
We have jurisdiction over this area.
KILO - Kk

k /kɪ/ abbreviation knot(s) 
K noun a kilometre (used in speech) a The village is 3 Ks beyond the river.
Ka-50 /keɪˈfɪt/ noun a Soviet-designed attack helicopter (Note: known to NATO as Hokum)
Kalashnikov /kəlɑʃˈnɪkəv/ noun a Soviet-designed 7.62mm assault weapon
karst /kɑːst/ noun hilly terrain with crags and outcrops of limestone
Katyuša /katjuʃə/ noun a Soviet-designed multiple rocket launcher, mounted on a truck
KE abbreviation kinetic energy
keel /kiː/ noun a structure forming the base of a boat or ship
keg /kɛɡ/ noun a small metal barrel, designed to hold beer a The device consisted of several beer kegs filled with homemade explosives.
kelp /kɛlp/ noun seaweed with large brown leaves which grows in a dense mass close to the shore
kennel /ˈkɛn(ə)l/ noun accommodation for dogs
kerosene /ˈkɛrəsən/ noun a fuel distilled from petroleum, which is suitable for aviation fuel and also for heating and lamps. Also known as paraffin oil
Kevlar /ˈkɛvlər/ trademark a trademark for a synthetic material used in the manufacture of body armour, helmets, and some types of vehicle armour
key /kiː/ adjective of vital importance a noun 1. an instrument used to operate a lock or to start an engine or motor a I don't have a key for this door. 2. an explanatory list of symbols which are shown on a map a The key is written in English and German. 3. a system for interpreting a code a We obtained a key to the enemy's codes. 4. a solution to a problem a The village of Ladna is the key to the enemy's defences.
key point /kiːˈpɔɪnt/ noun a location or installation which is of strategic importance (such as docks, government or other administrative building, power installation, etc.) a Commandos will be used to seize the key points. Abbr KP
key terrain /ˈkiː tɛˈrɛn/ noun ground which you must occupy or control in order to achieve your mission
KFOR /ˈkɛfɔr/ noun the NATO-led international peacekeeping force in Kosovo. Full form Kosovo Force
kg abbreviation kilogram
khaki /ˈkɑːki/ noun a brownish-green colour used for army uniforms and vehicle camouflage
kHz abbreviation kilohertz
KIA abbreviation killed in action
kill /kɪl/ noun the killing of an enemy soldier or destruction of an enemy aircraft, vehicle or ship, when viewed as a result a The patrol reported three kills. 
verb to deprive a person or animal of life a Two of the hostages were killed in the gun battle. a Their aim is to kill as many enemy soldiers as possible.
killed in action /ˈkɪld ɪn ˈeɪʃən/ adjective killed during an engagement. Abbr KIA
killing /ˈkɪlɪŋ/ noun an act of killing a person or animal
killing area, killing ground, killing zone noun an area of ground selected as a place to destroy an enemy force
saw. replaced again. The participants then moved for a few seconds and then ered with a blanket. The blanket is re-
jects are placed on the ground and cov-
tion skills; a selection of different ob-
activity designed to develop observa-
platoon’s kit was left behind on the

Also called order to punch its way through armour. which is fired at a very high velocity, in depleted uranium or tungsten carbide), jectile, made of a heavy metal (such as

kinetic energy round /kt,netk 'enadʒi, round/ noun an anti-tank projectile, made of a heavy metal (such as depleted uranium or tungsten carbide), which is fired at a very high velocity, in order to punch its way through armour. Also called KE round. 1. long-rod penetrator

King’s Commission /'kɪŋz kə 'miʃ(ə)n/ noun  Queen’s Commission
King’s Regulations /,'kɪŋz ,regju 'leɪʃ(ə)n/ plural noun  Queen’s Reg-

kilt /kilt/ noun a garment, similar to a woman’s skirt, traditionally worn by some Scottish and Irish regiments

Kipling, in which the above exercise was used in the training of spies. It can be made as simple or as complex as you like, and is extremely worth-
while, especially if practised on a reg-
ular basis.

kinetic energy /kaɪ,netɪk ˈenədʒi/ noun  energy produced by an object moving at high speed. Abbr KE

kinetic energy round /,kɪ,netɪk ˈenədʒɪ, roun/ noun an anti-tank projectile, made of a heavy metal (such as depleted uranium or tungsten carbide), which is fired at a very high velocity, in order to punch its way through armour. Also called KE round. 1 long-rod penetrator

King’s Commission /ˈkɪŋz kə ˈmiʃ(ə)n/ noun  Queen’s Commission
King’s Regulations /ˌkɪŋz ,rɛˈʒuˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ plural noun  Queen’s Regulations

kit /kɪt/ noun 1. equipment. All the platoon’s kit was left behind on the truck. 2. Make sure that all your kit is se-
cure. 2. a set of tools or other articles used for a specific purpose (e.g. cleaning kit, decontamination kit, first-aid kit, etc.)

kitbag /ˈkɪtˌbæɡ/ noun a long cylindrical canvas bag, for storing spare clothing and other personal effects. 1. bivvy bag, sleeping-bag

COMMENT: Kitbags are normally used for any additional clothing which is not carried in the rucksack.

Kiwi /ˈkiːwi/ noun  a soldier from New Zealand (informal)

klaxon /ˈklaɪkɒn/ tdmk a trademark for a noise-making warning device, similar to a vehicle’s horn

klick /ˈklɪk/ noun a kilometre (informal) 1. It’s three and a half klicks to the RV. 2. click

km abbreviation kilometre(s)

knife /ˈnætʃ/ noun an instrument used for cutting or stabbing, with a sharp metal blade fixed in a handle. He silenced the sentry with a knife. 1. verb to kill or wound with a knife. He was knifed while he slept.

knock out /ˈnɒk ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to destroy a vehicle. We knocked out three tanks. 2. to make someone unconscious. He was knocked out by the blast from a shell.

knoll /nɒl/ noun a very small hill

knot /nɒt/ noun a unit of speed for a ship or aircraft, corresponding to one nautical mile per hour. The patrol boat was travelling at 15 knots or was doing 15 knots. Abbr k

Kormoran /ˌkɔrˈmɔrən/ noun  a Ger-
man-designed anti-ship missile

Kosovo Force /ˌkɒsəˈvɔːrˌfɔːs/ noun full form of KFOR

KP abbreviation key point

KPH abbreviation kilometres per hour

kukri /ˈkʊkri/ noun a fighting knife carried by Gurkha soldiers
LIMA - LI

L /el/ noun a type of blister agent. Full form dichloro (2-chloro-vynyl) arsine. Also called Lewisite

laager /lærɡ/ laager /lærɡ/ noun an encampment of armoured vehicles o The laager was attacked during the night. » verb to form a laager o We will laager at grid 417339. » laager

LAC abbreviation leading aircraftman

LAC-C2 noun a command vehicle

LAD /el et ˈdiː/ noun a detachment of vehicle mechanics from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), which is attached to an infantry battalion or armoured regiment on a permanent basis. Full form light aid detachment

lager /læɡ/ noun another spelling of laager

lake /læk/ noun a large area of water surrounded by land

lamp /læmp/ noun a device which produces light

lance /lɑːns/ noun a long spear used by cavalry soldiers

Lance /lɑːns/ noun an American-designed tactical surface-to-air missile

lance-bombardier /ˈlɑːns bɔmbərdiər/ noun a lance-corporal in the artillery. Abbr L/Bdr

lance-corporal /ˈlɑːns kɔːprəl/ noun the lowest non-commissioned officer rank in the army or marines (usually second in command (2IC) of a section or equivalent-sized grouping). Abbr L/Cpl

lance-corporal of horse /ˈlɑːns kɔːprəl əv ˈhɔːs/ noun a corporal in the Household Cavalry. Abbr L/Coh

lancer /ˈlɑːnsər/ noun a cavalry soldier armed with a long spear or lance (historical)

COMMENT: Some armoured regiments still retain their historical title of Lancers.

Lancer /ˈlɑːnsər/ noun an American-designed B-1 long-range strategic bomber aircraft

lance rank /ˈlɑːns ræŋk/ noun an army rank between private and corporal

lance-sergeant /ˈlɑːns ˈsərdʒənt/ noun a corporal in the Brigade of Guards. Abbr L/Sgt

land /lænd/ noun a solid part of the earth’s surface (i.e. not the sea) » verb 1. to bring a flying aircraft back onto the ground o The squadron has just landed. 2. to leave a ship and go back onto dry land o We will start landing tomorrow morning. 3. to deploy troops from aircraft or ships o The invasion force landed near Bremen. o Enemy paratroopers are landing to the north of Arnhem.

land component /ˈlænd kəmˈpɔnənt/ noun same as ground component

Land Cruiser /ˈlænd kruːsər/ noun a Japanese-designed all-terrain vehicle similar to a jeep

land forces /ˈlænd fɔːrzəz/ plural noun same as ground forces o Allied land forces drove the enemy back to the coast.

landform /ˈlændfɔːrm/ noun a natural physical feature of the earth’s surface, e.g., a valley, mountain, or plain

landing /ˈlændɪŋ/ noun 1. an act of landing an aircraft o Landing on the jungle airstrip was difficult. 2. an act of leaving a ship and going back onto dry
land ○ The landing took several hours.
3. a deployment of troops from aircraft or ships
landing craft ○/landing kraft/ noun a small flat-bottomed boat designed to move troops and vehicles from a transport ship to a beach (NOTE: The term craft is used for both singular and plural.)
landing craft air cushioned ○/landing kraft _ə _kɒj(_ə)_nd/ noun full form of LCAC
landing craft medium ○/landing kraft _mɪdɪəm/ noun full form of LCM
landing craft utility ○/landing kraft _ju:tɪlɪti/ noun full form of LCU
landing craft vehicle and personnel ○/landing kraft _vɪrɪk(_ə)_l an _pɑs(_ə)_i/ noun full form of LCU
landing craft logistics ○/landing kraft _lɒdʒɪstɪks/ noun full form of LSL
landing craft tank ○/landing kraft _tæŋk/ noun full form of LST
landing vehicle tracked personnel ○/landing _vɪrɪk(_ə)_l trækt _pɑs(_ə)_i/ noun full form of LVTP-7A1
landing zone ○/landing _zəʊn/ noun 1. an area of ground selected for the landing or pick-up of troops by helicopter 2. US an area of ground selected for the landing of troops by parachute ▶ abbr LZ
land-line ○/land lən/ noun a telephone system which operates through electrical cable placed on, under or above the ground ○ I will call you on land-line.
landmark ○/landmɑrk/ noun a distinctive natural or man-made feature, which can be used as a reference point or as an aid to navigation ○ It's easy to get lost when there are so few landmarks.
landmine ○/landmایn/ noun an explosive device which is buried in or placed on the surface of the ground, and is designed to detonate when a person steps on it or a vehicle drives over it. Also called mine
Landrover ○/landrəʊvə/ noun a British-designed all-terrain vehicle (similar to a jeep)
lane ○/lem/ noun 1. a narrow rural road ○ These lanes are not wide enough for tanks. 2. a cleared route through a minefield or other obstacle ○ The lane is marked with mine tape. 3. one of several parallel routes ○ The brigade advanced along three parallel lanes. 4. a recognized route for aircraft or ships ○ We must avoid the main shipping lanes.
lanyard ○/lənjəd/ noun 1. a cord used to attach a weapon or piece of equipment to a person's body 2. a coloured cord, worn around the shoulder in order to denote the wearer's rank, role or unit 3. a cord which is pulled in order to activate the firing mechanism of a gun
laser ○/leɪzə/ noun a device which projects a beam of intense light
laser-guided bomb, laser guided missile ○/leɪzə ’ɡɪdɪd, ’leɪzə _’ɡɪdɪd/ noun a bomb or missile designed to home in on a target which has been illuminated by a laser beam. Abbr LGB, LGM
laser range-finder ○/leɪzə ’reɪndɪ _’fɪndə/ noun a device which utilizes a laser beam in order to calculate the exact distance to an object
laser target designator ○/leɪzə ’tæɡɪt _’dezɪɡnətə/ noun a device which projects a laser beam onto a target in order to illuminate it for a laser-guided bomb or missile
lashings ○/leɪ(ə)zɪŋz/ plural noun ropes used to tie a cargo down
last light /ˈlaːst/ noun the time of day when it becomes completely dark
No move before last light.

Last Post /ˈlaːst/ ‘poʊst/ noun a bugle-call blown in barracks and bases at bedtime (usually around 2200hrs) and also at military funerals

latrine /ˈlaːtrɪn/ noun a toilet (especially one constructed in the field)

launch /ˈləʊntʃ/ noun 1. an act of launching a missile or rocket
The launch was delayed by 15 minutes.
2. a ceremony of placing a newly-built ship into the water for the first time
Are you attending the launch next week?
3. a small boat (especially one which is carried on a ship and is used to transport people or things to the shore or to other ships)

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lay /leɪ/ verb to place or position an object
The engineers are laying mines.
lay down bombing /ˈleɪdʌŋ bɔmɪŋ/ noun a low altitude attack in which the aircraft passes very low over its target and releases bombs fitted with parachutes or other devices to slow down the descent, so that the aircraft can get clear before the bombs explode

L/Bdr abbreviation lance-bombardier

LBE abbreviation load-bearing equipment

LAV ay /ˈlævə/ noun an American-designed multi-purpose amphibious armoured fighting vehicle (AFV).
Full form light armoured vehicle

LAV-25 /ˈlæv twenty fˈɑr/ noun an armoured personnel carrier (APC)

LAV-AD /ˈlæv et ‘diː/ noun an air defence variant, fitted with Stinger missiles and a Gatling gun

LAV-AT /ˈlæv et ‘tiː/ noun an anti-tank variant, fitted with TOW missiles

LAV-L /ˈlæv eln/ noun a load-carrying variant, designed to transport supplies

LAV-M /ˈlæv em/ noun a mortar variant, fitted with an 81mm mortar

LAV-R /ˈlæv er/ noun a recovery variant

LAW /el et ‘dæb(o)ljuː/ noun a handheld anti-tank rocket used by infantry.
Full form light anti-tank weapon
to command men by inspiring them and setting a good example.

- *He leads from the front.*
- *You don’t lead your targets enough.* (NOTE: *leading* – *led*)

**leader** /ˈledər/ **noun** 1. a person who leads. 2. a commander.

**leadership** /ˈliːdərʃɪp/ **noun** the ability to make other people carry out your orders effectively and willingly.

**leading** /ˈliːdɪŋ/ **adjective** 1. moving in front of others. 2. We engaged the leading tank. 3. senior

**leading aircraftman** /ˈliːdɪŋ ˈɛskrɪftʃɪmən/ **noun** a junior non-commissioned rank in the air force (equivalent to an experienced private soldier in the army). Abbr LAC

**leading rating, leading seaman** **noun** a junior non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the navy (equivalent to a corporal in the army, marines or air force).

**lead nation** /ˈliːd nəˈʃən/ **noun** a nation which takes the responsibility for organizing a multinational force, and coordinates the forces of other countries.

**leaflet** /ˈliːflɪt/ **noun** a piece of paper containing information or a message.

**leaguer** /ˈleɪɡər/ **noun** an encampment of armoured vehicles. **verb** to form a leaguer. **lerg**

**leapfrog** /ˈliːprɑfɡ/ **verb** to move in alternate bounds, with one person, vehicle or sub-unit stationary and giving or prepared to give covering fire, while the other moves past to occupy a fire position beyond (NOTE: *leapfrogging – leapfrogged*)

**leave** /liːv/ **noun** 1. permission. 2. *May I have your leave to carry on, Sir?* 3. a holiday or vacation. 4. *He is on leave.* 5. *He has left his rifle in my room.* (NOTE: *leaving – left*)

**Leclerc** /ləˈklɛrk/ **noun** a French-designed 1990s-era main battle tank (MBT)

**leech** /ˈliːtʃ/ **noun** a worm-like creature which lives in water and attaches itself to an animal’s skin in order to suck its blood.

**left-flanking** /ˌleft ˈflæŋkɪŋ/ **adjective** relating to an attack on the left flank of an enemy position (as you are looking at it). 2. *Hello 2, this is 22, am going left-flanking, over.*

**leg** /leɪɡ/ **noun** 1. a lower limb of the human body. 2. *His leg had to be amputated.* 3. *He was hit in the leg by shrapnel.* 4. *one section of a journey.* 5. *The first leg is 520 metres, on a bearing of 3214 mils.*

**legend** /ˈliːdʒənd/ **noun** the explanatory notes on the symbols shown on a map.

**legion** /ˈliːdʒən/ **noun** 1. a division of the Roman army with about 5,000 men (historical). 2. a grouping of soldiers or ex-servicemen.

**legionary** /ˈliːdʒənərɪ/ **noun** a member of a Roman legion (historical).

**legionnaire** /ˈliːdʒənər/ **noun** 1. a member of the French Foreign Legion. 2. a member of the American Legion.

**Leopard** /ˈlɛpəd/ **noun** a German-designed main battle tank (MBT).

**lethal** /ˈliːθəl/ **adjective** able to cause death. 2. *He received a lethal dose of radiation.*

**lethal force** /ˈliːθəl fɔːs/ **noun** same as deadly force.

**letter-bomb** /ˈletər bɒm/ **noun** an explosive device concealed in a letter or package and designed to explode when the letter is opened.

**level-crossing** /ˈlevəl ˈkroʊsnɪŋ/ **noun** a place where a railway line crosses a road, and instead of using a bridge, the tracks are actually embedded into the tarmac of the road.

**Levinstein Mustard** /ˈlevɪstən mʌstərd/ **noun**

**levy** /lev/ **noun** soldiers who are forced to join the army. 2. *The army relies on levies from the provinces.*

**Lewisite** /ˈluːɪsɪt/ **noun**

**lewisite** /ˈluːɪsɪt/ **noun**

**LFB** **abbreviation** low frequency.

**LGB** **abbreviation** laser-guided bomb.
lying – lied

during the confusion of a hot LZ
groups acting on their own initiative
was liberated in 1944.

phibious operations. Full form landing
ing craft and helicopters during am-
designed to transport and launch land-
mandy landings.

occupation by a foreign power
set a country, region or town free from

liberation

liberate

liberate

/ˈlɛbəri/ (n) noun an act
of liberating a person or place o The
liberation of Europe began with the Nor-
mandy landings.

liberty

liberty

liberty boat

lice

lice

ilie /ˈleɪ/ verb 1. to be in or adopt a hori-
izontal position © She lay on her bed. ©
He lay down on the floor. (NOTE: lie – ly-
ing – lay – have lain) 2. to deliberately
say something which is untrue © He lied
about the troop movements. (NOTE: lie –
lying – lied) © noun a statement which
is untrue © That’s a lie!
lost three planes during the last lift. 2. a
machine which takes people up or down
from one floor to another in a building
○ The lift was damaged by the explo-
sion. • verb 1. to raise an object to a
higher position ○ The bomb exploded as
they were lifting it. 2. to transport equip-
ment, men or supplies by air ○ We will
start lifting supplies tomorrow. 3. to re-
move a restriction ○ Radio silence has
been lifted. • airlift
light /lait/ adjective 1. bright enough to
see 2. low in weight • noun 1. a natural
or artificial brightness which makes it
possible to see 2. any source of artificial
light ○ We saw a light in the distance. 3.
any pyrotechnical device or projectile
which lights up an area of ground (e.g.,
an illuminating round, shermuly, star
shell, etc.) ○ The platoon commander
called for light. • verb to apply fire to
something ○ He lit his cigarette. (NOTE:
lighting – lit – has lit)
light aid detachment /ˈlaɪt ɛd diˈtæktʃən/ noun full form of LAD
light anti-tank weapon /ˈlaɪt æntiˈteɪŋk , ˈweɪpən/ noun full form of LAW
light armoured vehicle /ˈlaɪt ərˈmɔːrd ˈvɛhər(ə)n/ noun full form of LAV
Light Gun /ˈlaɪt ɡʌn/ noun a British-
designed 105mm artillery piece, made
of light alloy for ease of transportation
and high mobility
light infantry /ˈlaɪt ˈɪnfəntri/ noun
lightly equipped and highly mobile in-
fantry, who specialised in reconna-
sissance and skirmishing (historical) Abbr
LI
light machine-gun /ˈlaɪt ˈmeɪʃn ˈgɪn/ noun a light man-portable
machine-gun designed to be carried by
infantry sections or squads. Abbr LMG
lights out /ˈlaɪts ˈaʊt/ noun the time
by which people in the armed forces are
supposed to be in bed or asleep, or a sig-
nal indicating this
lightstick /ˈlaɪtstɪk/ noun a simple
light-producing device, consisting of a
slim plastic cylinder containing two
chemicals in liquid form. When the cy-
linder is bent, the two liquids mix to-
gether and cause a chemical reaction
which produces a weak form of light,
lasting for several hours.
○ COMMENT: Lightsticks are available in
several different colours and are ideal
for marking routes at night.
light support weapon /ˈlaɪt ˈsɔːpɔt ˈweɪpən/ noun full form of LSW
light tank /ˈlaɪt ˈteɪŋk/ noun another
name for a tracked armoured recon-
naissance vehicle (CVRT)
light up /ˈlaɪt əp/ verb to project light
onto an object or over an area ○ Flares
were dropped to light up the area. • illu-
minate
Lima /ˈliːmə/ noun the twelfth letter of
the phonetic alphabet (LI)
limiter /ˈlɪmətər/ noun a vehicle or trail-
er carrying artillery ammunition, which
accompanies the guns
limit /ˈlɪmɪt/ noun a level or point be-
yond which something cannot go ○ off
limits prohibited (to the persons speci-
fied) ○ This pub is off limits to officers
and NCOs. • verb to impose a limit on
something ○ Water has been limited to
one litre per man.
limit of exploitation /ˌlɪmɪt əv
ˈeksploʊˈteɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a point on the
ground beyond which the exploitation
of a successful attack should not contin-
u ○ Our limit of exploitation is the rear
edge of the wood.
line /ˈlaɪn/ noun 1. a long thin feature
which connects or appears to connect
two or more points 2. a tactical forma-
tion where troops or vehicles move side
by side in a single extended line ○ The
platoon advanced in line formation. 3. ○
the Line armoured and infantry regi-
ments not forming part of the House-
hold Division 4. ○ the Line the Equator
○ We will be crossing the Line tomor-
row. 5. an electrical cable used to con-
nect field telephones to each other ○ We
need to lay more line back to HQ. 6. a
track of a railway ○ The line was blown
line of defence 144

up by partisans. 7. a length of rope or cord ○ He threw a line out to the lifeboat. :: verb to position or place in such a way as to form a line ○ The road was lined with tall trees. ○ in line 1. side by side forming a straight line ○ The battleships passed in line astern. 2. one behind the other

line of defence /ˈlʌɪn əv ˈdeɪfn/ noun a line formed by a series of defensive positions and defended localities

line of departure /ˈlʌɪn əv ˈdiːpərt/ noun a real or imaginary line, the crossing of which marks the start of an advance, attack or other offensive operation ○ Our line of departure is formed by the main road. Abbr LD. Also known as start line

line of fire /ˈlʌɪn əv ˈfaɪər/ noun the path of a bullet or other projectile from the weapon to the target ○ Some of C Company wandered into our line of fire.

line of march /ˈlʌɪn əv ˈmɑːtʃ/ noun a route taken by troops or vehicles from one location to another

line of sight /ˈlʌɪn əv ˈsaɪt/ noun a line from a gun’s position to the target

lines /ˈlaɪnz/ plural noun a line or boundary formed by the positions of an army (often used in the plural)

lines of communication /ˈlʌɪnz əv kəmˈveɪnʃən/ plural noun main roads, air routes and sea routes which connect a military force to its operational base, along which supplies are moved and along which its supply depots and reserve forces are located

line up /ˈlʌɪn əp/ verb to form a line ○ They lined up outside the armoury.

link /lɪŋk/ noun 1. something which connects 2. a metal clip used to fasten rounds of machine-gun ammunition together, in order to form belts 3. machine-gun ammunition (which is fastened together by links) ○ We need 10,000 rounds of .50 cal link. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 4. a contact or means of communication ○ A liaison officer acts as a link between two different units. ○ We need another radio link with the Germans. ○ verb to connect or join ○ We were linked to Brigade HQ. ○ The media have linked his name with the nationalist movement.

link up /ˈlɪŋk əp/ verb to come together ○ The battalion linked up with the Royal Hussars on the far side of the river.

listening post /ˈlɪsnɪŋ ˈpɔːst/ noun 1. a small patrol, sent out in front of a defensive position at night, in order to listen to the approach of the enemy 2. a small radio station where radio operators listen to enemy communications

little groups of paratroopers plural noun full form of LGOP

littoral /ˈlɪtərəl/ noun a coastal area

live adjective /lɪv/ relating to real ammunition, which is designed to kill (as opposed to blank ammunition, which is designed to simulate the firing of a weapon) ○ verb live/ to live off the land to obtain food from the local area (as opposed to using your own supplies)

live-firing exercise /ˈlaɪv ˈfɜːrɪŋ ɪkˈzɔːrsɪz/ noun a training exercise where live ammunition is used

live round /ˈlaɪv ˈraʊnd/ noun a piece of real ammunition (as opposed to a blank round). Compare blank

LMG abbreviation light machine-gun

LO abbreviation liaison officer

load /loʊd/ noun 1. something that is carried by an aircraft, person or vehicle ○ This helicopter is capable of carrying heavy loads. 2. an amount or weight of what is carried by an aircraft, person or vehicle ○ In the Falklands conflict, soldiers were carrying loads in excess of 100 pounds. ○ verb 1. to put a load or cargo onto an aircraft, vehicle or ship ○ They were attacked as they were loading the ship. 2. to put ammunition into a weapon ○ Have you loaded your weapon yet? ○ Load with HE! 3. to put ammunition into a magazine ○ They are still loading magazines. 4. to put a loaded magazine onto a weapon ○ With a magazine of 30 rounds, load!

COMMENT: A loaded weapon can be in one of two states: made safe means that a loaded magazine is fitted, but the weapon is not cocked and there is no round in the breech,
whereas made ready means that a loaded magazine is fitted, the weapon is cocked and there is a round in the breech.

**load-bearing equipment** /ˈlɑːdˌbɛərɪŋ əˈkwɪpment/ noun US a set of equipment pouches attached to a belt or harness. Abbr LBE

**loader** /ˈlɑːdər/ noun a crew member responsible for loading an artillery piece, gun or other weapons system

**loam** /ˈloʊm/ noun US soil ○ It was easy digging into the soft loam.

**loan service** /ˈloʊn ˌsərvis/ noun a temporary secondment of servicemen to the armed forces of a friendly foreign state, usually to provide military expertise or training

**local superiority** /ˈləʊk(ə)sərjuˈrətɪ/ noun a situation in which you have more troops than the enemy on one part of the battlefield, even though the enemy force as a whole may be equal in strength or even superior to your own

**local time** /ˈləʊk(ə)tl/ noun the time of the country in which one is operating ○ The general will be arriving at 1430hrs local time.

**locate** /ˈləʊk(ə)kt/ verb 1. to discover the exact location of something ○ We have located the enemy battery. 2. to place or position something ○ The dressing station is located in the brigade administration area.

**location** /ˈləʊk(ə)kʃən/ noun 1. the place where something is ○ He is not at this location. 2. an act of locating something ○ He is responsible for the location of the supply dumps. ○ The location of the enemy positions is taking longer than expected.

**locator** /ˈləʊkər/ noun a device or equipment designed to locate something

**lock** /lɔk/ noun 1. a mechanism for securing one object to another (which usually requires a key to open it) ○ We had to smash the lock in order to open the door. 2. an enclosed stretch of a canal or river, in which the water level can be raised or lowered by the use of gates

○ 5 Platoon is dug in around the lock. 1. **verb** to secure with a lock ○ This door is to be locked at all times; 2. to secure behind locked doors ○ The weapons will be locked in the guardroom overnight.

**lock and load** /lɔk ənd ˈlɑːd/ verb US to operate the cocking lever of a weapon so that a round is placed in the chamber and the weapon is cocked and ready to fire (informal) (NOTE: The British English term is make ready)

**locker** /ˈlɑːkər/ noun a compartment, cupboard or wardrobe which can be locked ○ locker inspection at 1800hrs

**lock-on** /ˈlɑk ən/ noun a moment when the operator of a guided weapon has the target in his sights and the guidance system is activated ○ acquisition, solution

**L of C** abbreviation line of communication

**log** /lɒg/ abbreviation logistics

**log** /lɒg/ noun 1. the official diary of a ship ○ The captain entered the ship’s position in the log. 2. a chronological record of events ○ All radio operators must keep a log. 3. a record of journeys, maintenance, repairs, etc., for an aircraft, piece of equipment or vehicle ○ He inspected the vehicle’s log. ○ verb to make a chronological record ○ You are required to log all messages.

**loggie** /ˈlɔɡjɪ/ noun a person involved in logistics (informal)

**logistic** /lɑˈdʒɪstɪk/ , logistical /ləˈdʒɪstɪk/ adjective relating to logistics

**logistics** /lɑˈdʒɪstɪks/ noun the coordination of the supplying and resupplying of military units with the resources which they need in order to carry out their operational tasks (such as ammunition, equipment, food and water, fuel, medical facilities, replacement men and equipment, spare parts, transport, etc.) (NOTE: takes a singular verb)

**comment:** Logistics covers the design, development, acquisition, movement and storage of material; the movement of personnel; the construction and maintenance of buildings and other facilities; the provision of services such as medical services
found plenty of loot on the enemy position. Armour-piercing, kinetic energy to punch its way through and usually fitted with fins in order to provide extra stability in flight) which is made out of a high density metal, such as tungsten carbide or depleted uranium and usually fitted with fins in order to provide extra stability in flight) which is fired at a very high velocity and uses kinetic energy to punch its way through armour. Armour-piercing, kinetic energy round

COMMENT: Long-rod penetrators are the only means of defeating many modern types of armour. Because a long-rod penetrator is considerably smaller than the diameter of the gun barrel through which it is fired, it is usually fitted with a metal collar or sleeve known as a sabot which falls away once the projectile has left the barrel.

loot /luit/ noun 1. any private property belonging to the enemy, which is taken for your own personal use or gain o We found plenty of loot on the enemy position. 2. anything which is stolen in wartime or during a period of civil disorder o Several valuable paintings were discovered amongst the loot. o verb to steal during a period of disorder o Soldiers are looting the town.

looter /luitə/ noun a person who loots o The army was ordered to shoot into the air to discourage looters.

looting /luitɪŋ/ noun an action of removing property during a period of civil disorder o There have been reports of widespread looting by the enemy.

lorry /ˈlɔrɪ/ noun a large wheeled vehicle designed to transport men, equipment or supplies. o truck

long-range /ˈlɔŋ rɪndʒ/ adjective used over a long distance

long-range reconnaissance and patrolling /ˈlɔŋ rɪndʒ riˈkɒnˌsɛnərɪ ənd ˈpætəlɪŋ/ noun special skills relating to covert patrolling far into enemy-held territory o He is going on a LRRP course. Abbr LRRP

long-rod penetrator /ˈlɔŋ rəʊd ˈpɛnətrətə/ noun an anti-tank projectile, consisting of a simple metal dart (made out of a high density metal, such as tungsten carbide or depleted uranium and usually fitted with fins in order to provide extra stability in flight) which is fired at a very high velocity and uses kinetic energy to punch its way through armour. Armour-piercing, kinetic energy round

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lose /luːz/ verb 1. to be unable to find something o He has lost his rifle. o to lose your way to be unaware of your exact location 2. not to have something any more, because it has been destroyed; not to have a person any more, especially one who has been killed o We lost three men yesterday. o B Squadron lost four tanks. o to lose your nerve to be unable to control your fear 3. to be defeated o We have lost the battle. (NOTE: losing – lost)

loss /luːs/ noun an act of losing something o He did not report the loss of his rifle. o plural noun losses casualties o personnel losses o The battalion suffered heavy losses.

lost /luːst/ adjective unaware of your exact location o We are lost. o lost at sea missing, believed drowned

louse /luːz/ noun a tiny parasitic insect, which lives on a person’s body and in their clothes, breeding in great numbers and being easily transmitted to other people, thereby causing great discomfort and often transmitting disease o He was covered in louse bites. o The prisoners were covered in lice. (NOTE: The plural form is lice /ˈlaɪs/ and is normally used in preference to the singular form.)

lower /ˈlɔʊər/ adjective below something else o We moved into the lower part of the town.

lower case /ˈləʊər kɛsi/ noun small letters written as a, b, c, etc.

low frequency /ˈləʊ ˈfrɛkwənsi/ noun the range of radio frequencies from 30 – 300 kilohertz (kHz). Abbr LF

low-observables /ˈləʊ əˌsɜːvəˈbɪlɪz/ plural noun stealth technology o This aircraft design incorporates all the latest low-observables.

low tide /ˈləʊ tʌɪd/ noun the point at which the tide has fallen to its lowest level o The low tide left the landing craft stranded on the rocks.

low velocity /ˈləʊ vəˈljuːtɪs/ adjective (of projectiles) designed to travel slower than the speed of sound o This helmet will resist a low velocity bullet. Compare high velocity
low-wire entanglement /ˌlou ˌwair ˈentəɡmənt/ noun an obstacle, consisting of a lattice of barbed wire, which is set at ankle height, in order to trip up infantry as they assault a position

LPD /ˈel pɪ: ˈtiː/ noun a ship which is designed to transport and launch landing craft and helicopters during amphibious operations. Full form landing platform dock

LPH /ˈel pie ˈert f/ noun a ship designed to transport and launch helicopters and air-assault infantry during amphibious operations. Full form landing platform helicopter

LRRP /ˈlɜːrp/ abbreviation long-range reconnaissance and patrolling

LS abbreviation landing site

LSD1 /ˈel sɪd/ noun a ship which is designed to transport and launch landing craft during amphibious operations. Full form landing ship dock

LSD2 /ˈel sɪd/ noun a drug which causes intense hallucinations and can have serious long-term effects. Full form lysergic acid diethylamide

COMMENT: Although LSD is usually associated with drug abuse, it could be delivered as a chemical agent, and would be particularly effective in causing disruption in rear areas.

L/Sgt abbreviation lance-sergeant

LSL /ˈel sɛl/ noun an ocean-going troop or supply ship. Full form landing ship logistics

LSRV abbreviation landing sight rendezvous

LST /ˈel st/ noun a ship designed to transport and land armed vehicles. Full form landing ship tank

LSW /ˈel sw/ noun a British-designed 5.56mm light machine-gun (LMG) based on the SA80 assault weapon. Full form light support weapon

Lt abbreviation 1. lieutenant 2. light

Lt-Cmdr abbreviation lieutenant-commander

Lt-Col abbreviation lieutenant-colonel

Lysergic acid diethylamide /ˌlaɪsərˈɡIk əˈdiθəlæmɪd/ trademark a trademark for a felt-tipped pen, which is suitable for writing on plastic (e.g. map cases, overlays, etc.) o The enemy positions are marked in red Lumocolor.

COMMENT: Lumocolors come in two types: water-soluble will wash off on contact with any liquid (e.g. rain-water, saliva, sweat, etc.), while permanent can only be removed by some sort of cleaning fluid.

LUP abbreviation lie-up position

Lurk /lərk/ verb to wait in a concealed position in the hope that a target might present itself o I think there’s a tank lurking in that wood. o noun a patrol which waits in a likely area of enemy activity, in order to react to any incident which might occur there o Tonight we’re going to do a lurk by the railway bridge.

COMMENT: A lurk is really a counter-insurgency term and differs from an ambush in that it is not set with the primary intention of killing anyone; in fact an arrest would be the more probable result.

LVTP-7A1 /ˈel vɪt pɪ ˈsiː ˈwæn/ noun an American-designed amphibious tractor. Full form landing vehicle tracked personnel. Also called Amphibious Assault Vehicle Seven (AAV-7A1)

Lynx /ˈlaɪns/ noun a British-made multirole helicopter

Lysergic acid diethylamide /ˌlaɪsərˈɡIk əˈdiθəlæmɪd/ noun full form of LSD
LZ noun 1, an area of ground selected for the landing or pick-up of troops by helicopter. The LZ is at grid 941623. B Company will secure the LZ. 2. US an area of ground selected for the landing of troops by parachute. Full form landing zone.
MIKE - Mm

M-1 / /em 'wæn/ noun same as Abrams
M-2 / /em 'bru:d/ noun Bradley
M-3 / /em 'brəd/ noun Bradley
M-16 / /em 'siks'ti:n/ noun Armalite
M-60 / /em 'siks'ti:n noun 1. an American-designed 1960s-era main battle tank (MBT) 2. an American-designed 7.62mm general purpose machine-gun (GPMG) (NOTE: The plural form is M-60s / /em 'siks'ti:z/.)
M-61A1 / /em 'siks'ti:wa'ri:n noun an American-designed 20mm multi-barrelled anti-aircraft cannon. Also called Vulcan. ➢ M-163, Phalanx
M-82 / /em ,'tʃi:t/ noun Barrett
M-109 / /em ,'wən,na'n/ noun an American-designed 155mm self-propelled howitzer (SPH) (NOTE: The plural form is M-109s / /em ,'wən,nə'n/)
M-110 / /em ,'wən,wa'n/ noun an American-designed 203mm self-propelled gun (SPG) (NOTE: The plural form is M-110s / /em ,'wən,wa'n/)
M-113 / /em ,'wən,wɔrə'n/ noun an American-designed 1960s-era armoured personnel carrier (APC) (NOTE: The plural form is M-113s / /em ,'wən,wɔrə'n/)
M-163 / /em ,'siks'ti:n 'brəd/ noun an American-designed M-113 armoured personnel carrier fitted with the M-61A1 Vulcan 20mm multi-barrelled anti-aircraft cannon
M-198 / /em ,'wən,na'nti:'et/ noun an American-designed 155mm artillery piece (NOTE: The plural form is M-198s / /em ,'wən,na'nti:'et/)
M-247 / /em tuː fə'ti'un noun an American-designed self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG). Also called Sergeant York
M-249 / /em tuː fə'nəm noun an American-designed 5.56mm light machine-gun (LMG). Also called Squad Automatic Weapon
M-551 / /em fər fər 'wən/ noun ➢ Sheridan
M-1973 / /em ,'wən ,na'n,se'vən 'brəd/ noun a Soviet-designed 152mm self-propelled gun (SPG) (NOTE: The plural form is M-1973s / /em ,',wən,nə'n,se'və:n/)
M-1974 / /em ,'wən ,na'n,se'vən fə:n noun a Soviet-designed 122mm self-propelled howitzer (SPH) (NOTE: The plural form is M-1974s / /em ,',wən,nə'n,se'və:n/)
Mach / /mɑtʃ/ noun same as Mach number
machete / /mɑtʃ/ noun in Central America, a long broad-bladed knife designed for clearing and often used as a weapon. ➢ panga, parang
machine-gun / /mɑtʃ/ noun an automatic firearm, which will continue to fire and reload for as long as its trigger is depressed ➢ verb to shoot someone with a machine-gun ➢ Enemy gun-ships have been machine-gunning refugee columns. ➢ abbr (all senses) MG
machine-gunner / /mɑtʃ/ noun a person who operates a machine-gun
Mach number / /mɑtʃ/ noun the speed of an aircraft or missile in relation to the local speed of sound ➢ abbr (all senses) M
COMMENT: The Mach number of an aircraft or missile will vary at different...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>made ready</td>
<td>An aircraft which travels faster than Mach 1 is said to be supersonic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>made ready</td>
<td>The state of a gun when a loaded magazine is fitted, the weapon is cocked and there is a round in the breech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>made safe</td>
<td>The state of a gun when a loaded magazine is fitted, but the weapon is not cocked and there is no round in the breech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magazine</td>
<td>A metal or plastic ammunition container, which is fitted to a gun and is designed to feed the rounds directly into the breech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mag</td>
<td>A building used for storing ammunition and explosives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic</td>
<td>Having the property of attracting or repelling iron.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic bearing</td>
<td>A bearing obtained using a compass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic north</td>
<td>The direction in which the needle of a compass points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic tape</td>
<td>A type of tape used for recording sound, images or computer data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magnetic variation</td>
<td>The difference between magnetic north and grid or true north (as shown on a map).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMMENT:** The key of the map should tell you whether to add or subtract the magnetic variation in order to convert grid bearings to magnetic bearings and vice-versa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>main</td>
<td>Most important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA</td>
<td>Main battle area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBT</td>
<td>Main battle tank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>main defence forces</td>
<td>The primary re-sourcing and planning headquarters for a large tactical grouping (normally located to the rear of the forward troops).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>main headquarters</td>
<td>The primary re-sourcing and planning headquarters for a large tactical grouping (normally located to the rear of the forward troops).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maintenance</td>
<td>An act of checking that a vehicle or weapon is in good functioning condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maintenance check</td>
<td>The act of checking that a vehicle or weapon is in good functioning condition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abbreviations:**
- MBA: Master of Business Administration
- MBT: Main Battle Tank
Major /ˈmeɪdʒər/ adjective very important ○ That road is a major line of communication for the enemy. ■ noun 1. an officer in the army or marines, below lieutenant-colonel and above captain (normally in command of a company or equivalent-sized grouping or employed as a staff officer) 2. US an officer in the army, marines or air force, below lieutenant colonel and above captain. ○ sergeant major

COMMENT: In the Irish army, the equivalent of major is commandant.

Major general /ˈmeɪdʒər dʒenərəl/ noun US a senior officer in the army, marines or air force (junior to lieutenant general and senior to brigadier general, usually in command of a division or equivalent-sized grouping). Abbr Maj Gen

Major-General /ˈmeɪdʒər ˈdʒenərəl/ noun a senior officer in the army or marines (junior to lieutenant-general and senior to brigadier, usually in command of a division). Abbr Maj-General

Major NATO Command /ˈmeɪdʒər nəʊ ˈkeɪ mənɪtərd/ noun one of two areas of command (Allied Command Atlantic (ACLANT) and Allied Command Europe (ACE)) within NATO; Allied Command Europe is divided into three major subordinate commands (MSCs) which are south, central and north-west. Abbr MNC

Make /meɪk/ verb 1. to construct or produce something ○ The soldiers made improvised shelters in the woods. ○ He made your plan yet? ○ He is making tea. 2. ○ to make ready to operate the cocking mechanism of a loaded weapon, so that a round is fed into the breech and the weapon is cocked and ready to fire ○ to make safe to fully unload a cocked weapon and then replace the loaded magazine back onto the weapon

Maneuverability /mənjuˈvərəbɪləti/ noun US spelling of manoeuvrability

Manoeuvrability /ˈmænjuəvɜrəbɪləti/ noun UK spelling of manoeuvrability

Manhole /ˈmænhol/ noun a covered hole providing access to a sewer ○ He threw a grenade down every manhole.

Man-Managed Features /ˈmæn mədʒən dʒətərəl/ plural noun buildings, bridges, canals, embankments, pylons, roads, etc.

Man-Management /ˈmæn mənˈmænən/ noun the practice of getting the best out of your soldiers, by treating them with respect and looking after their welfare; his man-management is very poor. ○ Enlisted Man

Manoeuvrability /ˈmænjuəvɜrəbɪləti/ noun the ability to move easily over all types of terrain ○ The main advantage of this vehicle is its manoeuvrability.

Malaria /ˈmæləriə/ noun fever caused by the parasite Plasmodium, which is transmitted by the bite of a mosquito in tropical regions

Malfunction /ˈmæltekʃən/ noun a failure to work properly ○ The accident was due to a malfunction in the steering system. ■ verb to fail to work properly ○ The guidance system has malfunctioned.

Malnutrition /ˌmælnjuˈtrɪʃən/ noun a weak and unhealthy physical condition which is caused by not having enough food to eat

Man /ˈmæn/ noun a member of the armed forces ○ He sent six men to reconnoitre the road. ■ verb to provide personnel to make something work ○ The battery is manned by six gunners. ○ unmanned

Mandate /ˈmændət/ noun an instruction or directive from an official organization (e.g. EU, UN, etc.) ○ Our mandate is to see that these people do not starve.

Maneuver /ˈmænjuvər/ noun, verb US spelling of manoeuvre

Maneuverability /mənuˈvərəbɪləti/ noun US spelling of manoeuvrability

Manoeuvrability /ˈmænjuəvɜrəbɪləti/ noun UK spelling of manoeuvrability

Manhole /ˈmænhol/ noun a covered hole providing access to a sewer ○ We threw a grenade down every manhole.

Manifest /ˈmænɪfɛst/ noun a list of passengers or cargo carried by an aircraft ○ His name isn’t on the manifest.

Man-Made Features /ˈmæn mɛdʒən dʒətərəl/ plural noun buildings, bridges, canals, embankments, pylons, roads, etc.
manoeuvrable adjective capable of moving easily over all types of terrain. The new tank is highly manoeuvrable.

manoeuvre /mə'nu:və/ noun 1. the art of moving troops and vehicles in order to achieve a military objective. The new tactical doctrine places great emphasis on manoeuvre. 2. a planned movement by troops or vehicles designed to achieve a specific objective. The manoeuvre was supposed to cut off the enemy’s line of retreat.

manoeuvre element /mə'nu:və /, 'eliment/ noun a separate force or unit which is able to move about while engaging the enemy.

manoeuvres /mə'nu:voʊz/ plural noun military training exercises. The manoeuvres will take place in April.

manoeuvre warfare /mə'nu:və /, warfare/ noun a military doctrine which seeks to break an enemy’s will to fight by using mobility and constant aggression to shatter his cohesion and deprive him of any opportunity to reorganize. Compare attritional warfare, positional warfare.

COMMENT: Manoeuvre warfare relies on the use of directive command for its success, since subordinate commanders must be free to use their own initiative whenever necessary.

man-pack /mæn pæk/ verb to transport something using people (as opposed to animals or vehicles or aircraft or boats). The ammunition will have to be man-packed up to the gun line.

MANPADS /mænپædz/ noun any hand-held surface-to-air missile (e.g. Blowpipe, Grail, Stinger, etc.). Full form man-portable air defence system.

man-portable /mænˈpɔːtəb(ə)l/ adjective designed to be carried by one or more persons. This missile launcher is man-portable.


mobile air operations team map /mæp/ noun a scale drawing of an area of ground, with symbols representing natural and man-made features.

MAPEX /ˈmeɪpeks/ noun an exercise involving command elements of a grouping, in which a tactical scenario is played out on a map. Full form map exercise.

map grid /mæp grid/ noun a system of numbered squares printed on a map in order to produce map or grid references.

map reading /ˈmæp ri:dɪŋ/ noun the ability to use a map to find out where places are located or how to reach them.

map reference /ˈmæp rɪˈfɛns/ noun same as grid reference.

map square /ˈmæp skwɛə/ noun a square area between the grid lines marked on a map, usually designated by a letter and a number, e.g. H6.

march /mɑrə/ noun 1. movement on foot. It was a long march to the assembly area. 2. a piece of music, traditionally played when a regiment is marching on a parade. Our regimental march is ‘The British Grenadiers’. verb 1. to move from one location to another on foot. We had to march to the concentration area. 2. to walk in a smart military manner (especially on a parade). The recruits are learning how to march.

marching order /ˈmɑrtɪŋ ˈɔrdər/ adjective equipped with webbing and bergen.

march past /ˈmɑrst/ verb to march in ceremonial order past an offic-
er or a saluting base. The battalion marched past to the tune of 'The British Grenadiers'.

**marchpast** /mərt pɑ:s/ noun a parade where troops march past a saluting base. The Queen took the salute at the marchpast. Compare **flypast**

**Marder** /ˈmɑːrdər/ noun a German-designed infantry fighting vehicle (IFV)

**marine** /ˈmərɪn/ adjective relating to the sea. He has a diploma in marine engineering. ■ noun 1. an infantry soldier serving with the navy, but trained to fight on land. 2. the lowest non-commissioned rank in the marines (equivalent of a private in the army)

**marine expeditionary brigade** /ˈmərɪn ekˈspɛrdɪˌf(ə)riŋ/ noun full form of MEB

**marine expeditionary force** /ˈmərɪn ekˈspɛrdɪˌf(ə)riŋ/ noun full form of MEF

**marine expeditionary unit** /ˈmərɪn ekˈspɛrdɪˌf(ə)riŋ/ noun full form of MEU

**maritime** /ˈmərɪtɪm/ adjective relating to the sea and ships

**mark** /mɑrk/ noun 1. anything which is drawn, painted, written on, placed on or cut into the surface of an object or the ground, in order to convey a meaning. 2. any cut or indentation in the surface of an object or the ground as a result of damage. We could see the marks made by the shrapnel. 3. model or type. 4. Mark II or Mk. II fragmentation grenade. Abbr Mk ■ verb 1. to make a mark on something. 2. He marked the tree with an 'X'. ■ The map was marked with all the enemy positions and minefields. 2. (of targets, landing zones, etc.) to use a sign, light or coloured smoke, so that other people can see it. 3. We will use yellow smoke to mark the LZ.

**marker** /ˈmɑrkər/ noun anything which is used as a sign, in order to convey meaning, or to draw other people's attention to a location or object. He used a piece of mine tape as a marker.

**market garden** /ˈmɑrkət ˈɡɑrd(ə)n/ noun a large area of ground used for the commercial cultivation of fruit and vegetables

**marking** /ˈmɑrkɪŋ/ noun 1. an act of making a mark. The general has forbidden the marking of maps because of security. 2. numbers, letters, symbols or insignia, which are painted or printed on an object as a means of identification. High explosive shells are usually painted dark green, with yellow markings.

**marksman** /ˈmɑrkzmən/ noun a soldier who is very good at shooting. They positioned marksman on the roofs of surrounding buildings.

**marsh** /mɑrʃ/ noun a large area of permanently wet ground

**marsh** /ˈmərʃəl/ noun the most senior officer rank in the RAF. The most senior officer rank in the RAF. 1. a German-devised form of tank for the marines (equivalent of a private in the army)._archive

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**marshalling area** /ˈmɑrʃəlɪŋ ˈɛərə/ noun a location where vehicles assemble before moving to another location or before deploying into formation

**marshalling yard** /ˈmɑrʃəlɪŋ ˈjɑrd/ noun a railway yard where trains are assembled. (NOTE: marshalling - marshaled. The US spelling is marshaling - marshaled)

**Marshal of the Royal Air Force** /ˈmɑrʃəl əv də ˈrɔɪl ə ˈfeɪs/ noun the most senior officer rank in the RAF. 1. air marshal, air chief marshal, air vice marshal
marshland /ˈmɑːʃlənd/ noun terrain consisting mainly of marsh

MASH /ˈmeɪʃ/ noun US a field hospital. Full form mobile army surgical hospital

MASINT noun intelligence, derived from many different sources and sensors, which identifies the specific characteristics of a target and enables it to be located and tracked. Full form measurement and signature intelligence

mask /mɑːsk/ noun a face covering worn as protection or as a means of disguise. The terrorists were wearing masks. ■ verb 1. to conceal. ■ That hedge will mask our withdrawal. 2. mask up =

mass /ˈmeɪs/ noun 1. a large quantity of something. ■ There is a huge mass of refugees at the frontier. ■ There are masses of refugees at the frontier. [NOTE: can be used in singular or plural form] 2. (as a principal of war) a concentration of troops and firepower at a decisive point ■ verb to concentrate in large numbers. ■ Enemy troops are massing on the border.

massacre /ˈmeɪskər/ noun an incident involving the killing of a large number of people. ■ We are receiving reports of a massacre in Mulmedy. ■ verb to kill a large number of people (in one incident). ■ The villagers were massacred by the retreating troops.

mast /ˈmæst/ noun a tall metal structure, usually situated on high ground, for supporting communications equipment (e.g. television, radio, mobile telephone technology)

master chief petty officer /ˈmɑːstə ,ˈʃifеп/ noun US a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the navy

master gunnery sergeant /ˈmɑːstə ,ˈgʌnəriˌsʌrdʒənt/ noun US a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the army, marines or air force

master warrant officer /ˈmɑːstə ,ˈwɔːrnət, ˈptʃeɪ/ noun a rank for a senior warrant officer in the armed forces of the US and some other countries

material /ˈmeɪtrɪəl/ noun 1. any substance from which things can be made. ■ This armour is made of steel and other materials. 2. a fabric or cloth. ■ The new uniforms are made of flame-resistant material. 3. information or data. ■ This material is classified secret.

material /ˈmeɪtrɪəl/ noun equipment and supplies (as opposed to personnel). ■ Logistics involves the purchase, transport and storage of materiel.

comment: The department responsible for materiel in a headquarters is known as G4.

Matterhorn /ˈmeɪtəˌhɔrn/ noun a type of military boot made of soft leather with a Gortex lining

maul /ˈmeʊl/ verb to inflict a lot of casualties. ■ The brigade was badly mauled. [NOTE: This verb is normally used in the passive.]

Maverick /ˈmeɪvərɪk/ noun an American-designed air-to-ground missile (AGM)

MAW abbreviation medium anti-tank weapon

MBA abbreviation main battle area

MBT abbreviation main battle tank

MCCP abbreviation movement control and check-point

MCT(S) /ˌem siː tiː ˈes/ variant of Spartan armoured personnel carrier, adapted to fire Milan ATGW. Full form Milan compact turret (Spartan)

meal ready-to-eat /ˈmiːl,redi ˈeɪt/ noun full form of MRE

mean point of impact /ˈmiːn pɔɪnt/ noun full form of MPI

means /ˈmiːnz/ noun a radio terminology for a type of communications system (e.g.: radio or telephone or fax or e-mail, etc.) ■ Hello 22, this is 2, change to secure means, over.

measurement and signature intelligence /ˌmɛʒəˈmɛnt ənˌˈsɪgnətʃər ɪˌnɪ streɪdʒ/ noun full form of MASINT
mech /mek/ abbreviation mechanized infantry

mechanic /ˈmɛkənɪk/ noun a person who repairs and services machinery

mechanized /ˈmɛkənaɪzd/, mechanised /ˈmɛkənaɪzd/ adjective equipped with machinery, especially transport

mechanized infantry /ˈmɛkənaɪzd ɪnˈfəntri/ noun infantry equipped with infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) or infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) are often referred to as armoured infantry.

mechanized battalion /ˈmɛkənaɪzd ˈbətəlʃən/ noun an infantry battalion equipped with armoured personnel carriers (APCs) or infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs)

mechanized infantry /ˈmɛkənaɪzd ɪnˈfəntri/ noun infantry equipped with armoured personnel carriers (APC) or infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) o The infantry are crossing the bridge. o marine (NOTE: no plural; the word is followed by a plural verb.)

mech-heavy task force /ˈmɛk ˈhevi ˈtɑrk fɔrs/ noun three infantry companies and one tank company

medal /ˈmedəl/ noun an insignia (usually consisting of a metal cross, disk or star suspended from a piece of coloured fabric), which denotes the wearer’s participation in a campaign or tour of operational duty, or that the wearer has received a medal. Also called decoration

 Médécins Sans Frontières /ˌmɛdəsɛn sən ˈfrɒnti ˈɛʁ/ noun a non-governmental organization (NGO) which is dedicated to providing medical treatment to all casualties, regardless of nationality, during an armed conflict. Abbr MSF

MEDEVAC /ˈmedɪvək/, medevac noun the evacuation of a person due to illness rather than injury. We need to arrange a MEDEVAC. Full form medical evacuation a verb to evacuate an ill person o He was MEDEVACed because he had malaria.

media /ˈmiːdiə/ noun a general term for the television, radio and newspapers, and the reporters who work for them

medic /ˈmedɪk/ noun a person who is not a doctor, but is trained to give medical treatment

medical /ˈmedɪkl/ adjective relating to the treatment of illness and injury

medical cover /ˈmedɪkl kʌvər, ˈmeːdiʃəl kʌvər/ noun medical personnel, ambulances, etc., which are available in the event of casualties

medical evacuation /ˈmedɪkl əˌvækjuəʃən/ noun full form of MEDEVAC

medical officer /ˈmedɪkl əˈfɪʃəl, ˈmedɪkl əˈfɪʃəl/ noun a doctor attached to a unit. Abbr MO

medium /ˈmiːdiəm/ adjective 1. neither light nor heavy. 2. neither small nor large

medium anti-tank weapon /ˈmiːdiəm ˈænti ˈtæŋk ˈweɪpən/ noun a man-portable launcher designed to fire a powerful anti-tank rocket or missile. Abbr MAW

meeting engagement /ˈmiːtɪŋ ɪnˈgɛndʒmənt/ noun a fight between opposing forces which is unplanned and takes place at an unexpected time and place

MEF /ˈmiːf/ noun US a corps-scale combined-arms grouping of BLTs, helicopter squadrons and logistics units. Full form marine expeditionary force

megaton /ˈmeɡətən/ noun a unit of explosive power, corresponding to that produced by one million tons of TNT

MEL /ˈmiːl/ noun a vehicle designed to carry and launch a surface-to-surface missile (SSM). Full form mobile erector launcher. o TEL
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 metrological /ˌmɪtərələ/ adjective relating to meteorology
 meteorological office, met office noun a British government establishment for the study and prediction of weather conditions
 meteorology /ˌmɪtəriˈɒlədʒi/ noun a study of the weather
 metric ton /ˈmɛtrɪkˈtʌn, ˈtɒn/ noun a unit of weight corresponding to 1,000 kilograms
 METT-T /ˌmet ˈtɪz/, metric ton noun US factors which a commander must consider when making his appreciation. Full form mission, enemy, terrain, troops available, time
 MEU /ˈmiːjuː/ noun US a brigade-scale combined-arms grouping, based on a battalion landing team (BLT), a squadron of helicopters (attack and utility) and a logistics battalion, which can be reinforced by more BLTs as the tactical situation requires. Full form marine expeditionary unit
 MFC abbreviation mortar-fire controller
 MG abbreviation machine-gun
 MGRS /ˌmiː dʒəriː/ noun a worldwide series of maps which are compatible with the GPS satellite navigation system. Full form military grid reference system
 Mi /ˈmiː/ noun a Soviet-designed series of helicopters
 Mi-6 noun a transport helicopter known to NATO as the Hook
 Mi-8 /ˈmiː aɪˈɛt/ noun a transport helicopter known to NATO as the Hip
 Mi-17 noun an updated version of the Hip Mi-8 transport helicopter
 Mi-24 noun an attack helicopter known to NATO as the Hind
 Mi-28 noun an attack helicopter known to NATO as the Havoc
Mi-35 noun an updated version of the Hind Mi-24 attack helicopter
MIA abbreviation missing in action
MICLIC /'mɪklɪk/ noun US an apparatus for clearing a lane through a minefield, consisting of a long length of flexible tube filled with explosive, which is fired into the minefield by means of a rocket, and then detonated. Full form mine-clearing line charge. Giant Viper
microphone /ˌmaɪkrəʊˈfon/ noun 1. an instrument (forming part of an intercom, radio or telephone mouthpiece) which converts sound into electromagnetic waves 2. the mouthpiece of an intercom or radio
MID abbreviation Mentioned in Dispatches
mid-air /ˌmɪd ɛə/ noun, adjective, adverb while flying, in the air ∙ a mid-air collision ∙ The helicopters collided in mid-air.
middle distance /ˌmɪd ˈdɪstəns/ noun an area half way between an observer’s location and the horizon
middle watch /ˌmɪd ˈwɔtʃ/ noun the period of duty from 0001–0400hrs
midshipman /ˌmɪd ʃɪpˈmæn/ noun the lowest officer rank in the navy (an officer in training)
MiG /mɪg/ noun a Soviet-designed series of fighter aircraft
MiG-21 noun a fighter aircraft with secondary ground attack role known to NATO as Fishbed
MiG-23 noun a multirole fighter known to NATO as Flogger
MiG-25 noun a high-altitude interceptor known to NATO as Foxbat
MiG-27 noun an updated version of Flogger
MiG-29 noun a multirole fighter aircraft known to NATO as Fulcrum
MiG-31 noun a strategic interceptor known to NATO as Foxhound
Mike /ˈmɑːk/ noun (informal) 1. a microphone 2. the mouthpiece of an intercom or radio
Mil /ˈmɪl/ noun a unit of measurement for angles or bearings (NOTE: There are 6,400 mils in a circle. 6,400 mils are the equivalent of 360 degrees.)
Mil abbrevation military
Milan /ˌmɪlən/ noun a French/German-designed wire-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW)
Milan compact turret (Spartan) /ˌmɪlən ˈkɒmpəkt ˈtɔːrɪt/ noun full form of MCT(S)
Milbank bag /ˈmɪlbæŋk bæg/ noun a fabric bag, which is designed to filter dirty water
mile /maɪl/ noun a unit of linear measurement, corresponding to 1,760 yards or 1,609 metres
mileage /ˈmaɪlɪdʒ/ noun the number of miles travelled
MILES /maɪlz/ noun an American-designed battle-simulation technology which uses harmless laser beams to simulate the firing of weapons, and laser detectors to record hits. Full form multiple integrated laser engagement system
militarize /ˈmɪlɪtəraɪz/, militarise verb to adapt for military use
military /ˈmɪlɪtri/ adjective relating to the armed forces (such as air force, army and navy) ∙ military intelligence noun the military the armed forces (in general) ∙ the new government proposals are being resisted by the military
military academy /ˈmɪlɪtri/ noun a college which trains students to become officers in the armed forces
military attaché /ˌmɪlɪtri əˈtʃetʃ/ noun an officer attached to an ambassador’s staff in order to deal with military matters
military grid reference system /ˌmɪlɪtri ˈɡrid ˈrefərənsˌstɪstəm/ noun a world-wide series of maps
military hospital

which are compatible with the GPS satellite navigation system. Abbr MGRS

military hospital /ˌmɪltɪriˈhɒspɪtəl/ noun a hospital for wounded military personnel

military observer /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈɒsəvər/ noun a person (usually a serviceman), who observes the activities of another state's armed forces (especially on operations). Abbr MILOB

military occupational specialty /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈɒksəˈpæʃ(ə)n/ noun the type of work that a member of the armed forces specialises in, e.g. personnel or supply. Abbr MOS

military or tactical crest /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈɒr ə ˈtæktrɪk/ noun a highest point of a slope, from which there is an unrestricted view down to the bottom

military police /ˌmɪltɪrɪpɔˈliːs/ noun the organization responsible for police duties within the armed forces

military policeman /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈɒpləmən/ noun a member of the military police 

military service /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈsɜːrvɪs/ noun in one of the armed forces

military time /ˌmɪltɪrɪˈtiːm/ noun time as measured by the 24-hour clock

militia /ˈmɪlitjə/ noun 1. a military force which is raised to supplement the regular army in the defence of a state's sovereign territory, and which does not normally serve overseas (historical) 2. a military-style police force (mainly responsible for maintaining public order)

MILOB /ˈmaɪləb/ abbreviation military observer

mine /maɪn/ noun 1. an explosive device which is buried in or placed on the surface of the ground, and is designed to detonate when a person steps on it or a vehicle drives over it. Also called land mine 2. an explosive device which is placed into or under water, and is designed to detonate when a boat or ship hits it or passes over it 3. a tunnel which is dug in order to detonate an explosive charge under an enemy fortification 4. a tunnel or large hole, which is dug into the ground in order to extract minerals

mine-clearing line charge /ˌmaɪnˌkliːərɪŋ lайн ˌʃəʊd/ noun full form of MCLIC

mine-detector /ˈmaɪn dɪˈtɛktə/ noun a device designed to locate mines

minefield /ˈmaɪnfɪld/ noun an area of ground or sea in which mines have been laid

minelayer /ˈmaɪnleɪər/ noun 1. an aircraft which scatters mines onto the ground 2. a ship which places mines into the water 3. a vehicle which places mines into or on top of the ground

mine plow /ˈmaɪn plau/ noun US spelling of mine plough

mine plough /ˈmaɪn pləʊ/ noun US spelling of mine plough

minesweeper /ˈmaɪnzwiːpə/ noun a small implement which is fitted to the front of an armoured vehicle and is designed to break up the ground, in order to dig up or detonate mines

mine plow /ˈmaɪn plau/ noun US spelling of mine plough

mine tape /ˈmaɪntɛp/ noun a white or fluorescent tape, designed for marking lines through a minefield or for marking a boundary

miniflare /ˈmaɪnɪflər/ noun a small illumination flare, produced in several different colours, which is fired from a simple hand-held launcher and is used mainly for signalling

Ministry of Defence /ˌmɪnɪstri əv dɪˈfens/ noun a British government department dealing with the armed forces 

minute /ˈmɪnɪt/ noun a unit of time, corresponding to sixty seconds or a sixtieth part of one hour
mission /ˈmɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a specific task assigned to a tactical grouping. Our mission is to capture the bridge.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ noun (of ammunition or weapons) an act of missing a target. He missed the tank.
misinformation /ˌmɪsnfəˈmɪʃən/ noun the deliberate use of incorrect information in order to deceive or mislead.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ verb 1. to hit a target. He missed the tank. 2. to fail to keep an appointment. He missed the briefing.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ noun an explosive projectile, containing its own propellant and usually equipped with a guidance system to control its flight onto the target. The plane was brought down by an enemy missile.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ noun a number of missile launchers operating together as a unit.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ noun a missile launcher and its missiles.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ adjective separated from your unit during operational duty, and possibly dead, wounded or captured by the enemy. He has been reported missing.
misfire /ˈmɪsfər/ noun adjective referring to a service-man who has gone missing during a battle. Abbr MIA
mobile air operations team

mobile air operations team /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl əˈpɛərətʃən tɛm/ noun full form of MAOT

mobile army surgical hospital /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl əˈsɜːrʤəbl əˈhɑːpəl/ noun full form of MASH

mobile army surgical unit /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl əˈsɜːrʤəbl əˈjʊnt/ noun US a field hospital. Abbr MASH

mobile defence /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl dɪˈfɛns/ noun a defensive doctrine employing the principles of manoeuvre warfare. Compare positional defence, static defence

COMMENT: In mobile defence, the holding of ground is of secondary importance, since the primary objective is to destroy the cohesion of an attacking force through the aggressive use of manoeuvre.

mobile-erector /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl ɪˈrɛktər/ noun full form of MEL

mobile training team /ˌmɔɪəbrɛl ˈtreɪnɪŋ əˈtɛm/ noun a US small group of instructors sent to give military training to the armed forces of another country. Abbr MTT

mobility /ˌmɔɪəbɪləti/ noun the ability of a military force to move from one place to another

mobilization /ˌmɔɪəbləˈzɪʃən/, mobilisation noun a state's preparations for war by bringing soldiers together and organizing equipment, ammunition, etc., so that armed forces are trained and ready for action. Compare immobilize

mobilize /ˌmɔɪəbɪləz/, mobilise verb to prepare armed forces for war by bringing them together. They are worried because the neighbouring states have mobilized. Compare immobilize

MOD abbreviation Ministry of Defence

model /ˈmɔɪəld/ noun a representation (roughly to scale) of the ground over which an operation will take place, which is used as an aid to briefing the participants

COMMENT: An efficient commander will normally carry a simple modelling kit, consisting of lengths of ribbon, coloured card and other suitable objects (e.g. houses or hotels from a MonopolyG set) to assist him in this task.

MOD Police /ˈem əʊ ˈdiː pɔɪˈlist/ noun a civilian police force responsible for dealing with offences committed by civilians on property owned by the Ministry of Defence (e.g. airfields, barracks, depots, training areas, etc.)

Modular Lightweight Load-bearing Equipment /ˌmɒdjuə lɛtˈweɪtər ləʊld ˈbɛərn əˈlɑːrpɛmənt/ noun full form of MOLLE

MOLLE noun a waterproof backpack with removable sections for carrying weapons and ammunition. Full form Modular Lightweight Load-bearing Equipment

Molotov cocktail /ˈmɒlətɒv ˈkɒkɪtl/ noun an improvised incendiary device consisting of a bottle filled with petrol and fitted with a wick of fabric, which is lit and then thrown at a target. A petrol bomb

momentum /ˈmɒnəməntəm/ noun the forward movement of an advance or attack. If we do not take that position immediately, the whole attack will lose momentum.

monarch /ˈmɒnnəkr/ noun a king or queen

monitor /ˈmɒnɪtər/ verb 1. (of radio) to listen to other people's radio transmissions, in order to know what is happening. We are monitoring B Company's net. 2. (of incidents or situations) to find out what is happening, without getting involved. UN observers are monitoring the ceasefire.

monsoon /ˈmɒnʃʊzn/ noun a season of heavy rain in southern Asia. Compare dry season, rainy season

monument /ˌmɒnjuːmənt/ noun a large ornamental structure, usually built to commemorate an important person or historical event
moor /mɔːr/ noun a large area of flat, uncultivated high ground, usually covered by heather or coarse grass. ■ We advanced across the moor. ■ verb to secure a boat or ship to an anchor or an object on the shore, in order to stop it drifting. ■ They moored the ship near the entrance to the harbour.

moorland /ˈmɔːrland/ noun terrain consisting mainly of moors

MOPP /ˈmʌp[ei] noun US a state of readiness against chemical attack, which determines what protective measures should be taken. Full form mission-oriented protective posture

moral courage /ˈmərəl ˈkærədʒ/ noun the ability to disagree with or repudiate other people. ■ Although he is very brave under fire, he lacks the moral courage to control his NCOs. ■ bravery

moral cowardice /ˈmərəl ˈkɔrədɪs/ noun reluctance to disagree with or repudiate other people, even when you think that you are right

morale /ˈmərəl/ noun a mental attitude, in relation to happiness and confidence. ■ Morale is very high at the moment. ■ The enemy is suffering from low morale.

morning watch /ˈmɔːrnɪŋ wɔtʃ/ noun the period of duty from 0400–0800hrs

morphine /ˈmɔːrfɪn/ noun a drug used to relieve pain

Morse code /ˈmɔːrs ˈkɔd/ noun an international code, in which letters of the alphabet are represented by combinations of short signals (dots) and long signals (dashes). ■ He sent the message in Morse.

mortal /ˈmɔːt(ə)r/ adjective (of wounds) causing death. ■ The wound is probably mortal.

mortally /ˈmɔːt(ə)li/ adverb (of wounding) causing death. ■ He was mortally wounded in the battle.

mortar /ˈmortər/ noun a simple indirect-fire weapon, which is designed to fire projectiles at very high trajectories. ■ verb to fire at a target with a mortar. ■ 'Hallo 2 this is 22, am being mortared, wait out.'

mortality /ˈmɔːtərəli/ noun collective noun a spell. ■ 'He was mortared for a spell, when he lost both legs and fingers.'

mortar-fire controller /ˈmɔːtər faiˈkɛnˌtrəʊlər/ noun a non-commissioned officer (NCO) from the mortar platoon, who is attached to a rifle company in order to direct mortar fire. Abbrev MFC

mortar line /ˈmɔːtər ˈlɛɪn/ noun the fire position used by several mortars

MOS abbreviation US military occupational specialty

mosque /ˈmɔsk/ noun a building used for religious worship by Muslims, the followers of Islam

motorized, motorised adjective (of troops) equipped with vehicles

motor-rifle /ˈmɔːtər ˈrɪfl/ adjective (of infantry) Soviet term for mechanized. ■ We have a motor-rifle regiment facing us.

motor transport /ˈmɔːtər ˈtrænspɔrt/ noun full form of MT

Motor Transport Officer /ˈmɔːtər ˈtrænspɔrt ˈɒfɪsər/ noun full form of MTO

motorway /ˈmɔːtərweɪ/ noun a large road, with several lanes, which is designed for fast traffic

mount /maʊnt/ noun a supporting structure for a weapon or other equipment. ■ verb 1. (of attacks, campaigns, operations, etc.) to plan, prepare and carry out. ■ This is the biggest operation which has ever been mounted by the allies. 2. (of weapons and other equipment) to attach to supporting structure. ■ This machine-gun can be mounted on a tripod. 3. to get onto a horse (historical). ■ He mounted and rode away. 4. to get into a high vehicle. ■ He was shot as he was mounting his tank.

mountain /ˈmaʊntən/ noun very high land, rising much higher than the land surrounding it. ■ The plane crashed in the mountains.

mountainous /ˈmaʊntənəs/ adjective (of terrain) consisting mainly of mountains

mounted /ˈmaʊntəd/ adjective riding on a horse
mounting /'maʊntɪŋ/ noun 1. a supporting structure for a weapon or other equipment ▪ The gun has come loose from its mounting.
2. an action of preparing an operation, including the assembly of forces, embarkation into transport, etc.

mounting area /'maʊntɪŋ ə'riə/ noun a place where forces are assembled ready to be moved to the scene of an operation

mouseholing /ˈmaʊʃəʊlɪŋ/ noun a FIBUA tactic of blowing a hole into the wall of a building in order to provide an entry for infantrymen ▪ We cleared each house by mouseholing through the attic and then checking every room from top to bottom.

MOUT /ˈməʊt/ abbreviation US military operations in urban terrain

movement /ˈmjuːvman/ noun an action of moving personnel, equipment or supplies from one place to another

movement control /ˌmjuːvman kənl/ noun the planning and scheduling of the movement of personnel, equipment or supplies from one place to another

MP abbreviation military policeman

MP-5 /em pi: 'faiv/ noun a German-designed 9mm sub-machine-gun

MP-5K noun a shortened version of the MP-5

MPH, mph abbreviation miles per hour

MPI /em pi: 'aɪri/ noun the centre of a grouping of shots fired at a target (especially when zeroing) ▪ Your MPI is 4cm to the left of the aiming mark. Full form mean point of impact

MRE /em ri: 'tiz/ noun American-produced individual ration of food. Full form meal ready-to-eat

MRL abbreviation multiple rocket launcher

MSC abbreviation major subordinate command

MSF abbreviation Médecins Sans Frontières

MSR abbreviation main supply route

MST abbreviation mobile surgical team

MT /em 'tiz/ noun all vehicles held by a unit ▪ The battalion’s MT will move to the exercise area by rail. Full form motor transport

MT-LB /em ti: el 'biz/ noun a Soviet-designed multi-purpose armoured personnel carrier (APC)

MTO /em ti: 'tɔ/ noun an officer with overall responsibility for a unit’s vehicles. Full form Motor Transport Officer

MT Platoon /em ti: plə'tʌn/ noun a platoon consisting of the drivers of a unit’s wheeled transport vehicles

MTT /em ti: ti: noun US a small group of instructors sent to give military training to the armed forces of another country. Full form mobile training team

mud /maʊd/ noun wet soil

muddy /'maʊdi/ adjective 1. covered with mud 2. (of ground) consisting mainly of mud

mudflat /'maʊdflæt/ noun a wide area of mud along the edge of a river or lake or sea

multi /'mafti/ noun civilian clothing (informal) ▪ He was in multi.

mujahideen /ˈmjuːdʒəhiˈdiːn/ noun Arabic a Muslim guerrilla, who believes that he is fighting a ‘holy war’ in defence of the Islamic faith. ▪ jihad

mule /'mjʊəl/ noun a four-legged animal produced by mating a horse with a donkey, which is suitable for carrying loads over rough terrain

COMMENT: Mules were used extensively as transport animals during the Second World War.

muleteer /ˌmjʊləˈtiər/ noun a person in charge of a mule ▪ The muleteers will be attached to Headquarter Company.

mullah /'maʊlə/ noun a Muslim priest ▪ Mullahs have been inciting the crowd.

multinational /ˌmʌltɪˈneɪʃ(ə)nəl/ adjective (of military forces) consisting of contingents from several different nations ▪ The multinational force is made up of British and German divisions.

multinational logistics /ˌmʌltɪnəˈleɪʃ(ə)nəl ˈlɒtɪstɪks/ noun
multiple /ˈmʌltɪp(ə)l/ adjective consisting of several parts: a patrol, consisting of several teams which move along different routes, but are always able to support each other.

multiple independently-targeted re-entry vehicle noun full form of MIRV.

multiple integrated laser engagement system /ˈmʌltɪp(ə)l/ˈɪntɪgrətɪd ləˈzər ɪŋˈɡɛnidʒmənt sɪˈstɛm/ noun full form of MILES

multiple-launch rocket system /ˈmʌltɪp(ə)l ləˈzʌntʃ rɔˈkɛt sɪˈstɛm/ noun full form of MLRS

multiple rocket launcher /ˈmʌltɪp(ə)l rəˈkɔt ɔrˈlæŋsər/ noun a rocket launcher which fires several rockets at the same time. Abbr: MRL

multi-purpose /ˌmʌltɪˈpɜːrpoʊs/ adjective having several different purposes.

multirole /ˌmʌltɪˈrəʊl/ adjective having several different roles or functions. The Americans are developing a multirole fighter.

munition /ˈmjuːʃən/ noun any type of explosive device which is used as a weapon: such as a bomb, grenade, mine, projectile, etc. The bomb hit a munitions store.

munitionize, munitionise verb same as weaponize

munitions factory /ˈmjuːʃənz fəˈkɑːri/ noun a factory where bombs, shells, etc., are made.

murder /ˈmɜːdər/ noun an unlawful killing of a person. He was accused of murder. verb to kill a person without legal justification. The mayor of the town has been murdered.

Murphy’s Law /ˈmɜːfɪz lɔːr/ noun a popular idea that if anything can go wrong, then it probably will go wrong. You forgot to take Murphy’s Law into account. Sod’s Law

mushroom cloud /ˈmjuːʃərn klaʊd/ noun a mushroom-shaped cloud of smoke and dust produced by the explosion of a nuclear weapon.

musket /ˈmʌskɪt/ noun an obsolete firearm, similar to a rifle, where the bullet and propellant are loaded through the muzzle (historical).

mustard gas /ˈmʌsrəd ˈɡæz/ noun a type of gas which causes blisters on exposed skin.

muster /ˈmʌstər/ noun an act of assembling troops. The muster will take place at 0800hrs. verb 1. to assemble troops. They mustered all available forces. 2. (of troops) to come together. B Company will muster at 0800hrs.

muster parade /ˈmʌstər pəˈrɛd/ noun an assembly of all soldiers at the beginning of the day to receive instructions.

muster-roll /ˈmʌstər rəʊl/ noun an official list of all people serving in a unit.

mutilate /ˈmjuːtəleɪt/ verb 1. to inflict a wound which causes severe physical damage (especially the loss of a limb or organ). His face was mutilated by shrapnel. 2. to deliberately inflict serious wounds on a person or dead body. The women’s bodies had been mutilated.

mutineer /ˈmjuːtɪnɪər/ noun a serviceman who mutinies.

mutiny /ˈmjuːtɪnɪ/ noun a rebellion by servicemen against the military authorities. The mutiny has spread to other units. verb to take part in a mutiny. Units of the navy have mutinied.

mutually supporting /ˈmjuːtəl ˈsərˈpɔːtɪŋ/ adjective able to provide mutual support. The enemy was well dug-in in mutually supporting positions.

mutual support /ˌmjuːtʃəl səˈpɔːt/ noun the ability of two or more defensive positions, groupings or vehicles to give fire support to each other. This is a bad position because there is no mutual support between the three platoons.

muzzle /ˈmæzl/ noun the open end of a gun’s barrel.
**muzzle velocity**

**muzzle velocity** /ˌmaz(ə)l ˈvoʊləns/  
*noun* the speed of a projectile, at the moment when it leaves the muzzle of a weapon
NOVEMBER - Nn

NAAFI /ˈnæfi/ noun 1. an organization responsible for servicemen’s welfare 2. a bar, canteen or shop which is run by the NAAFI (full form Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes).

NAAFI break /ˈnæfi breaF/ noun a break to have a cup of tea or coffee.

NAIAD /ˈneɪəd/ noun an instrument which detects and warns of the presence of a nerve agent. Full form nerve agent immobilised enzyme alarm and detector.

Name tag /ˈneɪm tæg/ noun same as ID disc.

Napalm /ˈnæpæm/ noun jelly made from petroleum, which is used as an incendiary weapon.

NAPS /ˈnæps/ plural noun tablets, which are taken at regular intervals when the chemical threat is high, in order to give the body some resistance against the effects of nerve agents. We’ve been ordered to start taking NAPS. Full form nerve agent pre-treatment set.

NATEX noun an organization similar to the British NAAFI which provides shops and other services for personnel on some NATO bases. Full form NATO Exchange.

National /ˈnæʃən/ noun a community of people, united by a common language and history, who form a state.

Nationalist /ˈnæʃənist/ adjective seeking national independence. A person who is seeking national independence.

Nationality /ˈnæʃənalɪti/ noun being a citizen of a particular state. His nationality is Czech.

National logistics support /ˌnæʃəˈlɒgɪks səˈpɔrt/ noun logistic support given by a nation to its own forces, or as part of a multinational force.

National Missile Defence /ˌnæʃəl ˈmɪsɪl ˈdɪfens/ noun a projected American defence shield against hostile ballistic missile attacks, involving the use of anti-missile-missiles and missile-destroying lasers carried in aircraft or deployed in space satellites. Guided missile, heat-seeking missile. Abbr. NMD.

National service /ˈnæʃənl ˈsɜrvɪs/ noun compulsory military service.

NATO /ˈnetəʊ/ noun a military alliance consisting of the USA, Canada and most western European states, which was originally formed in order to counter the growing threat from the Soviet Union, following the end of the Second World War, and which now acts in a peacekeeping role in support of the United Nations. Full form North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

NATO accounting unit /ˈnetəʊ əˈkaʊntɪŋ ˌjuːnɪt/ noun a fictitious currency used to calculate costs of construction, manpower, etc., which are funded from a common NATO source.

NATO commander /ˈnetəʊ ˈkændəmən/ noun the commander of part of a NATO force. Non-NATO commander.

NATO Exchange /ˈnetəʊ ɛks/ noun full form of NATEX.
**NATO military authority** /nə'tɔ rəlˈmɪlɪtri/ noun an organization or HQ which is part of a NATO command

**NATO** – T /nə'tɔ rəlˈti/ noun a method of illuminating a helicopter landing zone at night, by positioning five torches in the shape of a capital letter T, with the stem pointing downwind

**natural features** /ˈnætərəlˈfiʃərs/ plural noun hills, ridges, rivers, valleys, woods, etc.

**nautical mile** /ˈnæktərmɪl/ noun a unit of linear measurement at sea, corresponding to 2,025 yards or 1,852 metres. Also called sea mile

**naval** /ˈnævəl/ adjective 1. relating to a navy ○ The British naval capacity in the Atlantic. 2. relating to war at sea ○ It was the biggest naval engagement of the war.

**naval forces** /ˈnævəlfɔrz/ plural noun military forces which operate at sea

**naval gunfire support** /ˈnævəlfɜˈgurərˌsəpˈtərt/ noun indirect fire provided by warships in support of ground forces. Abbr NGS

**navigable** /ˈnævəɡəb(ə)l/ adjective (of canals, estuaries, rivers, etc.) allowing the passage of boats and ships

**navigate** /ˈnævəɡet/ verb to find your way from one location to another

**navigation** /ˈnævəɡəʃən/ noun an act or process of navigating

**navigator** /ˈnævəɡətər/ noun an aircrew member who is responsible for navigation

**navy** /ˈnævi/ noun the branch of a state’s armed forces which operates at sea ○ Ships from several NATO navies were patrolling the area. ○ the Royal Navy (RN) the British navy ○ the United States Navy (USN) the navy of the USA

**Navy Lynx** /ˈnævi lɪŋks/ noun a Lynx helicopter modified for operating from a ship. Also called Sea Lynx

**NBC** /en biːˈsɪtʃi/ adjective relating to nuclear, biological and chemical warfare. Full form **nuclear, biological and chemical**

**NBC state** /en biːˈstɛti/ noun the degree of possibility or probability that the enemy will mount a nuclear, chemical or biological attack

**NBC suit** /en biːˈsɪtʃi/ noun special clothing, which provides protection from radioactive fallout and biological and chemical weapons. Also called **Noddy suit**

**NCO** abbreviation non-commissioned officer ○ He sent a squad of men with an NCO to investigate. (NOTE: The plural form is **NCOs** /en siːˈsɔː/)  

**ND** abbreviation negligent discharge

**need-to-know** /ˌnid təˈnau/ adjective relating to secret information which is only given to those people who actually need to know it (informal) ○ I’m afraid that’s need-to-know at the moment, and you don’t need to know it.

**negative** /ˈnegətɪv/ adjective incorrect ○ That is negative. ○ adverb that is incorrect (radio terminology) ○ ‘Hullo 23D this is 2, are you in position, over?’ – ‘23D, negative, over’ Compare affirmative

**negligence** /ˈneglɪdʒəns/ noun 1. a lack of attention or proper care ○ The device malfunctioned because of negligence by the operator. ○ The accident was due to the negligence of the safety staff. 2. a failure to carry out correct procedure ○ The officer was accused of negligence.

**negligent** /ˈneglɪdʒənt/ adjective behaving with negligence

**negligent discharge** /ˈneglɪdʒənt ˈdɪstʃiːdʒ/ noun the unintentional firing of a weapon. Abbr ND. Also called **accidental discharge**

**nerve agent** /ˈnɜrv, ɛrdʒənt/ noun a chemical agent designed to attack a person’s central nervous system. ○ The enemy are using a nerve agent.

**nerve agent immobilized enzyme alarm and detector** noun full form of **NAIAD**
nerve agent pre-treatment set /
/ˈnɜːr v ˈe n dʒ ɪ ənt prɪ ˈtrɪstʃm ənt ˈset/ noun full form of NAPS
net /ˈnet/ noun 1. a woven material made out of knotted cord, with large holes 2. a net used as a container (especially for underslung loads) 3. (of radio) a group of radio users (e.g. sub-units of a battalion, company or platoon), who are transmitting and receiving on the same frequency ○ We are monitoring the battalion net.
neutral /ˈnjuː tərəl/ adjective (of states) not allied to or supporting either of two opposing sides in a war or conflict neutrality /ˈnjuː tərə tɪə/ noun a state of being neutral
neutralization /ˈnjuː tərə lərəlˈzɛtʃən, ˈnjuː tə rə lərəlˈzɛtʃən/ noun an act of neutralizing neutralize /ˈnjuː tərə lərəlˌnjuː tə rə lərəl jestʃəˌnjuː tə rə lərəl jestʃə/ verb to fire at an enemy, in order to prevent him using his weapons. ○ suppress COMMENT: When neutralizing enemy forces, it is not necessary to kill them. The object is simply to make them keep their heads down.
neutron bomb /ˈnjuː trə n bəm/ noun a tactical nuclear weapon which produces high levels of radiation but little blast, thereby causing high loss of life but comparatively little damage to buildings and installations next of kin /ˈnɛkst əv ˈkɪn/ noun a person’s closest living relative, who must be informed in the event of death or injury or other misfortune COMMENT: For most married people, the next of kin is their husband or wife. For most unmarried people, it is one of their parents.
NGO /ˈen ɡəʊ/ noun a humanitarian organization, which is not sponsored by any particular government, and can thus claim neutral status in a war zone ○ Several NGOs are already established in the region. Full form non-governmental organization
NGS abbreviation naval gunfire support
nickname /ˈnɪkənmə/ noun 1. a name (often humorous), which is given to or used by a person instead of his real name ○ His nickname is Ferret. 2. a codename 3. a codeword nicknumber /ˈnɪkənmər ˈnɪkənmər ˈnɪkənmər set/ noun a number used to denote a location on the ground night /ˈnæt/ noun a period of darkness between sunset and sunrise night-capable /ˈnæt ˈkæpəb(ə)l/ adjective able to be used in darkness Nighthawk /ˈnæθhwɔk/ noun, F-117A night-observation device, night-viewing device, night-vision device noun optical equipment which utilizes night-viewing technology night sight /ˈnæt sət/ noun a sight consisting of an optical instrument such as an image intensifier or infrared, which improves visibility at night night-viewing technology /ˈnæt ˈvjuː ˈtjuː ərəlˌvjuː ˈtjuː ərəl jestʃəˌnjuː tə rə lərəl jestʃən/ noun optical equipment which makes it possible to see things at night (e.g. image intensification, infrared, thermal imaging, etc.) Nimrod /ˈnɪmroʊd/ noun a British-designed multi-purpose aircraft, based on a passenger airliner Nimrod MR MK 2 noun a maritime patrol and anti-submarine aircraft Nimrod R MK1, /ˈnɪmroʊd ˈrɛ d hik ˈmiː tʃiən ˈmiː tʃiən/ noun an electronic intelligence (ELINT) aircraft Nissen hut /ˈnɪsən hət/ noun a semi-permanent structure with a curved roof of corrugated iron which extends down to ground level ○ Your objective is the group of Nissen huts at the northern end of the airfield.
nitroglycerine /ˈnɪtəɡlɪsərən/ noun a chemical compound, used to make dynamite NLT abbreviation not later than ○ A Company requests fuel replen NLT 1645hrs.
NMD /ˈen ˈmiː d əl/ noun US a projected American defence shield against hostile ballistic missile attacks, involving the use of anti-missle-missiles and missile-destroying lasers carried in aircraft or deployed in space satellites. Full form National Missile Defence

167 NMD

American defence shield against hostile ballistic missile attacks, involving the use of anti-missle-missiles and missile-destroying lasers carried in aircraft or deployed in space satellites. Full form National Missile Defence
 COMMENT: NMD is a new development of the unrealized Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) or Star Wars programme.

NOD (nɒd) abbreviation night observation device

noddy suit (nɒdɪ, nədɪt) noun an NBC suit (slang)

NODUF (nɒdəfl, nɒdəf) adverb radio terminology indicating that the message refers to a real situation rather than an exercise scenario ○ Hello 2 this is 22, NODUF, casualty with gunshot wound at grid 325298, request CASEVAC, over! ○ 22 has just sent a noduf message saying that someone has been shot.

no fixed abode (nɒ fɪkst ˈbɔʊd) adjective not having a permanent home or address

no-fly zone (nɒ flɪ ˈziːn) noun airspace defined by a state or by international agreement, which the aircraft of another state are not allowed to enter

no-go area (nɒ ˈɡoʊ ˈeərɪə) noun an area which is too dangerous for routine patrolling by security forces or peacekeepers ○ The eastern part of the town is now a complete no-go area.

nomad (nɒməd) noun a member of an ethnic group which has no permanent home, but travels around from one place to another (often with herds of animals)

nomadic (nɒˈmædɪk) adjective relating to nomads

no-man’s-land (nɒmənənsˈlænd) noun an area of ground between the forward positions of two opposing forces ○ A patrol was sent out into no-man’s-land.

non-com (nɒnˈkɒm) noun a non-commissioned officer (informal) ○ NCO

noncombatant (nɒnˈkɒmbətənt) noun a person who has no military role in a war or conflict (i.e. a civilian)

noncombatant status (nɒnˈkɒmbətənt ˈstætəs) noun the status of servicemen who are not directly involved in the fighting or the support of those who fight (such as chaplains and medical personnel). Compare combatant

non-commissioned officer (nɒnˈkɒmənʃənd ˈɒfɪsər) noun a serviceman who holds a supervisory rank, but is not a commissioned officer (such as a corporal, sergeant, colour sergeant, etc.) ○ He sent a squad of men with an NCO to investigate. Abbr NCO

non-governmental organization (nɒnˌgʌvərnmenˈtəl ˈɔrgənəzəʃən) noun full form of NGO

non-lethal force (nɒn ˈliːθəl ˈfɔːs) noun an action which may injure a person, but will not kill him or her

non-NATO commander (nɒn ˈneɪtəʊ ˈkəməndər) noun a commander from a country which is not a member of NATO but who is part of the command structure of a NATO force

non-persistent (nɒnˈpɜːsɪstənt) adjective (of chemical agents) designed to disperse in the air after a few minutes

north (nɔːθ) noun 1. one of the four main points of the compass, corresponding to a bearing of 0 degrees or 0 mils 2. an area to the north of your location ○ The enemy are approaching from the north.

northbound (nɔːθˈbænd) adjective moving or leading towards the north ○ a northbound convey

northerly (nɔrˈθəlɪ) adjective 1. towards the north ○ They set off in an northerly direction. 2. (of wind) from the north 3. situated towards the north ○ The most northerly point of a country.

northern (nɔrˈθən) adjective relating to the north ○ The northern part of the country.
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<tr>
<td>Northern Hemisphere</td>
<td>noun, /ˈnɔrθ(e)r nəm ˈhæmərə/</td>
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<td>northwards</td>
<td>/ˈnɔrθwədz/</td>
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<td>notice to move</td>
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<td>nuclear</td>
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**COMMENT:** Although their meanings are not identical, the word nuclear has now superseded atomic for most general contexts.

- **Nuclear, Biological and Chemical**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl biˈɔlədʒi kəl/ and /ˈtɜːrənt/ adjective full form of NBC

- **Nuclear Deterrent**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl dɪˈtɜːrnt/ noun the possession of nuclear weapons in order to deter an attack by a foreign power

- **Nuclear Disarmament**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl diˈɑrzmənt/ noun the removal or destruction of a country’s nuclear weapons

- **Nuclear Energy**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈɛnərəʒi/ noun energy produced by a nuclear reaction

- **Nuclear Power**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈpɔrə/ noun 1. a state which possesses nuclear weapons. 2. superpower. Energy produced by a nuclear reaction

- **Nuclear-Powered**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈpɔrəd/ adjective | driven or propelled by nuclear power

- **Nuclear Response**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl riˈsplaʊn/ noun the use of nuclear weapons in order to defeat or punish an act of aggression by another state

- **Nuclear Submarine**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈsʌbmaɪnər/ noun a submarine driven by nuclear power

- **Nuclear Warfare**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈwɔrfaɪər/ noun warfare involving the use of nuclear weapons

- **Nuclear Weapon**
  - /ˈnjuːtrəkl ˈwɛpən/ noun a bomb or missile or other device which utilises the release of nuclear energy. | NBC, Tactical

- **Nuke**
  - /ˈnjuːk/ noun a nuclear weapon | verb to attack with nuclear weapons | Let’s nuke them!

- **NVG** abbreviation night-viewing goggles
OSCAR - Oo

**oasis** /ˈoʊsɪs/ noun a place in a desert where water can be found. After three days they came to an oasis. (NOTE: The plural form is *oases* /ˈoʊsɪz/.)

**oath of service** /ˈoʊθ əv ˈsɜrt/ noun a solemn promise of loyalty and obedience made by people when joining the armed forces.

**obey** /ˈbɛɪ/ verb to carry out a command or order. The soldiers were court-martialled for refusing to obey orders.

**objective** /ˈəbˌdʒɛktɪv/ noun 1. something which must be accomplished or achieved. Our first objective is to improve radio security throughout the brigade. 2. a location or position which must be destroyed or captured. The platoon will reorganize on the objective.

**obscure** /ˈəbˈskjʊər/ verb to make something difficult to see. The objective is obscured by smoke.

**observation** /ˌɒbzərˈveɪʃən/ noun an act of observing.

**observation post** /ˌɒbzərˈveɪʃən ˈpəʊst/ noun 1. a covert position from which an area of ground may be observed. An enemy OP has been located at grid 882014. 2. troops occupying an observation post. All of the OP were captured. abbr OP

**observation post vehicle** /ˌɒbzərˈveɪʃən ˈpəʊst ˌvətərık(ə)l/ noun full form of OPV

**observe** /əbˈzɜrv/ verb to look at or watch something. We can observe the road from that hill.

**observer** /əbˈzɜrvər/ noun a person who observes.

**obsolescent** /əbˈsɔlənts(ə)nt/ adjective no longer in general use (because it is in the process of being replaced by something more modern). The enemy reserves are equipped with obsolete tanks. (NOTE: Although it is not correct, many people use the word *obsolete* in this context.)

**obsolete** /əbˈsɔlənt/ adjective not used any more (because it has been replaced by something more modern). That tank is now obsolete. (NOTE: When something is becoming obsolete, but is still capable of being used (and repaired), the correct term is actually *obsolescent*. However, many people use the word *obsolete* in this context as well.)

**obstacle** /ˈɒbstəkl/ noun a natural or man-made feature, which hinders or obstructs the movement of a person or vehicle.

**obstacle course** /ˈɒbstəkl kɔrs/ noun a training area where soldiers have to get past various obstacles such as ditches or high walls as quickly as possible.

**obstruct** /əbˈstrʌkt/ verb 1. to make it difficult or impossible for a person or vehicle to pass. The road was obstructed by a burning tank. 2. to make it difficult or impossible for a person to carry out a task or duty. He was constantly obstructed by his platoon sergeant.
<table>
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<td>offensive counter-air operations</td>
<td>noun, plural: attacks on enemy airfields, surface-to-air missile sites, radar sites and other facilities associated with the enemy air force</td>
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<td>official channels</td>
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<td>officer commanding</td>
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<td>officer of the watch</td>
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<tr>
<td>official</td>
<td>adjective: approved or authorized by someone who holds an office in an organization</td>
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**Example Usage:**
- *offensive counter-air operations* could refer to actions taken by military forces to counter enemy air threats.
- *official channels* are formal means of communication, often used by governments or organizations.

**Context:**
- The use of military forces to take possession and control of territory belonging to another state is referred to as an *occupation*.
- An *officer commanding* is an officer who commands a unit or sub-unit. Abbreviation *OC*.

**Related Terms:**
- *officer of the watch* is an officer in charge of a watch or lookout.
- *official* refers to someone who holds an office in government or local administration.

**Notes:**
- The term *offensive* is more common for describing aggressive military action.
- *Offensive counter-air operations* are a specific type of military operation designed to counter enemy air threats.
- *Official channels* are formal communication pathways used in official capacities.
off limits 172

off limits /ˌof ˈlɪmɪts/ adjective prohibited (to the persons specified) □ This pub is off limits to officers and NCOs.

offr abbreviation officer

off-route mine /ˌɔf rʊtˈmɛn/ noun an explosive device which is placed at the side of a road or track, and is designed to fire an anti-tank projectile into a passing vehicle automatically

O Group /ˌoʊ ˈgruːp/ noun 1. same as orders group 2. a meeting, where a commander issues operational orders to his subordinate commanders □ The O Group is at 2200hrs. 3. people who attend an O Group □ The O Group was informed that the CO had been killed.

oil /ɔɪl/ noun 1. a thick liquid refined from petroleum, which is used to lubricate machinery and protect metal from rust and corrosion 2. petroleum, a liquid mineral substance which is extracted from the ground and then refined to produce petrol, diesel, kerosene and lubricating oil □ verb to apply oil to an object □ Weapons should be cleaned and oiled before they are returned to the armoury.

oilfield /ˈɔɪlˌfiːld/ noun an area where petroleum is extracted from the ground

oil rig /ˈɔɪl rɪg/ noun a structure which supports equipment for extracting petroleum from an oil well

oil slick /ˈɔɪl sklɪk/ noun a large patch of oil or petroleum floating on water (usually released from a damaged ship as a result of an accident or enemy action)

oil well /ˈɔɪl wɛl/ noun a hole in the ground from which petroleum is extracted

OK /ˈɑːku/ adjective 1. I have understood your instruction □ all right or satisfactorily □ That went OK. 3. (as a question) do you understand? 4. (as a question) is everything all right?

OGM abbreviation operational manoeuvre group

one-star general /ˌwʌn ˈstɑːr ˈdʒenərl/ noun US a brigadier general

one-up /ˌwʌn ˈʌp/ adverb using a tactical formation in which one sub-unit is leading as point, and the other two are following abreast of each other □ We’ll be advancing one-up. Compare two-up

open arrest /əˈpɛn əˈrɛst/ noun a state in which a person is considered to be in custody and his movements are restricted, but he is allowed to go about his normal daily business

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open fire /əˈpɛn ˈfaɪər/ verb to start shooting □ The guerrillas opened fire on our platoon.

open ground /əˈpɛn ˈɡraʊnd/ noun an area where there are no buildings or major natural obstacles

operate /əˈpərət/ verb 1. to carry out military activity □ Enemy special forces are operating in this area. 2. to carry out surgery (medical) □ We will have to operate in order to remove the bullet. 3. to work the controls of an apparatus or device □ He operates the ship’s sonar equipment □ He has not been trained to operate this equipment. 4. (of an apparatus or device) to work properly □ The mechanism failed to operate.

operation /əˌpərəˈteɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of operating □ He has not been trained in the operation of this equipment 2. a planned military task □ This will be a covert operation. Also called op

op 3. operations involving various
branches of the armed forces (army and marines, e.g.) • on operations on operational service • noun an act of surgery (medical) • He will need an operation to remove the bullet.

Comment: The department responsible for operations in a headquarters is known as G3.

Operational /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl/ adjective relating to military operations

Operational command /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl kəˈmɑːnd/ noun authority given to a commander to organize tasks, deploy personnel, etc., as he feels necessary to carry out an operation

Operational control /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl kənˈtrotəl/ noun authority given to a commander to direct the forces under his command so as to carry out the mission that has been assigned to him. Abbr OMG

Operational manoeuvre group /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl məʊˈnɪvərə ˈɡruːp/ noun a Soviet armoured grouping designed to exploit a breakthrough. Abbr OMG

Operational mobility /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl məʊˈbɪləti/ noun the ability of forces to move rapidly from place to place

Operational service /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl ˈsɜːvəns/ noun service involving the possibility of real combat (as opposed to peacetime soldiering) (NOTE: In the British armed forces, the term operational service is used to describe counter-insurgency and peacekeeping operations. When a state of war exists, the term active service is used instead.)

Operations /ˈɒpərəˈʃənlz/ plural noun moving troops, equipment, etc., as part of a planned military task. Also called ops

Operations centre /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl ˈsentər/ noun a place from which a unit or group’s operations are controlled and coordinated

Operations officer /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl ˈəʊfɪsər/ noun an officer responsible for the coordination and administration of a unit or grouping’s operational tasks. Also called ops officer

Operations room /ˈɒpərəˈʃənl ˈrʊm/ noun same as Ops Room

Operator /ˈɒpərətər/ noun a person who operates an apparatus or device • He is the platoon commander’s radio-operator.

OPFOR /ˈɒp ˈfɔːr/ noun an enemy on a training exercise. Full form opposing forces

Op order /ˈɒp ɔːdər/ noun a document, containing detailed instructions for a military operation (NOTE: short for operation order)

Opponent /ˈɒpəʊzn/ noun a colleague who holds the same position as you in another unit or sub-unit (informal) • My opponent in 6 Platoon was killed. Also called opposite number

Oppose /ˈɒpəz/ verb 1. to be hostile to someone 2. to offer resistance • We were opposed by a group of well-armed snipers. 3. to disagree with someone • The general is opposed to our plan.

Opposing forces /ˈɒpəʊznɪŋ ˈfɔːsɪz/ plural noun full form of OPFOR

Opposite number /ˈɒpəzɪt ˈnʌmbə/ noun same as oppo

Opposition /ˈɒpəˈzɪʃən/ noun 1. an act of opposing • There was some opposition to the CO’s plan. 2. resistance • The brigade has met with little opposition so far.

Ops /ˈɒps/ plural noun same as operations

OPSCHED /ˈɒpskɪd/ abbreviation operation schedule

OPSEC /ˈɒpəsɪk/ abbreviation operational security

Ops Room /ˈɒps ˈrʊm/ noun a command post in a permanent base location. Also called operations room

Optic /ˈɒptɪk/ adjective relating to the eyes or vision

Optical /ˈɒptɪk(ə)l/ adjective relating to the eyes and vision
optical device /ˈɒptɪkl dɪˈvaɪs/ noun a device which a person looks through (usually as a means of improving visibility)

optics /ˈɒptɪks/ plural noun optical equipment (such as imaging equipment, optic sights, periscopes, etc.) The tank’s optics were damaged by artillery fire.

optic sight /ˈɒptɪk sɪt/ noun a weapon sight which gives the firer a magnified image of the target

option /ˈɔpʃən/ noun one of two or more alternative courses of action We have no option but to withdraw.

observation post vehicle /əʊbəˈzɛʃn pəst vɪəˈʃʊl/ ORV a style of dress or equipment

order /ˈɔrdər/ noun 1. an instruction or command I gave you an order! 2. a position or sequence in which things or events are arranged 3. good behaviour There has been a breakdown of law and order in the town. 4. a state in which things are correct Is everything in order? 5. a style of dress or equipment tidiness You are in bad order. 6. verb to tell someone to do something He ordered the platoon to load their weapons.

orderly /ˈɔrdli/ adjective 1. disciplined or under control The brigade carried out an orderly withdrawal. 2. relating to the execution of orders A serviceman who delivers messages and carries out various simple tasks in a headquarters. 2. a serviceman who cleans an officer’s kit. batman

orderly officer /ˈɔrdli ˈɒfɪsər/ noun a duty officer

orderly room /ˈɔrdli rʊm/ noun administrative office of a unit

order of battle /ˈɔrdər əv ˈbæt(ə)l/ noun an arrangement of people, vehicles or sub-units as a tactical grouping. Abbr ORBAT.
An infantry battalion is usually organized into three rifle companies, a support weapons company, a headquarters company and a battalion headquarters. 2. (of events) to make all the necessary arrangements, so that an event can take place. 2. He organized the battalion sports day.

orient /ˈɔːrɪənt/ verb US 1. a to orient yourself to establish your exact location 2. to hold a map, so that the top of the sheet is pointing towards north (NOTE: orient – oriented – orientation; British English is orientate – orientated – orientation.)

orientate /ˈɔːrɪənteɪt/ verb 1. a to orientate yourself to establish your exact location 2. to hold a map, so that the top of the sheet is pointing towards north. (NOTE: orientate – orientated – orientation. The US term is orient – oriented – orientation.)

orientation /ˌɔːrɪəˈtʃən/ noun 1. the exact position of somebody or something in relation to the points of the compass and to other objects or natural features 2. an action of orientating yourself 3. a map-reading race, where competitors navigate their way from one location to another

Orion /ˈɒrɪən/ noun an American-designed multi-purpose aircraft, which is based on a passenger airliner

Orion AEW & C noun an airborne early warning and control aircraft, with a large disk-like antenna (radome) mounted on the fuselage

Orion EP-3 /ˈɔːrɪən ɪpi ˈɔːrɪt/ noun an electronic intelligence (ELINT) aircraft

Orion P-3 /ˈɔːrɪən pi ˈɔːrɪt/ noun an anti-submarine and maritime patrol aircraft

Orthodox Church /ˌɔːrθədɑːnks ˈtʃərəkʃən/ noun an eastern European form of Christianity, found in Greece, Russia, parts of the Balkans and the Near East. Compare Protestant Church, Roman Catholic Church

Oscar /ˈɔskər/ noun the fifteenth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Oo)

OSCE abbreviation Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

OSO /ˈɔsəʊər/ noun US an aircrew member on a bomber who operates the aircraft’s weapons systems. Compare bso

other rank /ˈʌðə ˈrɑːŋk/ noun a serviceman who is not an officer. Abbr OR (NOTE: The American English term is enlisted man.)

Otomat /ˌɔtəˈmeɪt/ noun a French/Italian-designed long-range anti-ship missile (ASM)

out /aʊt/ adverb this is the end of the conversation (radio terminology) 2. roger, out. Compare over – a wait out

outbrief /ˈaʊtbrɪf/ noun a final briefing before aircrew get into their aircraft, including an update of weather conditions, last minute changes to situation, and equipment checks

outfit /ˈaʊtfɪt/ noun US a unit

outflank /ˈaʊtflæŋk/ verb to manoeuvre around an enemy’s flank. The enemy are outflanking us on the left.

outmaneuver /ˈaʊtməˈnuːvər/ verb US spelling of outmanoeuvre

outmanoeuvre /ˈaʊtməˌnuːvər/ verb to manoeuvre successfully against an enemy force which is trying to manoeuvre against you

out of area operation /ˈaʊt əˈərə əˈrɪərə əˈrɪt/ noun a military operation conducted outside the area in which a state’s armed forces usually operate (e.g. British troops operating in South America)

out of bounds /ˈaʊt əˈbaʊnts/ adverb where one is not allowed to go. That pub is out of bounds to troops. Abbr OOB
outpost /ˈaʊtpəʊst/ noun a small detachment of troops placed at a distance from the main force, in order to provide warning of an approaching enemy. All the outposts have withdrawn to the main position.

outrange /ˈaʊtrændʒ/ verb to be able to shoot further than another weapon. During the Gulf War, British and American tanks outranged the Soviet-designed tanks used by the Iraqis.

outrank /ˈaʊtræŋk/ verb to hold a higher rank than someone else. A naval lieutenant outranks a lieutenant in the army.

outrigger /ˈaʊtrɪgər/ noun a projecting part which is attached to a gun in order to stabilize it, or which is attached to an aircraft to carry a weapon.

over /ˈəʊvər/ adverb it is your turn to speak (radio terminology) or ‘Hullo 2, this is 22, what is your location, over?’ Compare out

overalls /ˈəʊvərəlz/ plural noun 1. a garment combining jacket and trousers, which is worn over other clothes in order to protect them from dirt, mud, oil, etc. 2. skin-tight trousers worn by cavalry soldiers and members of certain supporting arms, as part of a ceremonial uniform or mess kit.

overboard /ˈəʊvəbɔːd/ adverb from a ship or boat, into the water. He fell overboard.

overhead /ˈəʊvəhed/ adverb directly above you. Helicopters were flying overhead. ■ adjective positioned above you.

overhead cover /ˈəʊvəhed ˈkʌvər/ noun a roof of a trench or other field fortification, which is designed to withstand bullets and shrapnel.

overhead protection /ˈəʊvəhed prəˈtekʃən/ noun a roof constructed over a trench, in order to provide protection from shrapnel and chemical weapons.

overlay /ˈəʊvəleɪ/ noun a piece of transparent paper or plastic, marked with boundaries, positions, routes, and other information relating to an operation, which is designed to be placed over a map as a means of briefing the participants. Also called trace.

overrun /ˈəʊvərʌn/ verb to fight your way onto an enemy position. We are being overrun. The enemy easily overrun our defences. (NOTE: overrunning – overran – have overrun)

overseas /əˈvɜːsiz/ adverb in or to a foreign country. He was posted overseas. ■ adjective ‘He wants an overseas posting.’

COMMENT: For American and British servicemen and servicewomen, most foreign countries are indeed located overseas. The word would be less appropriate for French soldiers serving in Germany, for example, since the two countries are not separated by a sea.

over-watch /ˈəʊvə,wɒtʃ/ noun a role in which troops or tanks observe and give covering fire if necessary. Two squadrons deployed into over-watch positions.
PAPA - Pp

P-15 /pɪfi:tɪzm/ noun a Soviet-designed long-range anti-ship missile (ASM) (NOTE: known to NATO as Styx)

PAA /piːˈeɪə/ noun the number of aircraft allocated to a unit for the performance of its operational role (as opposed to training aircraft, spares, aircraft under maintenance). Full form primary aircraft authorized

pace /peɪs/ noun 1. a single movement of a foot when walking ○ The squad took two paces forward. 2. the distance which a person’s foot moves when walking one pace ○ An officer should keep pace with someone to move at the same speed as another person or vehicle ■ verb to measure distance by counting your paces ○ He paced the distance to the river.

pace-stick /ˈpeɪstʌkt/ noun a giant set of mathematical dividers, traditionally carried by drill instructors in order to determine the length of pace for marching ○ He was charged for hitting a recruit with his pace-stick.

Pacific Command /ˈpæsɪfɪk kəˈmænd/ noun full form of PACOM

pacifism /ˈpæsɪfɪzəm/ noun the belief that war is the wrong way to settle disputes

pacifist /ˈpæsɪfɪst/ noun a person who believes that war is the wrong way to settle disputes ○ He is a committed pacifist. ■ adjective referring to pacifism ○ He became a conscientious objector because of his pacifist beliefs.

pack /pæk/ noun 1. a large fabric container, designed to be carried on a person’s back. ○ bergen, rucksack 2. a paper or cardboard or plastic container ○ a pack of cigarettes ○ a 24 hour ration pack

package /ˈpækɪdʒ/ noun 1. any object which is wrapped in a protective covering of paper or plastic or fabric ○ The package might be a bomb. 2. same as package formation ○ This package will neutralise the enemy’s defence capability.

package formation /ˈpækɪdeɪn/ noun a large aerial attack force made up of different types of aircraft (e.g. attack, escort, reconnaissance, SEAD, EW)

pack-animal /ˈpæk ənəməl/ noun a mule or horse used to carry ammunition or equipment or supplies

pack rations /ˈpæk ərəʃənz/ plural noun individual rations which are carried by each serviceman or service-woman in a pack

PACOM /ˈpækəm/ noun US the department of the US forces responsible for defending American national interests in the Pacific. Full form Pacific Command

pad /pæd/ noun (slang) 1. a married quarter ○ There’s been an explosion down at the pads. 2. a soldier who lives with his or her family in a married quarter ○ We need to send trucks to pick up the pads.

paddle /ˈpæd(ə)/ noun an instrument like a short oar, designed to propel an assault boat or canoe by hand ○ He dropped his paddle into the water. ■ verb to propel a boat with a paddle ○ They paddled quietly up to the castle walls.
paddy-field 178

paddy-field /ˈpeɪdi fild/ noun a field which is submerged in water, in order to cultivate rice

padre /ˈpærdeɪ/ noun a Christian army chaplain

pagoda /ˈpɑːɡoʊdə/ noun a tall building used for religious worship in China, Korea, Japan, etc.

pain /ˈpeɪn/ noun an unpleasant physical sensation, caused by illness or injury

painkiller /ˈpeɪnkɪl/ noun a drug (e.g. morphine) designed to stop pain

paint /ˈpeɪnt/ noun a liquid substance which is applied to an object in order to colour it (as for camouflage), to provide protection from water and damp or to provide resistance to certain types of surveillance equipment (such as infrared) ➤ verb 1. to apply paint to an object ➤ They painted the vehicles white. 2. to illuminate a target with a laser target designator (informal)

pair /peər/ noun two people or things acting or being used together ➤ He saw a pair of tanks by the wood.

pallet /ˈpeɪlət/ noun a wooden platform, designed to provide a firm base for a heavy load

pallisade /ˈpæliˌsæd/ noun a barrier or fortification constructed from wooden stakes, which are positioned vertically in the ground

Paludrin /ˈpæljʊdrɪn/ noun a drug which provides resistance to malaria

panga /ˈpæŋɡə/ noun in East Africa, a long broad-bladed knife designed for clearing vegetation and often used as a weapon. ➤ machete, parang

panic /ˈpeɪŋk/ noun loss of self-control as a result of fear or anxiety. ➤ The civilian population fled in panic as the soldiers arrived. ➤ verb to be affected by panic ➤ He panicked when the enemy opened fire. (Note: panicking — panicked)

panoramic sketch /ˌpænərəˈmætɪk ˈskɛtʃ/ noun a simple drawing of an area of ground, made by an FOO or MFC, with likely targets and other useful information marked on it

panorama /ˌpænəˈrɑːmə/ noun a large area near a barracks, where troops can parade

paradigm /ˈpærəˌdʒɪm/ noun same as paradigm

paradigm /ˈpærəˌdʒɪm/ noun a large area near a barracks, where troops can parade

paradise /ˈpærəˌdɪs/ noun a garden

parallax /ˈpærəˈlæks/ noun the difference between the apparent positions of an object as observed from different positions

parachute /ˈpærəʃjuːt/ noun an apparatus consisting of a fabric canopy and a suspension harness which allows a person, vehicle or load to descend safely from an aircraft in flight ➤ He was killed when his parachute failed to open. ➤ verb 1. to descend by parachute ➤ The group parachuted behind enemy lines. 2. to drop something by parachute ➤ They parachuted supplies into the village.

parachutist /ˈpærəʃjuːtɪst/ noun someone who descends by parachute

parade /ˈpærəd/ noun 1. an action of assembling at a specified time and place in order to be inspected before the commencement of an operation or period of duty. 2. a ceremonial occasion (usually involving marching and military music) ➤ The passing-out ceremony was followed by a parade. ➤ verb to assemble for inspection at a specified time and place ➤ The platoon will parade at the armory at 0745 hours.

parade ground /ˈpærəd/ ground/ noun a large area near a barracks, where troops can parade

parade square /ˈpærəd/ skweə/ noun same as parade ground

parados /ˈpærədəʊs/ noun a raised mound of earth protecting the rear of a trench. Compare parapet

paraffin oil /ˈpærəfɪn oʊl/ noun same as kerosene

paramedic /ˌpærəˈmedɪk/ noun a serviceman or civilian, with a high level of medical training, who is qualified to perform emergency treatment on serious casualties

paramilitary /ˌpærəˈmɪltəri/ adjective organized like an army (and pos-
sibly armed) ○ There are several par-
military groups operating in the region.
parang /pəræŋ/ noun in Southeast
Asia, a long broad-bladed knife de-
signed for clearing vegetation and often
used as a weapon. ○ machete, panga
parapet /pərəpət/ noun a raised
mound of earth protecting the front of a
trench. Compare parados
parasite /pərəsət/ noun an organ-
is or insect which lives on or inside
another animal and feeds off that animal
(e.g. a louse, or worm) ○ The disease is
transmitted by a parasite.
parasitic /pərə'sətɪk/ adjective relat-
ing to a parasite ○ The disease is trans-
mitted by a parasitic worm.
paratrooper /pərə'trɒpər/ noun an
infantryman or member of a supporting
arm who deploys into a war zone by
parachute
COMMENT: Paratroopers of most ar-
 mies undergo an exceptionally hard
training programme and are conse-
quently considered to be elite troops.
paratroops /pərə'trɒps/ plural noun
paratroopers ○ Enemy paratroops land-
ed near the village.
park /pɑrk/ verb to stop a vehicle be-
side a road or in a special area and leave
it there ○ noun an area on a military
base where military vehicles are kept
parole /pə'rɔul/ noun the release of a
prisoner on the condition of a promise
made by that prisoner (e.g. that he will
no longer fight against the army which
captured him) ○ He was released on pa-
role. ○ verb to release a prisoner on pa-
role ○ He has been paroled.
partisan /'pərtɪəs(ə)n, ,pərtɪə'zɛn/ noun an irregular soldier fighting
against regular troops ○ The convoy was
ambushed by a group of partisans. ○
guerrilla
Partnership for Peace ○'pɪts/ noun full form of PIP
pass /pɑs/ verb 1. to go past some-
thing ○ We passed the fuel dump an
hour ago. 2. to move on ○ We passed
through Hildesheim without stopping.
3. to hand something to another person
○ Pass me that map, please. 4. to ap-
prove or allow something ○ I have
passed your application to join the
Mortar Platoon. 5. to complete an ex-
amination or test successfully ○ You
have passed the sergeants’ exam. ○
noun 1. a document authorizing the
holder to do something ○ Show me your
leave pass, please. 2. a narrow route
through mountainous country ○ The en-
emy had blocked all the passes through
the mountains. 3. an approach flight to-
wards a target made by an attacking air-
craft ○ We hit the tank on our second
pass.
passage of lines /pɑsɪdʒ 'lainz/ noun a process whereby a unit or group-
ings moves through the positions of an-
other unit or grouping. ○ front line
passive /pɑsɪv/ adjective relating to
night-viewing devices which do not re-
quire an external source of infrared (IR)
light in order to operate. Compare ac-
tive
passive night goggles /'pɑsɪv 'naɪt, ,ɡɑɡ(ə)ləʊz/ plural noun full form of PNG
pass out /pɑs 'aut/ verb to success-
fully complete an officer training
course ○ He passed out of Sandhurst in
December. ○ Parents of cadets were in-
vited to the passing-out parade.
password /pɑsˈwɔːd/ noun words,
letters or numbers used as a verbal rec-
ognition signal, usually in the form of a
challenge and a reply ○ The sentry
opened fire because the patrol did not
give the correct password. ○ counter-
sign
path /pɑθ/ noun 1. a small track,
which has been made artificially, or
simply by people walking along it over
a long period ○ The guide led the group
along steep mountain paths. 2. a line
along which something travels ○ the
path of a missile
pathfinder /pɑθˈfaɪndər/ noun 1. an aircraft which travels ahead of the main
attack force in order to test enemy air
defences and to mark targets. 2. a soldier
(especially paratrooper or marine) who
deploys ahead of the main force in order
to reconnoitre, secure and mark a DZ or
LZ or beach-landing site. ○ ITG
Patriot

**Patriot** /ˈpærtriət/ noun an American-designed surface-to-air missile (SAM).

COMMENT: During the Gulf War in 1991, the Patriot proved itself to be highly effective at shooting down Iraqi Scud missiles.

**patrol** /ˈpɑːtrəʊl/ noun 1. a detachment of soldiers or vehicles sent out by a larger unit to carry out a specific task. ○ The patrol was ambushed as it entered the village. 2. a covert or overt task carried out by a small detachment of soldiers or vehicles. ○ He was killed on a patrol. ○ We will have to mount a patrol to check the route. ○ verb to carry out a patrol. ○ Soldiers patrolled the streets during the curfew. (NOTE: patrolling – patrolled)

**patrol base** /ˈpɑːtrəʊl bəs/ noun a covert base established in no-man’s-land or enemy territory from which patrols can be mounted

**patrol pack** /ˈpɑːtrəʊl pæk/ noun a small pack which is designed to carry the equipment a soldier needs while on patrol

**pattern** /ˈpæt(ə)n/ noun 1. a decorative design, which is printed or painted on fabric or other materials. 2. the design of clothing, footwear or webbing. ○ He was wearing the latest pattern of combat boot.

**Pave Tack** /ˈpæv tæk/ noun an American-designed airborne laser target designator

**Paveway** /ˈpævweɪ/ noun an American-designed laser-guided bomb (LGB)

**pay** /peɪ/ noun the money which a person receives for doing his job. ○ He has difficulty bringing up his family on a corporal’s pay. ○ verb to give someone his pay. ○ The troops mutinied because they had not been paid for months. (NOTE: paying – paid)

**pay attention** /ˈpeɪ ətəntʃən/ verb to concentrate on something

**payload** /ˈpɛələʊd/ noun 1. ordnance and equipment carried by an aircraft. ○ This fighter is capable of carrying an enormous payload. ○ The payload of this aircraft includes laser-guided bombs and heat-seeking missiles. 2. a type of ordnance delivered by a missile (such as bomblets, chemical agent, high explosive, etc.). ○ This missile is designed to carry a variety of payloads.

**paymaster** /ˈpeɪmɑːster/ noun a unit officer who is responsible for pay

**PB pill** /piː biː pɪl/ noun a pill taken to counter the effects of nerve agents

**P Company** /piː ,kæmpəni/ noun a mandatory parachute training course for airborne troops. ○ He failed P Company.

COMMENT: P Company is an exceptionally difficult course to pass and requires an extremely high level of physical fitness. Only those soldiers who have successfully completed this course are entitled to wear the famous red beret of the Parachute Regiment.

**PD** /piː diː/ noun a type of blister and vomiting agent. Full form phenyl-dichloroarsine

**PE** abbreviation plastic explosive

**peace** /ˈpiːs/ noun 1. a state of not being involved in a war or armed conflict. ○ After the end of the war, Europe enjoyed two decades of peace. 2. the ending of a war or armed conflict

**peacekeeper** /ˈpɛskɪpə/ noun a serviceman, who is a member of a peacekeeping force. ○ Several UN peacekeepers have been injured.

**peacekeeping** /ˈpɛskɪpəŋ/ noun a deployment, usually by the United Nations, of a neutral military force into an area where two sides are, or have recently been, engaged in armed conflict, in order to prevent or deter further military action by either side. ○ adjective referring to peacekeeping. ○ The UN is deploying a peacekeeping force in the region. ○ Ireland is very active in its UN peacekeeping role.

**peace talks** /ˈpiːts tæks/ plural noun negotiations aimed at ending a war or armed conflict

**peacetime** /ˈpiːstəm/ noun a period during which a state is not involved in a
war or armed conflict — The army was disbanded and the troops returned to their peacetime occupations.

peace treaty /ˈpiːs ˈtrəti/ noun a signed agreement between opposing sides at the end of a war, stating the conditions under which they agree to exist in peace with each other. The peace treaty was signed at Versailles.

penetrate /ˈpentreɪt/ verb 1. to force a way through the surface of something. This round is capable of penetrating most modern types of armour. 2. to force your way through a fortification or line of defence. The enemy have penetrated our perimeter in several places.

peripheral /ˈpɜːrəfɪəl/ adjective on the edge of an area or in the surrounding area. The base has suffered some peripheral damage.

periscope /ˈpɜːrɪskəʊp/ noun an optical instrument, which enables an observer on a lower level (e.g. in a submerged submarine or at the bottom of a trench) to see things on a higher level (such as on the surface of the sea or ground).

permission /ˈpɜːrɪmənt/ noun consent or authorization given by one person, which allows another person to do something. He left the barracks without permission. Permission to carry on, Sir?

permit /ˈpɜːrɪmət/ a document which authorizes someone to do something. You will need a permit to get into the camp.

persistent /ˈpɜːrɪstənt/ adjective (of chemical agents) designed to remain effective for several hours or days. Persistent agents are normally used against targets in rear areas, whereas non-persistent agents are used against a forward
personal details

position, shortly before an assault is mounted.

**personal details** /ˈpɜːsən(ə)l/ 'dirɛtəl/ plural noun a person’s name, date of birth, occupation, address, etc.

**personnel** /ˈpɜːsən(ə)l/ noun people who are employed by an organization

**personnel replacements**

**COMMENT**: The department responsible for personnel in a headquarters is known as G1.

**personnel carrier** /ˈpɜːsənəl kærɪə/ noun a vehicle (usually armoured) designed to carry troops.

**anti-personnel**

**petrol** /ˈpɛtrəl/ noun a liquid fuel made from petroleum, used by motor vehicles

**petrol bomb** /ˈpɛtrəl bɒm/ noun an improvised incendiary device consisting of a bottle filled with petrol and fitted with a wick of fabric, which is lit and then thrown at a target. (NOTE: The American English term is gasoline; in many other languages it is benzin.)

**petroleum** /pəˈtrɔːliəm/ noun a liquid mineral substance which is extracted from the ground and then refined to produce petrol, diesel, kerosene and lubricating oil

**petroleum transfer point** /pəˌtrɔːliəm ˈtrɜːnsfər pɔɪnt/ noun full form of PTP

**petty officer** /ˈpeti ˈnɪfɪs/ noun a non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the British and US navies. Abbr PO

**Pfc** abbreviation US private first class

**PIP** noun an agreement between NATO and various non-NATO countries to co-operate in the interests of peace and security, especially in Europe. Full form Partnership for Peace

**PGM** abbreviation precision guided munition

**Phalanx** /ˈfɛləŋks/ noun an American-designed radar-controlled 20mm naval anti-aircraft cannon (CIWS), which automatically detects, tracks and engages targets (NOTE: Phalanx is based on the M-61A1 Vulcan.)

**Phantom** /ˈfɛntəm/ noun F-4

**phase** /fɛs/ noun a specific stage in a planned or predicted sequence of events

- This will be a five-phase operation.

**phase line** /fɛs ˈlɛn/ noun an imaginary line (often defined by a topographical feature, such as a road) used as a reference point or objective during movement (NOTE: The squadron crossed Phase Line Charlie at 1345 hours.)

**phonetic alphabet** /fəʊˈnetɪk/ 'ɛlɛfəbet/ noun an alphabet consisting of words (such as Alpha, Bravo, Charlie), which is designed to avoid confusion between similar letters, when speaking on the radio

**Phosgene** /ˌfɒzdʒɪn/ noun, CG

**Phosgene Oxime** /ˌfɒzdʒɪn ˈɒksɪm/ noun CX

**phosphorus** /ˌfɒsfəˈrəʊs/ noun a liquid fuel

- white phosphorus

**photo** /ˈfəʊtəʊ/ noun a photograph (informal)

**photograph** /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræf/ noun a picture produced by a camera (NOTE: He was arrested while he was photographing the base.)

**photo-interpreter** /ˌfəʊtə ɪnˈtɜːprɪtə/ noun a person who studies air or satellite photographs

**physical** /ˈfɪzɪk(ə)l/ noun a medical examination for new recruits to find out whether they are physically fit for service

- physical training

**physical training** /ˈfɪzɪk(ə)l ˈtremən fɛktərɪəl/ noun activities and exercises designed to improve or maintain physical fitness. Abbr PT

**physical training instructor** /ˈfɪzɪk(ə)l ˈtremən ɪnˈstrʌktər/ noun a serviceman who is trained to supervise physical training. Abbr PTI

**pick** /pɪk/ noun a simple tool consisting of a curved metal bar with a point at one end and a blade at the other, attached at right angles to a long wooden handle; designed to break up hard ground (NOTE: He picked two soldiers to carry the ammunition.)
pickaxe /ˈpɪkæks/ noun US spelling of pickaxe

pickaxe /ˈpɪkæks/ noun a simple tool consisting of a curved metal bar with a point at one end and a blade at the other, attached at right angles to a long wooden handle; designed to break up hard ground. ◆ pick

picket /ˈpɪkɪt/ noun 1. a small group of soldiers sent out to watch for the enemy or to cover the activities of other troops ◆ It was necessary to place pickets along the route. ◆ outpost, standing patrol 2. a metal stake used in the revetting of trenches and other fortifications ◆ verb to deploy a picket ◆ It will be necessary to picket the high ground.

pick helve /ˈpɪk hɛlv/ noun a pick handle, sometimes used as a baton. ◆ pickaxe

pick off /ˈpɪk ˈɒf/ verb to shoot systematically at selected targets ◆ The snipers were ordered to pick off the enemy commanders.

pick up /ˈpɪk ˈʌp/ verb 1. to lift an object off the ground (usually by hand) ◆ You should not pick up unexploded bombs. 2. to collect people or things with an aircraft, boat or vehicle, in order to transport them to another location ◆ The patrol was picked up by helicopter.

pick-up point /ˈpɪk ʌp poʊnt/ noun a location where people or things are picked up. Abbrev PUP

picquet /ˈpɪkɪt/ noun another spelling of picket

picquet officer /ˈpɪkɪt ˈɒfɪsər/ noun a duty officer

pierce /ˈpɪrs/ verb to force a way through the surface of something ◆ The shell pierced the tank’s armour ◆ penetrate

pillbox /ˈpɪlbɒks/ noun a small bunker constructed from reinforced concrete

pilot /ˈpɪlət/ noun 1. a person who operates the flying controls of an aircraft 2. a person employed to take control of ships which are entering or leaving a harbour, or passing through a waterway ◆ verb to act as a pilot on an aircraft or ship

pilot officer /ˈpɪlət ˈɒfɪsər/ noun the lowest officer rank in the air force. Abbrev PO

pincer movement /ˈpɪnsər ˈmjuːvmənt/ noun a tactical manoeuvre, in which two groupings attack an enemy force at the same time from different directions

pin down /ˈpɪn ˈdɑn/ verb to direct so much fire at an enemy that he is unable to move (in any direction) ◆ We were pinned down for over an hour.

P-INFO /ˈpiː ˈɪnʃuː/ noun a department responsible for dealing with the media. Full form Public Information

Pink /ˈpɪŋk/ noun the Pink document containing the planned or probable sequence of events for a military exercise

pioneer /ˈpaɪənər/ noun an infantry soldier who is trained to carry out field engineering tasks for his unit (preparing fortifications, clearing obstacles, etc.)

pipe /ˈpaɪp/ noun an insignia in the form of a star, which is used in certain badges of rank by the British Army. ◆ star
COMMENT: A second lieutenant has one pip; a lieutenant has two; a captain has three; a lieutenant-colonel has a pip and a crown.

pipe /ˈpaɪp/ noun a tube made of concrete, metal or plastic, which is used to convey gas or liquid

pipe bomb /ˈpaɪp bɜːm/ noun a homemade grenade consisting of a piece of metal pipe filled with explosive

pipeline /ˈpaɪplin/ noun a huge pipe built to convey water, oil or gas over long distances ◆ The pipeline will be a serious obstacle for our tanks.

piper /ˈpaɪpsər/ noun a musician who plays the bagpipes

pipe range /ˈpaɪp rɛɪndʒ/ noun an indoor shooting range constructed from a length of large-diameter concrete pipe, which is used for the zeroing of weapons

pipes /ˈpaɪps/ plural noun bagpipes

pipes and drums /ˈpaɪps ən ˈdræms/ plural noun a band of pipers and drummers, belonging to a battalion or regiment
pistol /ˈpɪstəl/ noun a small gun designed to be held in one hand
pistol-grip noun a handle shaped like a pistol, which is mounted behind the trigger of a machine-gun.

pit /pɪt/ noun a wide deep man-made hole in the ground

plague /pleɪɡ/ noun a highly infectious and potentially fatal disease, which is often carried by rat fleas and can be transmitted to man, sometimes resulting in widespread epidemics. Also called bubonic plague

COMMENT: Caused by a bacterium Pasteurella pestis, the symptoms of plague are fever, shivering and painful swellings on the lymph nodes. Carrier rats can spread plague to humans by biting them. Very rarely, the virus can be transmitted to man, sometimes resulting in widespread epidemics. The disease is usually fatal if untreated. The bacteria are killed by a normal fever and sweating. If treated early, however, the victim can recover.

plastic /ˈplæstɪk/ noun a man-made material

plastic bullet /ˈplæstɪk ˈbʌlt/; rubber bullet /rəˈbɜr ˈbʌlt/ noun a large projectile made of plastic or rubber which is fired from a special gun and is designed to knock a person over but not to cause a serious injury. Also called baton round

plastic explosive /ˈplæstɪk ˈɛkspləʊsɪv/ noun a soft explosive substance which can be moulded into a required shape by hand. Abbreviation PE

plastic cuff /ˈplæstɪk kʌf/ noun a flexible plastic strip with a self-locking catch, which is designed to bind a prisoner’s hands together. The prisoners were secured with plastic cuffs.

COMMENT: The advantage of plastic cuffs is that they are light and disposable; thus each person can carry several and does not have to worry about retrieving them.

platoon /ˈpləʊtən/ noun a wide level area of high ground

platform /ˈplætform/ noun 1. a raised structure alongside the railway line at a railway station, which enables the passengers to get into the train 2. a firm surface or structure to which a weapon or other device is fitted 3. an aircraft or ship or vehicle upon which a weapon or weapons system is fitted and used

platoon-sized groupings of tanks, artillery and certain supporting arms (such as engineers) are known as troops.

platoon commander /ˈpləʊtən ˈkɑːməndər/ noun the commander of a platoon
platoon leader /ˈpləˌtunˈləʊdər/ noun
US the officer in command of a platoon
platoon sergeant /ˈpləˌtunˌsɜːrtʃən/ noun a sergeant who acts as second-in-command in a platoon
pliers /ˈplaɪəz/ plural noun a tool shaped like scissors for squeezing, pulling or cutting wire
plot /ˈplɔt/ noun a secret plan to carry out an illegal act • verb 1. to make a secret plan to carry out an illegal act • They were plotting a coup. 2. to plan a course or route on a chart or map • He plotted a course between the islands.
plotter /ˈplɔttər/ noun a circular board, printed with a grid of squares and fitted with a revolving cursor, which is used to calculate the bearing required for an artillery piece or mortar to hit a target
COMMENT: In most armies, plotters have been replaced by computerized fire-control data systems.
plume /ˈpluːm/ noun a tall decoration of coloured feathers or animal hair, which is attached to a ceremonial headdress • The Coldstream Guards wear red plumes in their bearskins.
PMC abbreviation private military company
PNG /ˈpiːnˈdʒiː/ noun a night-viewing device, similar to a pair of binoculars, which is normally fitted to a person’s face so that his hands are free. Full form passive night goggles
PO abbreviation 1. petty officer 2. pilot officer
pod /ˈpoʊd/ noun an external container suspended under an aircraft (used to carry electronic equipment or fuel or weapon systems or munitions) • The aircraft is fitted with a radar-jamming pod under its starboard wing and a chaff-dispensing pod under the port wing.
point /ˈpɔɪnt/ noun 1. a sharp or tapered end • The point of my pencil has broken. 2. a location • They found a suitable point to dump the ammunition. 3. a precise moment • It was at this point that he decided to withdraw. 4. the reason or purpose • There was no point in continuing the patrol. 5. an important factor • The point is that we are short of ammunition. 6. the leading soldier, vehicle or unit in a formation • The point was killed in the first exchange of fire. 7. the role of leading a formation • We were on point for the first phase of the advance. • adjective leading • The point tank was destroyed by a mine. • verb 1. to indicate with finger, hand or other object • He pointed at the wood. • to point out to draw someone’s attention to an object or fact • I pointed out the fact that the bridge was too narrow for tanks 2. to direct or aim a weapon • He pointed his gun at the officer.
point-blank range /ˈpɔɪnt ˈblæŋk rɛŋ/ noun very close range • He was shot at point-blank range.
point defence /ˈpɔɪnt dəˈfɛns/ noun a naval anti-air warfare (AAW) term for a warship’s use of its short-range surface-to-air missiles (SAM) and other weapons (e.g. CIWS) for self-defence
point of main effort /ˈpɔɪnt əv mɛnˈfɔːt/ noun the part of the battlefield or operational theatre which a commander identifies as the place to maximize his efforts in order to fulfil his mission
POL abbreviation petrol, oil, lubricants
police /ˈpəˌlɪs/ noun a civil organization responsible for the maintenance of law and order within a state • verb to control an area using police officers or soldiers • to police the battlefield • to clear an area of dead bodies and discarded equipment from both enemy and friendly forces and take them to a central location • The companies were ordered to police the areas in front of their positions.
policeman /ˈpəˌlɪsˌmən/ noun a member of a police force
policy /ˈpɑləsi/ noun decisions taken by a government or military command on the general way something should be done
political officer /ˈpəˌlətəkəl/ noun US in Communist countries, an officer who is responsible to the government and outside the usual military chain of command, and whose job is to
POL point 186
ensure that troops remain loyal to the regime.

POL point /piːˈoʊ elˈpɔːnt/ noun a location where vehicles are refuelled

poncho /ˈpɔntʃəʊ/ noun a waterproof cape

poncho liner /ˈpɔntʃəʊ lənər/ noun a lightweight quilt used for bivouacking

pond /pɔnd/ noun a very small lake

pongo /ˈpɔŋgoʊ/ noun a member of the army (air-force slang)

pontoon bridge /ˈpɔntuən bɹɪdʒ/ noun a temporary bridge supported by boats

POR /pɔr/ abbreviation post-operation report

port /pɔrt/ noun 1. a harbour, containing docks and other facilities for the loading and unloading of ships 2. the left-hand side of an aircraft, boat or ship 3. Enemy fighters approaching port/

Compare starboard

portable /ˈpɔrtəbəl/ adjective able to be carried easily. o air-portable, man-portable

Portakabin /ˈpɔrtəkæbən/ noun a small building, which is easy to assemble and can be transported by vehicle (designed for use as a temporary office or shelter on building sites, etc.)

port arms /ˈpɔrt ˈɛmˌzɜːr/ verb to hold a rifle diagonally across the chest o for inspection port arms to hold a weapon with the working parts pulled to the rear, so that it can be inspected to make sure that it is clear of ammunition

position /ˈpɔzəʃən/ noun 1. a place occupied by troops or equipment for tactical purposes o The enemy positions were clearly visible in the satellite photograph 2. a situation o Our position is now critical. o verb to place in a specific location o He positioned the mortar line in a shallow gully.

positional defence /ˈpɔzəʃən dɪfəns/ noun a defensive doctrine which relies on static defensive positions and the use of attrition to halt an enemy advance. Also known as static defence. Compare mobile defence

positional warfare /ˈpɔzəʃən wɔːrəfɛɪr/ noun a military doctrine which places emphasis on the possession of ground and its denial to the enemy. Compare manoeuvre warfare

position of attention /ˈpɔzəʃən əv əˈtɛnʃən/ noun the act of standing erect, with the feet together and the arms held in to the sides

posn abbreviation position

post /pɔst/ noun 1. a place where a serviceman is stationed 2. a military base or installation 3. a tactical position 4. a job or position in an organization o Has been posted to HQ 7 Brigade. o My next posting is in Germany. o It was impossible to find any potable water in the contaminated area.

postpone /ˈpɔstəpən/ verb to make an event happen at a later time than originally planned o H-Hour has been postponed until 1530hrs.

post-traumatic stress disorder /ˌpɔst trəˈmætɪk ˈstreɪts dɪsˈɔrɪdər/ noun mental collapse, as a result of a frightening or horrific experience. Abbr PTSD. o battle fatigue, shell shock

potable /ˈpɔtəbəl/ adjective US fit for drinking o It was impossible to find any potable water in the contaminated area.

pouch /pəʊʃ/ noun webbing or leather container, which is attached to a soldier’s belt and is designed to hold ammunition or equipment

pound /pəʊnd/ noun a unit of weight, corresponding to 0.4536 kilograms

POW abbreviation prisoner of war

POW camp /ˈprɔzək/ noun a secure location where
prisoners-of-war are accommodated.

187 Presidential Guard

concentration camp
power /ˈpaʊər/ noun 1. mechanical or electrical energy o The village has been deprived of power for ten days. o The engine keeps losing power. 2. a military strength o Does the gun have the power to knock out that battery? 3. a state with international influence which is based upon military strength o There is a danger of involvement by foreign powers. 4. an authorization to do something • verb to supply an apparatus or machine with mechanical or electrical energy o This submarine is powered by nuclear energy.

power lines /ˈpaʊər lains/ plural noun wires, which convey large quantities of electricity from one location to another

power of arrest /ˈpaʊər əˈrest/ noun legal authority to arrest a person

powerpack /ˈpaʊərpæk/ noun an engine of an armoured fighting vehicle. Also known as powerplant

powerplant /ˈpaʊərplɑnt/ noun an engine of an armoured fighting vehicle. Also known as powerpack

powers of arrest /ˈpaʊərz əˈrest plural noun the conditions under which a member of the security forces may legally arrest a person o There is no power of arrest for this offence.

power station /ˈpaʊər steɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an installation which produces electricity

PR abbreviation public relations

precaution /ˈpriːkəʃ(ə)n/ noun an action or procedure which is carried out in advance, in order to counter or prevent danger or failure o The accident happened because he failed to take the correct precautions. o Wear your helmet as a precaution.

precautionary /ˈpriːkəʃ(ə)nəri/ adjective (of actions or procedure) as a precaution o This is just a precautionary measure.

precision /ˈpriːʃ(ə)n/ noun accuracy

precision guided munition /ˈpriːʃ(ə)n ˈɡərdɪd ˈmjuːˈtʃ(ə)n/ noun a bomb or missile, containing an automatic guidance system (such as an anti-radar missile, cruise missile, laser-guided a bomb, etc.). Abbr PGM. • smart bomb

Predator /ˈpredətər/ noun an American-designed hand-held anti-tank missile

pre-emptive strike /ˈprɛ.emptɪv ˈstrɪk/ noun an act of attacking a potential enemy before he attacks your own forces or territory

preparation /prɛˈpreɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an act of preparing for something o The operation failed because of poor preparation. o We were still making our preparations when the enemy attacked.

preparatory /ˈpriːprərəri/ adjective as a preparation

preparatory bombardment /ˈpriːprərəriˌbərdərnənt/ noun the bombardment of an objective, prior to an assault

prepare /prɛˈpɛr/ verb to make yourself or a thing ready for something o He prepared the weapon for firing. o Prepare to move!

prepared for demolition /prɛˌdɛməˈlɛʃ(ə)n/ adjective fitted with explosive charges

presence /ˈpriːz(ə)n/ noun the fact of having people or units which represent a particular country or organization within a particular area o a permanent US presence in the Persian Gulf

presence patrol /ˈpriːzəns pɔrl/ noun a patrol conducted for the purpose of reminding people that there is a military presence in the area

present /ˈpriːz(ə)n/ adjective or verb at this location o The company is present and ready for your inspection. Sir. • noun this moment in time o At present, we are unaware of the enemy’s intentions. • verb to offer or give o He was presented with a painting of a Warrior.

present arms /ˈprɛzənt ərzn/ verb to salute someone by holding a rifle in front of the body in a vertical position

Presidential Guard /ˈprezɪdənʃ(ə)n/ noun elite troops whose duty is to protect the president
pressel-switch

pressel-switch /'pres(ə)l 'switʃ/ noun a switch, connected to or forming part of a microphone, which is pressed in order to transmit a radio message. ○ No-one will hear you if you don’t keep the pressel-switch pressed down. ○ Three clicks on the pressel-switch means that the enemy is approaching the ambush.

prevent /prɪˈvent/ verb 1. to stop something happening ○ It was impossible to prevent the accident. 2. to stop someone doing something ○ We managed to prevent the civilians attacking the prisoner.

primary aircraft authorized /ˈprɪməri əˈkraɪfɪt əˈzɔrɪtɪd/ noun full form of PAA

primary call sign /ˈprɪməri ˈkɔll əˈzɔrn/ noun the main identifying call sign used by a radio operator or station.

primary jungle /ˈprɪməri ˈdʒʌŋɡɡəl/ noun a jungle where the trees have grown to a considerable height, and there is little ground vegetation.

primary objective /ˈprɪməri ˈəbˈdʒektɪv/ noun the most important objective of an operation.

primary radio frequency /ˈprɪməri ˈreɪdiəˌfɛrekənsi/ noun the usual or strongest radio frequency.

prime /ˈprɪm/ verb to prepare an explosive device for detonation ○ He is priming grenades. ○ The missile primes itself when fired.

primer /ˈprɪmər/ noun a small explosive charge used to detonate the explosive of a bomb or other explosive device ○ He removed the primer from the bomb.

principle /ˈprɪnsəps(ə)/ noun a general rule which is the basis for political or military action.

principles of war /ˈprɪnsəps(ə)lz əv 'wɔr/ plural noun the mass, manoeuvre, surprise, security, simplicity, objective, offensive, economy of force, unity of command.

prison /ˈprɪzn/ noun a secure location, where people (especially convicted criminals) are confined.

prison camp /ˈprɪzn(ə)kæmp/ noun a camp, where prisoners of war are confined.

prisoner /ˈprɪzn(ə)noʊ/ noun 1. a person who is confined in a prison 2. a person who has been arrested or captured ○ to take someone prisoner to capture someone ○ A prisoner of war is someone who tries to kill you and fails, and then asks you not to kill him – Sir Winston Churchill.

prisoner of war /ˈprɪznər oʊ ˈwɔr/ noun a serviceman captured by the enemy during a war. Abbr POW, PW

private /ˈprɪvət/ noun the lowest rank in the British and US armies. Full form private soldier

private first class /ˈprɪvət faɪst ˈklʌs/ noun US 1. an experienced private soldier in the army, with certain supervisory responsibilities (equivalent to a lance corporal in the marines) 2. the lowest rank in the marines ○ abbr Pfc

private military company /ˌprɪvət 'mɪlitəri ˈkæmpəni/ noun a private business organization, which markets military training and expertise, and in some cases, personnel and equipment, to foreign clients (e.g. governments of developing nations), usually in a counter-insurgency or internal security situation. Abbr PMC

COMMENT: In certain regiments and corps of the British Army, privates are known by different titles: for example, craftsmen, guardsman, gunner, trooper, etc.

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COMMENT: This is an emotive subject, and many critics, including journalists and government officials, have dismissed PMCs as mercenaries, using the term in a derogatory context. PMCs which operate within the constraints of international law and the Geneva Convention would argue that they provide a legitimate service, especially to the governments of poorer nations, whose own military assets are inadequate and who, for political or strategic reasons, have been unable to obtain military assistance from the international community (e.g. UN peacekeeping forces).

PRO abbreviation public relations officer.
proactive /ˈprəʊəˈektɪv/ adjective taking the initiative in order to prevent problems occurring (of actions or policy). 1. We need a more proactive response to the increase in terrorism. Compare reactive

probe /prəʊb/ verb to attack in order to test the enemy defences and locate any weak points. 1. The enemy has been probing our line throughout the night. 2. an act of making a probing attack. 3. The attack was just a probe. 2. a long thin instrument which can be pushed into something to search for or examine something inside it. 3. refueling probe

procedure /prəˈsiːdʒər/ noun a series of actions, which are carried out in a specific sequence or manner

procedure words /prəˈsiːdʒər wəːdz/ plural noun special codewords used in radio transmissions to indicate a particular action, e.g. ‘Roger’ or ‘over’

production logistics /prəˌdəʊkʃən ləˈdʒɪstrɪks/ noun the design and manufacture of materiel for use by the armed forces

prohibit /prəʊˈhɪbɪt/ verb to make a rule or law to stop something being done

projectile /prəˈdʒektɪl/ noun 1. anything which is fired at a target (e.g. a bullet, missile, shell, etc.) 2. anything which is thrown or propelled by other means at a target. 3. The defenders ran out of ammunition and threw stones and other projectiles at the attacking forces.

projectile velocity /prəˌdʒektɪl vəˈlɒksɪtəl/ noun the speed at which a bullet, shell, etc., travels

promote /prəˈməʊt/ verb to raise a serviceman to a higher rank. 1. He was promoted to sergeant. Compare demote

promotion /prəˈməʊʃən/ noun an act of promoting someone. 1. On his promotion to sergeant he decided to get married.

prone /prəʊn/ adjective lying on your stomach. 1. He was shooting from the prone position.

prong /prɒŋ/ noun one of two or more pointed parts of a fork

propelled /prəʊpəld/ adjective like prongs

propaganda /prəˈɡændə/ noun a selective release of information (whether true or untrue), in order to influence public opinion

propellant /prəˈpelənt/ noun an explosive charge, which is used to fire a projectile

protect /prəˈtekkt/ verb 1. (of people) to prevent injury or capture. 2. (of things) to prevent damage or capture

protection /prəˈtekʃən/ noun 1. an act of protecting. 2. I am responsible for the protection of these civilians.

protection (noun): something which protects. 2. Eye-protection should be worn when using this device.

protective /prəˈtekktɪv/ adjective designed to protect. 1. You should wear protective clothing.

Protestant Church /ˌprəʊəstənt ˈtʃɜːrʃ/ noun a western European form of Christianity, promoting some beliefs which differ widely from those held by the Roman Catholic Church. Compare Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church

protocol /prəʊˈskɔːl/ noun 1. correct behaviour on official or ceremonial occasions. 2. a set of rules which specify the correct way to do something

protractor /prəˈtræktər/ noun a mathematical instrument used to calculate grid bearings

provocation /ˌprəʊvəˈkeɪʃən/ noun an act which provokes

provoke /prəʊˈvəʊk/ verb to say or do something, which causes another person to act offensively. 1. The soldiers have been ordered not to react when they are provoked.

provost /prəvəʊst/ noun a senior administrative appointment in the military police

Provost – Marshal /ˌprəʊvəst ˈmaːʃəl/ noun a senior administrative appointment in the military police
Proxy bomb /ˈprɔksi bəm/ noun a terrorist bombing tactic, where an innocent civilian is forced by the terrorists to carry an explosive device or drive a car containing an explosive device up to a target (e.g., security force base); the device is then initiated by a timer or by remote control.

COMMENT: The most effective way of forcing a person to deliver a proxy bomb is to take members of his or her family hostage and threatening to harm them if he or she does not comply.

PSG pill /ˈpiːə dʒiː pəl/ noun a pill taken to counter the effects of nerve agents

Psychological /ˌsɪkəˈlɒdʒɪkl/ adjective relating to a person’s mental state

Psychological operations /ˌsɪkəlɒdʒɪkl əˈpəʊreɪʃənz/ plural noun activities designed to lower the enemy’s morale (such as the use of leaflets, radio transmissions, etc.). Abbr PSYWAR

Psychological warfare /ˌsɪkələˈdʒiːkl ˈwɔːrfər/ noun the use of psychological operations in wartime. Abbr PSYWAR

Psychos /ˈsɪkəs/ abbreviation psychological operations

Psychological warfare /ˌsɪkələˈdʒiːkl ˈwɔːrfər/ noun

PT abbreviation physical training

PT-76 /piː tiː ˈsɪks/ noun a Soviet-designed light tank

Pte abbreviation private

PTI abbreviation physical training instructor

PTP /piː tiː ˈpiː/ noun US a location where fuel is transferred from large tanker vehicles into smaller tanker vehicles which are capable of advancing with the fighting units. Full form petroleum transfer point

PTSD abbreviation post-traumatic stress disorder

Public /ˈpʌblɪk/ adjective 1. relating to people in general 2. open to the general public. n noun the general public people in general o the army base is not open to the general public

Public duties /ˈpʌblɪk ˈdjuːtiz/ plural noun ceremonial duties in London or at one of the other royal residences (e.g., guarding Buckingham Palace, Trooping the Colour, etc.)

Public information /ˌpʌblɪk ɪnˈfoʊrmeɪʃən/ noun full form of P-INFO

Public order /ˌpʌblɪk ˈəʊdər/ noun a state of law and order within a community

Public relations /ˈpʌblɪk riˈleɪʃənz/ plural noun the management of an organization’s image and reputation

Public relations officer /ˈpʌblɪk riˈleɪʃənz ˈɒfɪʃər/ noun a person whose job it is to communicate with the public, in order to improve the image of an organization. Abbr PRO

Pulka /ˈpʊlkə/ noun a lightweight sledge designed to be towed by a man on skis, and used to carry extra equipment or stores

Pull back /pol ˈbæk/ verb to withdraw o We were forced to pull back

Pull out /pol ˈaut/ verb to abandon a position o The enemy is pulling out

Pull rank /pol ˈræŋk/ verb to invoke the authority of your rank when disagreeing with a subordinate o I’ll have to pull rank on you over this matter.

Pull-through /pol ˈθruː/ noun a length of cord with a weight at one end and a strip of flannelette at the other, which is pulled through the barrel of a weapon in order to clean it o I’ve broken my pull-through.

Pulse /pʌls/ noun the slight movement which can be felt in the wrist or neck as blood passes along a blood vessel when the heart beats o His pulse is very weak.

Puma /ˈpjuːzma/ noun a French-designed transport helicopter
punish /ˈpʌnɪʃ/ verb to make someone suffer, because they have done something wrong.  ○ He was punished for being absent without leave.
punishment /ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/ noun an act of punishing a person
punitive /ˈpjuːnɪtɪv/ adjective intended as a punishment.  ○ The government is mounting a punitive expedition against the rebels.
punji /ˈpʌndʒi/ noun in Vietnam, a sharpened stick concealed in a shallow pit in order to injure the foot of anyone who steps on it
PUP abbreviation pick-up point
purification /ˈpjʊərɪfɪkʃ(ə)n/ noun the action of making something, usually water, clean and fit for use
purification tablet /ˈpjʊərɪfɪkʃ(ə)nˈteɪbl/ noun a tablet designed to make water fit to drink by killing bacteria  ○ You must use purification tablets with this water.
Puritabs™ /ˈpjuːrɪtæbzl/ noun a type of water purification tablet
push /pʊʃ/ verb to follow a retreating or withdrawing enemy force, with the intention of destroying or capturing as much of it as possible.  ○ We were too exhausted to pursue the enemy into the mountains.  ○ to pursue by fire to shoot at a retreating enemy until he is no longer visible or beyond the effective range of your weapons
pursuit /pəˈsjuːt/ noun an act of pursuing (especially after a successful attack)
push off /pʊʃ ˈɒf/ verb to move it away from one  ○ We had to push the truck off the road.  ○ We pushed the enemy back to their original positions.
push on /ˈpʊʃ ˈɒn/ verb to move forwards as fast as possible.  ○ Our aim is to push on as fast as possible to capture the capital.
puttee /ˈpʌtɪ/ noun a strip of cloth (similar to a bandage) which is wrapped around the ankle and lower leg in order to provide support and to prevent small stones and other loose objects going into your boots.  ○ When I joined the army, we still wore puttees.
PW abbreviation prisoner of war
PWO /ˈpiːwəʊ/ noun an officer on a warship who coordinates the sea battle. Compare AWO
PX /ˈpiːks/ noun US a shop or shopping centre on an American military base or camp. Full form post exchange (NOTE: The British equivalent is the NAAFI)
pylon /ˈpaɪlən/ noun a metal structure, designed to support power lines above the ground
pyrotechnic /ˌpaɪrəˈteknɪk/ adjective 1. designed to burn, in order to produce light for illumination or signalling purposes. 2. designed to explode, in order to produce noise for battle simulation.  ○ a pyrotechnic device (e.g. a trip-flare, thunderflash, Very light, etc.)
pyrrhic victory /ˈpɪrɪkˈvɪktəri/ noun a victory in which the losses suffered by the winning side are so high, that they outweigh the advantages gained by winning the battle
PZ abbreviation pick-up zone
QUEBEC - Qq

Q-5 /ˌkjuː/ noun a Chinese-designed close-support fighter aircraft (NOTE: known to NATO as the Fantan)

Q-fever /ˌkjuː/ noun a disease of cattle and sheep, which is transmissible to humans

COMMENT: Caused by Coxiella burnetii, the symptoms of Q-fever are fever, cough and headaches. Certain nations are known to have developed Q-fever for use as a biological weapon.

QM abbreviation quartermaster

Q-matters /ˈkwəmətəri/ plural noun logistics at battalion level (i.e. those dealt with by the quartermaster or company quartermaster sergeants)

QMG abbreviation quartermaster general

QRA /ˈkwərredʒ/ noun an air force state of readiness, where aircraft are prepared to take off and go into action at very short notice. The squadron is on QRA. Full form quick reaction alert

QRF abbreviation quick reaction force

quarry /ˈkwɔrri/ noun a place where stone is extracted from the ground. The RAP was located in a quarry

quarter /ˈkwɔːtər/ noun 1. a house or flat provided for a married serviceman and his family. We’ve got a lovely quarter. 2, sparing an enemy’s life on condition that he surrenders. Quarter was neither expected nor given. no quarter! take no prisoners! verb to quarter someone on someone to provide accommodation for someone he was quartered on the local priest

quartermaster /ˈkwɔːtəmɑːsta/ noun an officer (usually a captain) responsible for the logistics of a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Abbr QM

COMMENT: In the British Army, a quartermaster commission has a lower status than a Queen’s Commission. Thus, a captain holding a quartermaster commission is considered to be junior to a second lieutenant holding a Queen’s Commission.

quartermaster commission /ˈkwɔːtəmɑːsta kəˈmiʃ(ə)n/ noun a commission held by an officer who has been promoted from the ranks, instead of undergoing normal officer selection and training which results in a Queen’s Commission

quartermaster general /ˈkwɔːtəmɑːsta ˈdʒenərəl/ noun a senior army officer, responsible for quartering. Abbr QMG

quarters /ˈkwɔːtərz/ plural noun living accommodation on a military base. He was confined to his quarters. He’s in his quarters

quay /ˈkiː/ noun a structure built alongside or into water, which is used for the loading and unloading of ships

Quebec /ˈkwɛbɛk/ noun the seventeenth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Q)

Queen’s Commission /ˈkwɪzn kəˈmiʃ(ə)n/ noun a commission held by an officer who has undergone normal officer selection and training (NOTE: When the British monarch is a king, the commission becomes the King’s Commission.)
Queen’s Regulations /,kwɪnز ˈrɛɡjələtʃənz/ plural noun a set of rules and regulations governing the conduct of the British Army (NOTE: When the British monarch is a king, the regulations become King’s Regulations.)

quick reaction alert /kwɪk riˈækʃən əˌlɑrt/ noun full form of QRA
ROMEO - Rr

RA abbreviation Royal Artillery
rabble /'reb(ə)/ noun a disorganized crowd of people ➔ The enemy force disintegrated into a rabble.
rabid /'reb(ə)d/ adjective infected with rabies ➔ A rabid fox came into the camp.
rabies /'reibəz/ noun a fatal virus affecting mammals (especially dogs, foxes and wolves but also man), which is transmitted by the animal’s saliva
COMMENT: Wild animals infected with rabies often lose their fear of people.
radar /'redər/ noun a system for detecting aircraft, vehicles, ships or other objects, through the transmission of high-frequency electromagnetic waves which are reflected back by the object ➔ The aircraft flew low in order to avoid enemy radar.
radar-absorbent material /'redər-əb′zd-bənt mə′təriəl/ noun a substance which does not reflect radar waves, used as a covering on earlier types of stealth aircraft, in order to make them invisible to enemy radar equipment. Abbrev RAM
radar-absorbent structural material /'redər-əb′zd-bənt strak′tʃərəl mə′təriəl/ noun a substance which does not reflect radar waves, used in the construction of stealth aircraft, in order to make them invisible to enemy radar. Abbrev RAS
radar cross-section /'redər kru′sən/ noun the shape of an object in relation to its ability to reflect radar waves. Abbrev RCS
radar guided /'redər gə′rdəd/ adjective equipped with a guidance system which uses radar to acquire its targets
radar scan /'redər skən/ noun the movement of a radar beam as it turns and searches for objects
radar seeker /'redər, skəkə/ noun a guidance system which uses radar to locate its targets
radar warning receiver /'redər wə′rən′ing rə′vən′sər/ noun full form of RWR
radiation /′rədiən/ noun an emission of energy as rays of heat, light or electromagnetic waves
radiation sickness /′rədiən ˈsikən/ noun an illness caused by exposure to radiation from a radioactive substance
radio /′rədiə/ noun 1. a transmission and reception of audible signals, using electromagnetic waves ➔ to impose radio silence to start radio silence ➔ to lift radio silence to end radio silence 2. an apparatus designed to transmit and receive radio signals
radioactive /′rədiəˈæktiv/ adjective giving off radiation in the form of harmful rays
radioactivity /′rədiəˈæktivəti/ noun radiation given off by a radioactive substance
radio check /′rədiə ˈtʃek/ noun a radio transmission to ensure that the radios are working and on the correct frequency
radio contact /′rədiə ˈkənˌtæk/ noun the ability to communicate with another person or grouping over the radio ➔ We were in radio contact with the
base this morning. ○ The HQ has lost radio contact with the platoon.

radio control /ˌrediəʊ kənˈtrouəl/ noun a means of operating a device or machine by radio signals (e.g. radio-controlled aircraft, radio-controlled bomb)

radio-controlled /ˌrediəʊ kənˈtrouəld/ adjective controlled by radio signals

radio frequency /ˌrediəʊ, friːkwənsi/ noun a radio setting on which a signal is transmitted and received ○ alternate radio frequency a second or emergency radio frequency

radioman /ˈrədiəʊmən/ noun same as radio operator (NOTE: The plural form is radiomen.)

radio operator /ˌrediəʊ ˌɒpərətə/ noun a person whose job is to send and receive signals on a radio

radio silence /ˌrediəʊ ˈsailəns/ noun a state when no one is allowed to transmit on the radio

radio watch /ˌrediəʊ wɔtʃ/ noun a period of duty which is spent listening to a radio

radome /ˈrədəʊm/ noun a large disk-like antenna, which is mounted on the fuselage of airborne early warning and control (AEW & C) aircraft such as A-40, E-3, Orion AEW&C

RAF abbreviation Royal Air Force

raid /reɪd/ noun a military operation in which a small force enters enemy territory in order to cause casualties, destroy equipment or take prisoners, and then withdraws back to its own lines again ○ We must keep a look out for possible raids by guerillas. ○ verb to carry out a raid ○ The enemy raided our supply depot.

rail /reɪl/ noun 1. one of many long metal bars, which are fitted together to form a railway line 2. transport by train ○ The battalion is moving by rail.

railhead /ˈreɪlheɪd/ noun a point on a railway, where troops leave their trains and continue their journey using other forms of transport

railroad /ˈreɪlroʊd/ noun US a railway

eas second or emergency radio frequency which a signal is transmitted and re-ceived which a signal is transmitted and re-

forms of transport and continue their journey using other forms of transport

railway /ˈreɪlweɪ/, railway line /ˌreɪliər lʌn/ noun two parallel lines of rails, along which a train travels

rain /reɪn/ noun drops of water, which fall from the sky ○ Heavy rain delayed the start of the offensive. ○ The tropical rain turned the paths to mud. ○ verb (of rain) to fall from the sky ○ It is raining heavily and this makes any immediate attack unlikely.

rainy season /ˈreɪni sɪzn(ə)n/ noun a time of year when there is a lot of rain ○ With the end of the rainy season, military operations will restart. Compare dry season, monsoon

raise /reɪz/ verb 1. to lift or put an object into a higher position ○ The tank raised its gun barrel. 2. to promote to a higher rank ○ He was raised to corporal. 3. to establish radio contact with another call-sign (radio terminology) ○ I can’t raise 22B.

rake /reɪk/ verb to fire over a wide area with an automatic weapon ○ They raked the street with machine-gun fire.

rally /ˈreɪli/ verb to reassemble after a period of confusion ○ The platoon rallied at the edge of the village. ○ The sergeant rallied his men. (NOTE: rallying – rallied)

RAM abbreviation radar-absorbent material

RAMC noun the unit of the British army responsible for the medical care of service personnel. Full form Royal Army Medical Corps

ramp /ræmp/ noun an inclined surface designed to enable people or vehicles to move onto or off a vehicle or aircraft or ship

R & R abbreviation rest and recuperation

R & D abbreviation research and development

R & R /ˈreɪ, rɛd/ full form rest and recuperation
range /rændʒ/ noun 1. the maximum distance that a weapon can fire ○ This missile has a range of one hundred kilometres. ○ In range, within range within the effective range of a weapon ○ that tank is in range ○ out of range beyond the effective range of a weapon ○ that tank is out of range 2. the distance between a weapon and its target ○ He destroyed the tank at a range of two hundred metres. 3. an area of ground used for shooting practice

range card /rændʒ kɑːd/ noun a card showing topographical features or targets and the distance to them from a specific location

rangefinder /rændʒfɪnə/ noun a device designed to calculate the exact distance to an object

Rangers /rændʒəz/ plural noun a US Army special forces organization

range tables /rændʒ tɛb(ə)lz/ plural noun a set of figures displayed in columns, showing the elevations required by artillery or mortars to hit targets at specific distances

COMMENT: In most armies, range tables have been replaced by computerized fire-control data systems.

rank /ræŋk/ noun 1. an official title, indicating a serviceman’s position in the hierarchy (such as corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, etc.) ○ the ranks ordinary soldiers as a group ○ He rose through the ranks to become a general. 3. a parade formation, in which men stand side-by-side in a line ○ Form three ranks!

ranker /ræŋkər/ noun a soldier who is not an officer

rank insignia /ræŋk ɪnˈsɪgnjə/ noun US insignia which show a person’s rank

RAP abbreviation regimental aid post

rape /reɪp/ noun an act of raping a woman ○ Two soldiers were accused of rape. ○ verb to force a woman to have sex ○ The marines were accused of raping a girl they had met in a bar.

rapid /ˈræpid/ adjective quick

rapid fire /ˈræpid ˈfɑːr/ verb to fire several shots in quick succession

rapid reaction force /ˈræpid ri ˈækʃn fɔːr/ noun, a combined-arms force, which is ready to deploy to an area of operations at very short notice 2. a multinational combined-arms force under command of the European Union (EU), with a primary role of peacekeeping. Abbr RRF

Rapier /reɪˈpɪər/ noun a British-designed surface-to-air missile (SAM)

rappel /ˈreɪpəl/ verb to descend, using a rope ○ The patrol rappelled into the jungle from a helicopter.

Raptor /ˈreɪpər/ noun F-22

RAS abbreviation radar-absorbent structural material

rate of fire /ræt əv ˈfɑːr/ noun the number of rounds fired by a weapon in one minute

rating /ˈrætɪŋ/ noun a junior non-commissioned rank in the navy

ration /rəˈʃən/ plural noun a regulation amount of food, fuel or other resource, which is issued or available to a person in times of shortage ○ The water ration is one litre per man. ○ verb to limit the amount of food, fuel or other resource that a person is allowed to have ○ Petrol is being rationed.

rationing /rəˈʃənɪŋ/ noun the policy of restricting supplies, especially during wartime ○ The government is going to introduce petrol rationing.

rations /ˈreɪʃənz/ plural noun food issued to a soldier on operations or exercise ○ The company will draw rations at 1400hrs.

rats /ræts/ abbreviation rations

Raven /ˈrɛvən/ noun EF-111A

ravine /ˈrævɪn/ noun a deep narrow valley, with steep sides

raw /rɔː/ adjective 1. (of meat) uncooked ○ The refugees were eating raw horse meat. 2. (of soldiers) very inexperienced ○ The reserves consisted of raw recruits

razor wire /reɪˈzɔːr ˈwɔːr/ noun a wire with a sharp cutting edge, similar in use to barbed wire ○ concertina wire

RCS abbreviation radar cross-section
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<td>Rct</td>
<td>abbreviation recruit</td>
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<tr>
<td>RE</td>
<td>abbreviation Royal Engineers</td>
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<tr>
<td>react/riˈækt/ verb</td>
<td>to do something in response to an incident or situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reaction/riˈækʃən/noun</td>
<td>1. an act of reacting to something 2. His immediate reaction was one of shock. 3. an action a person takes when reacting to something 4. The general’s reaction was to order further bombing raids.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
rebroadcast

rebroadcast /riˈbɪsrəʊdbəst/ noun an act of rebroadcasting a radio signal. Abbr rebro verb to receive a radio signal and then transmit it on to another receiver, which is too far away to receive the original signal. ○ relay

recall /rɪˈkɔːl/ verb to order a person or unit to return to a location or grouping ○ The government is recalling reservists. ○ The patrol has been recalled.

recapture /riːˈkæptʃər/ verb 1. to capture a position or location which has been captured by the enemy ○ We recaptured the positions we had lost the previous day. 2. to capture a prisoner who has escaped ○ After three days' search, all the prisoners were recaptured.

recce /ˈreki/ adjective relating to reconnaissance ○ noun 1. a reconnaissance ○ We need to carry out a recce of the bridge. 2. reconnaissance units ○ Enemy recce has been sighted to the east of Mikulov. ○ verb to reconnoitre ○ We need to recce the bridge.

recce group /ˈreki gruːp/ noun a small group (usually consisting of a commander and his subordinate commanders), which carries out a reconnaissance before planning an operation or task. Abbr R Group

recce patrol /ˈreki pɔˌtræʊl/ noun a small covert patrol sent out to gather information or reconnoitre ground

receiver /rɪˈsɪvər/ noun 1. an instrument which detects electronic signals and converts them into a form in which they can be seen or heard 2. a frame on a gun that guides the round into the chamber 3. a person who receives communications

reception /rɪˈsepʃən/ noun 1. an act of receiving a radio signal ○ He acknowledged reception of the signal. 2. the quality of a radio signal ○ There is very poor reception in this area.

recharge /rɪˈtʃɛrdʒ/ verb 1. to put electrical power into a dead battery 2. to put ammunition into an empty magazine or ammunition compartment

recognition /ˌrekəˈɡniʃən/ noun an act of identifying a person or thing

recognition marking /ˌrekəˈɡniʃənˈmɑːkɪŋ/ noun a distinctive symbol painted on all vehicles, so that friendly forces will not mistake each other for the enemy ○ During the Gulf War, the coalition recognition marking was an inverted V.

recognition signal /ˌrekəˈɡniʃənsˈsjuːnl/ noun a verbal or other signal which identifies a person or unit as being friendly

recognize /ˌrekəˈznɪs, -ˈnəz, ˈrɪkəˈznɪs/ recognise /ˈrekəznɪs/ verb 1. to identify a person, place or thing because one remembers it ○ He recognized the crossroads. 2. to acknowledge that something is correct or legal ○ I do not recognize your authority in this matter. ○ The EU countries have recognized the new government.

recoil /rɪˈkɔːl/ noun the backward movement of a gun when it is fired ○ This weapon has hardly any recoil. ○ verb (of guns and firing mechanisms) to move backwards when fired ○ He was injured when the gun recoiled.

recon /rɪˈkɒn/ adjective relating to reconnaissance ○ noun 1. a reconnaissance ○ We need to do a recon of the bridge. 2. reconnaissance units ○ Enemy recon has been sighted to the east of Mikulov. ○ (NOTE: The British English term is recce.)

reconnaissance /rɪˈkɒnənˌsɛs/ adjective relating to reconnaissance ○ noun 1. an examination or survey of ground or a specific location, in order to plan an operation or task ○ He carried out a detailed reconnaissance of the enemy position. 2. an act of examining terrain in order to identify suitable routes and give warning of natural and man-made obstacles 3. an act of looking for the enemy ○ reconnaissance units ○ Enemy reconnaissance has been sighted to the east of Mikulov. ○ Time spent in reconnaissance is seldom wasted – British Army Field Service Regulations 1912. ○ recon, recon

reconnaissance aircraft /ˈrɪˌkɒnənˌsɛsæfərk/ noun an aircraft designed for carrying out reconnaissance missions
reconnaissance by fire /rɪˈkɒnˌsɛnsɪz bɪˈfɛr/ noun the act of firing at likely enemy positions, in order to cause the enemy to reveal his location by moving or by returning fire

reconnaissance in force /rɪˈkɒnˌsɛnsɪz ɪn ˈfɔːs/ noun reconnaissance carried out by a large well-armed grouping, which is strong enough to engage the enemy if necessary

reconnaissance unit /rɪˈkɒnˌsɛnsɪs ˈjuːtɪnt/ noun a unit which moves ahead of the main body of an advancing force, in order to identify suitable routes, give warning of natural and man-made obstacles, and to locate the enemy

reconnoiter /rɪˈkɒnəˌnɔːtər/ verb US spelling of reconnoitre

reconnoitre /rɪˈkɒnəˌnɔːtər/ verb to carry out reconnaissance. A patrol was sent out to reconnoitre the enemy position.

recon platoon /rɪˈkɒn pləˈtəʊn/ noun a platoon which specializes in reconnaissance

record noun /rɪˈkɔːrd/ data or information, which is written down for future reference. Units will submit records of all ammunition fired during the year. We captured a large quantity of enemy records.

recovery /rɪˈkəvəri/ noun 1. to become healthy after illness or injury. He is recovering from his wounds. 2. to find and bring back. The crew of the helicopter which was brought down have all been recovered. 3. (of damaged or defective vehicles) to collect and bring back for repair. The tank has been recovered.

recover /rɪˈkəvər/ verb 1. to become healthy after illness or injury. He is recovering from his wounds. 2. to find and bring back. The crew of the helicopter which was brought down have all been recovered. 3. (of damaged or defective vehicles) to collect and bring back for repair. The tank has been recovered.

redeploy /rɪˈdɪpləʊ/ verb to change from one location or base to another, especially as part of military planning. They redeployed into columns.

199 redeploy

redeploy /rɪˈdɪpləʊ/ verb 1. to change from one location or base to another, especially as part of military planning. They redeployed into columns.
redistribution /rɪˈdɪstrəbjuʃən/ noun an action of distributing in a different way.
redistribution authority /rɪˈdɪstrəbjuʃən əˈthɜːti/ noun authority given to a NATO commander to redistribute forces which have been assigned by different nations in such a way that they are best used in the operations he is controlling.
red-light district /redˈlaɪt ˈdɪstrɪkt/ noun part of a town or city, containing a large number of brothels, sex clubs, etc. ○ The MPs went round the red-light district collecting drunken soldiers.
reduce /rɪˈdʒuːs/ verb to make smaller or less ○ The government is planning a reduction in defence expenditure.
reduction /rɪˈdʌkʃən/ noun an act of reducing.
redundance /rɪˈdʌndeɪns/ noun the practice of maintaining additional military resources to replace those which are destroyed or neutralized.
re-entrant /rɪˈɛntrənt/ noun a small valley cutting into the side of a hill or mountain (often between two spurs) (topographical term) ○ The vehicles were concealed in a small re-entrant on the other side of the hill.
re-entry vehicle /rɪˈɛntrɪ ˈvɪr(ə)l/ noun a warhead of a surface-to-surface missile which is designed to travel through space on its way to its target ○ This missile is fitted with three nuclear re-entry vehicles. ○ MIRV. Abbr RV
COMMENT: One missile might be fitted with several re-entry vehicles, each of which might be directed at a different target.
ref abbreviation reference
reference /rɪˈfɛrəns/ noun 1. a direction for obtaining information ○ Reference: Section 69 of the Army Act, 1955. 2. a grid or map reference ○ What’s your reference? 3. preposition in relation to ○ ‘Hello 22, this is 2, reference my last order, cancel, over.’ ○ With reference to my letter dated 26 November, ○ Reference the church.
reference point /rɪˈfɛrəns ˈpɔɪnt/ noun any object or feature on the ground, which is used to assist in the giving of directions or to draw another person’s attention to a target or other object of interest.
reflect /rɪˈflekt/ verb (of heat, light, sound, radar waves, etc.) to send something back towards its source ○ Sonar detects underwater objects by transmitting sound waves which are reflected back by the object.
refuel /rɪˈjuːəl/ verb to put fuel into a vehicle’s fuel tank ○ We made a refuelling stop before crossing the desert. (NOTE: refuelled – refuelling. The US spelling is refueled – refueling.)
refuelling on the move /rɪˈjuːəlɪŋ əˈmouv/ noun full form of ROM
refuelling point /rɪˈjuːəlɪŋ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a place where vehicles can refuel.
refuelling probe /rɪˈjuːəlɪŋ prəʊb/ noun a long rigid tube, fitted to the front of an aircraft, which is inserted into a receptacle called a ‘basket’, in order to carry out air-to-air refuelling.
refuge /rɪˈfjuːdʒ/ noun a place of safety ○ The villagers sought refuge in the crypt of the local church.
refugee /rɪˈfjuːdʒi/ noun a person who leaves his or her home in order to escape from danger (especially war), and looks for refuge elsewhere ○ The road is blocked with refugees.
refuse /rɪˈfjuːz/ verb 1. to not agree to do something ○ He refused to obey my orders. ○ I refuse to believe that the enemy are beaten. 2. (of a line of defence) to position one end of the line back at an angle to the main frontage, in order to meet the threat of a flanking attack or envelopment.
regiment /ˈrɛdʒɪmənt/ noun 1. a tactical and administrative army grouping of two or more battalions ○ Two enemy regiments have crossed the river. 2. an administrative grouping of one or more infantry battalions plus a separate regimental headquarters ○ He served in one of the Highland Regiments. 3. a tank battalion, consisting of three or more squadrons ○ The brigade consists of two infantry battalions and one armoured regiment. 4. a battalion-sized artillery.
grouping, consisting of three or more batteries: *We have a regiment of artillery in support*. 5. a battalion-sized grouping for certain supporting arms (such as engineers): *The government is sending a regiment of engineers to assist in the rescue operation*. 6. US an armoured cavalry grouping of two or more squadrons: *An American armoured cavalry regiment led the advance*. 

**COMMENT:** In the British Army, the use of the word *regiment* is rather confusing, since it no longer refers to a tactical grouping of two or more battalions (the British use a *brigade* of three or more battalions instead). Regiments continue to exist in name, however, because their histories and traditions are considered to be extremely valuable in promoting unit identity and esprit de corps. Infantry regiments are essentially administrative groupings, and most currently consist of only one battalion plus a regimental headquarters, which is responsible for recruiting, career planning and welfare. If a regiment does have more than one battalion, these do not normally serve together in the same brigade. Battalions-sized groupings of artillery, tanks and certain supporting arms (such as engineers) are known as *regiments* for different historical reasons. A British armoured brigade might consist of two armoured regiments and one armoured or mechanized infantry battalion or, alternatively, two infantry battalions and one armoured regiment, plus artillery and supporting arms. On operations, these units are broken down and combined into *battle groups*. As an example, an armoured battle group might consist of two squadrons of tanks and one infantry company, which are organized into two squadron and company groups and a company and squadron group under the command of the armoured regimental HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time. In the US Army, a battle group is known as a *task force*, while company and squadron groups and squadron and company groups are known as *company teams*. 

**regimental** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l/ adjective 1. relating to a regiment: *regimental headquarters (RHQ)*. 2. (in certain contexts only) relating to a specific infantry battalion. 3. relating to service with a unit (as opposed to service on a staff or at a training establishment): *He is an excellent regimental officer*. 

**regimental aid post** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l əˈɪdɪə ˈpəʊst/ noun a battalion casualty clearing-station, where casualties are assessed and given emergency medical treatment, before being evacuated to a dressing station. Abbr RAP 

**regimental commander** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l ˈkærəmaʊndər/ noun the officer in command of a regiment. 

**regimental lieutenant-colonel** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l ˈlɛf,ˌtɛnənt ˈkærəˌləʊnəl/ noun an officer commanding a regimental headquarters (usually a colonel). 

**regimental medical officer** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l medɪk(ə)l ˈmɪdɪskəl/ noun a doctor attached to a battalion. Abbr RMO 

**regimental officer** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l ˈoʊfiʃər/ noun an officer serving in a particular regiment. 

**regimental police** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l polɪs/ noun a small group of NCOs assigned to carry out police duties within a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Abbr RP 

**regimental quartermaster sergeant** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l kwəˈtɜrmɑːstər ˈsɜːdʒənt/ noun a warrant officer who assists the quartermaster of a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Abbr RQMS 

**regimental sergeant major** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l ˈsɜːdʒənt ˈmɪdʒər/ noun the most senior warrant officer in a battalion, who assists the adjutant in disciplinary matters and the day-to-day administration of the battalion. Abbr RSM 

**regimental signals officer** /ˈreɡɪmənt(ə)l ˈsɪgnəlz ˈoʊfiʃər/ noun a battalion officer responsible for communications. Abbr RSO 

**region** /ˈrɪdʒən/ noun a large area of land with well-defined boundaries or distinctive features
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definition register

register /ˈrɛɡɪstreɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an official record of information or data 2. a book or document in which information or data is recorded 3. verb 1. to record in writing 2. (of artillery targets) to allocate a target with a target number, and then calculate and record the firing data, which must be applied to the guns in order to hit it 3. to register with fire to register an artillery target and then fire at it in order to confirm that the firing data is correct, making adjustments if necessary

registration /ˈrɛɡɪstreɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an act of registering something 2. a combination of numbers and letters, which is displayed on a vehicle as identification

regroup /ˈrɛɡrəʊp/ verb to stop an activity or operation temporarily, in order to reorganize 1. The battalion was ordered to regroup south of the town.

Regt abbreviation regiment

regular /ˈredʒuəl/ adjective 1. (of actions) always happening at the same time or on the same day 2. This is a regular weekly inspection. 3. (of armed forces and servicemen) relating to a full-time professional force, with a proper organization and rank structure and regular training 4. noun a member of the regular armed forces (as opposed to a reservist, territorial or guerrilla) 5. We were attacked by a battalion of regulars.

regular soldier /ˈredʒuəl ˈsəʊldər/ noun a person who makes a career of soldiering

regulate /ˈredʒuəleɪt/ verb to control the actions of a person or thing

regulation /ˈredʒuəleɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an official directive, restriction or rule

rehearsal /ˈrɛhəz(ə)l/ noun an act of rehearsing 1. There will be a rehearsal at 1430hrs.

rehearse /ˈrɛhəz/ verb to practise carrying out an operation or task, before doing it for real 1. The brigade rehearsed the passage of lines in some fields outside the town.

reinforce /ˈrɛɪnfrəʊs/ verb 1. to make something stronger 2. (of military forces) to send additional personnel and equipment to give assistance or to replace casualties 3. Our right flank needs reinforcing.

reinforcement /ˈrɛɪnfrəʊsmənt/ noun an act of reinforcing 1. Before reinforcement, the brigade was down to approximately 1,500 men. 2. plural noun reinforcements men or units sent to reinforce another grouping 3. The division was unable to send any reinforcements.

reinforcements /ˈrɛɪnfrəʊsmənts/ plural noun men or units sent to reinforce another grouping 1. The division was unable to send any reinforcements.

rejoin /ˈriːdʒən/ verb to return to a person or grouping, after being away from them 1. We were unable to rejoin our unit after the bridge was blown up. 2. The signal was relayed to 7 Brigade HQ.

relayed 2. to pass on a message to another person 1. He received the message from HQ and immediately relayed it to the troops.

release /ˈrɛlɪs/ noun an act of releasing 1. The aim of the operation is to secure the release of the hostages. 2. verb 1. to let a prisoner go free 2. We captured the camp and released the prisoners. 3. to remove a control or restriction 4. He was released from duty to attend the funeral. 5. He released the safety catch on his rifle. 3. to allow a substance to come out 4. The missile released a chemical agent over our position.

release point /ˈrɛlɪs ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a point on a route where sub-units leave their parent unit and continue independently by different routes

relief /ˈrɛli/ noun 1. an act of providing assistance or support 2. an act of destroying or driving off an enemy force which has surrounded another friendly force or is besieging or investing a
friendly town or city ○ He took part in the relief of Mafeking. 3. an act of taking over a duty or task from another person or unit ○ My relief is at 2000hrs.

relief agency /riˈliːf, riˈəlˌiːf/ noun a civilian organization which provides assistance to victims of war or disaster

relief force /riˈliːf, fɔːl/ noun a military force which is sent to relieve another friendly unit or place which is surrounded by the enemy

relief-in-place /riˈliːf, riˈpliːs/ noun an act of taking over positions from another unit or grouping

relieve /riˈliːv/ verb 1. to provide assistance or support ○ We requested reinforcements to relieve the pressure on the small garrison. 2. to destroy or drive off an enemy force, which has surrounded another friendly force or is besieging or investing a friendly town or city ○ A force of marines was sent to relieve the town. 3. to take over a duty or task from another person or unit ○ I’ll send someone to relieve you at 2100hrs.

religion /rɪˈdʒɪlən/ noun a belief in a god, and the rituals which express that belief

religious /rɪˈdʒɪlɪəs/ adjective relating to religion

reload /rɪˈləʊld/ verb to load a weapon again after firing ○ He was shot as he was reloading.

relocate /rɪˈleɪkət/ verb to move to a new location ○ We’ll have to relocate the RAP. ○ The sniper always relocates after every shot.

REME /rɪˈmiː/ abbreviation Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

remf /rɪˈmɛf/ noun a soldier who is not serving in the front line (and is therefore not in any danger) (slang)

remit /rɪˈmiːt/ noun instructions or guidelines or rules (usually in relation to a peacekeeping mission) ○ That sort of task is not part of my remit.

remote /rɪˈmæt/ adjective 1. distant ○ The village is very remote.

remote control /rɪˈmækt/ noun a means by which a device or machine can be operated from a distance (e.g. command wire, radio signals) ○ The bomb was detonated by remote control. ○ self-control

remotely piloted vehicle /rɪˈmiːtli piˈləʊtɪd/ noun a unmanned radio-controlled aircraft designed to carry surveillance equipment. Abbr RPV. Also called unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), drone

rendezvous /rɛndəˈvəʊs/ noun a place where people have agreed to meet up with each other ○ The rendezvous is at grid 453213. ○ verb to meet up with other people at a rendezvous ○ We will rendezvous at grid 654776. ○ abbr (all senses) RV

reoccupy /rɪˈəʊkəpʌt/ verb to occupy again, after being away ○ The enemy have reoccupied the village.

reorg /rɪˈɔːrg/ abbreviation 1. reorganization 2. reorganize

reorganization /rɪˈɔːɡənɪzən/ noun 1. an act of reorganizing ○ The reorganization of the brigade has been completed. 2. a phase following a successful assault, during which the assaulting troops go firm, in order to redistribute ammunition, deal with any casualties or prisoners, and reassess their situation before continuing their task ○ There will be a resupply of ammunition during reorganization.

reorganize /rɪˈɔːɡənaɪz/ verb 1. to organize in a different way ○ The brigade has been reorganized. 2. to carry out the reorganization phase of an attack ○ The platoon will reorganize on the objective.

reorientate /rɪˈɔːrɪnət/ verb to stop and confirm your exact location and the direction in which one should be heading, before continuing a journey

repair /rɪˈpɛr/ noun an act of repairing ○ The vehicle must be sent back for repair. ○ verb to mend something which is damaged or defective ○ The vehicle is being repaired.

repatriate /rɪˈpærətri/ verb to return a prisoner to his own country ○ He was repatriated at the end of the war
repeat /rɪˈpiːt/ verb 1. to say something again © He repeated the question. 2. to do something again © He was warned not to repeat his mistake. (NOTE: On the radio, repeat is only used when you want the artillery or mortars to repeat a fire-mission. It is never used when you want someone to repeat a message. In that situation, say again is used instead.)

repel /rɪˈpel/ verb to fight and push back © They repelled all attempts to board their ship.

replace /rɪˈpleɪs/ verb 1. to put something back in its original position © He replaced the handset. 2. to obtain a new object to take the place of one that has been damaged or lost © We need to replace the firing pin. 3. to take the place or job of another person © I am replacing Major Knight. 4. to arrange for someone to take the place of another person © We will have to replace Sergeant Jones. 5. © to be replaced (in passive) to be dismissed from a position or job © The general is being replaced.

replacement /rɪˈpleɪsmənt/ noun a person or thing which takes the place of another person or thing

replen /rɪˈplen/ abbreviation replenishment

replenish /rɪˈplenʃ/ verb to provide someone with fresh supplies (such as ammunition, food and water, fuel, etc.)

replenishment /rɪˈplenʃmənt/ noun an act of providing fresh supplies (such as ammunition, food and water, fuel, etc.).

report /rɪˈpɔːrt/ noun 1. verbal or written information, which is given or sent to another person 2. a disciplinary action © I am putting you in the report. 3. verb to give or send information to another person © B Company report enemy receive to the east of Karlsbad. 4. to take disciplinary action against someone © I am reporting you for this offence. 3. to show that you are officially present © He reported for duty three days late. © to report to a place to arrive officially at a place © New recruits are asked to report to the training camp.

report line /rɪˈpɔːrlaɪn/ noun a real or imaginary line on the ground, with a code word which units use when they cross, so that a commander can monitor their progress

reprisal /rɪˈpræzl/ noun a severe punitive action (usually intended as a deterrent) © Ten villagers were shot as a reprisal for the attack on the convoy.

Republican Guard /rɪˈpʌblɪkən /ˈɡɜːrd/ noun elite troops in some armies; French ceremonial troops

repulse /rɪˈpʌls/ verb to beat off an attack © All enemy attacks were repulsed with considerable losses on both sides.

request /rɪˈkwɛst/ noun an act of asking for someone or something © Have you received my ammunition request? 2. verb to ask for something © "Hello 2, this is 22, request immediate assistance, over."

required capability /rɪˈkwɔːrd,kwərɪtɪd/ noun the resources that are necessary to do what is required

re-route /rɪːtʃ/ verb to make someone travel by a different route © The convoy was re-routed because of the chemical attack.

rescue /rɪˈskjuː/ noun an act of saving someone © to save someone from a dangerous situation © We used a helicopter to rescue the sailors. 2. to free someone from captivity © All the prisoners of war have been rescued. © The hostages were rescued by the SAS.

research and development /rɪˈsɛrʧ,ændˌdɛvələpmənt/ noun full form of R & D

reserve /rɪˈzərv/ noun 1. units or sub-units which are held back from an engagement, so that they can be used to reinforce or support any unit which gets into difficulties © The general was unwilling to use his reserves. © in reserve acting as a reserve © 6 Platoon will be in reserve for Phase 1. 2. © the Reserve manpower (usually consisting of ex-servicemen) which can be used to supplement the regular forces in times of war or national emergency © On leaving the armed forces, a serviceman is liable for a further seven years in the Reserve.
reservist /rɪˈzɜːvɪst/ noun a person (usually an ex-serviceman) who is liable for service with the Reserve, in the event of war or national emergency. All reservists must report to their nearest police station.

reservoir /rɪˈzɛrwəʊ/ noun a natural or man-made lake, used as a supply of water

residual force /rɪˌzɪdʒuəl/ noun a small security force which remains in a war zone after hostilities have ended and the main force has withdrawn

residual nuclear radiation /rɪˈzɪdʒuəl nuklɪər rəˈdɪəʃən/ noun the harmful rays of energy given off by radioactive substances left after a nuclear explosion

resist /rɪˈzɪst/ verb 1. to fight against something. We were surprised that the garrison resisted so strongly. 2. to oppose something. The snipers resisted all our attempts to dislodge them. 3. to resist the media or general public. You should show more responsibility.

resistance /rɪˈzɪstəns/ noun 1. an act of resisting. The enemy is putting up little resistance. 2. also resistance movement a secret organization which opposes (often with armed force) the established government or an occupying power. The Resistance attacked the railway lines.

resource /rɪˈzɜːs/ noun anything which is available for use (such as ammunition, equipment, manpower, etc.)

respirator /rɪˈspɪrətər/ noun a protective face-covering containing an apparatus to filter air, which is used to protect a person from chemical agents and radioactive contamination.

respond /rɪˈspɔnd/ verb 1. to answer or reply. He did not respond to the accusation. 2. to take action as a result of an incident or situation. They responded by shooting the hostages.
restrictive control /rɪˈstrɪktɪv kənˈtroll noun a doctrine of command and control which relies upon detailed planning and strict obedience to precise orders. Compare directive command

resupply /rɪˈsəpl noun an act of providing fresh supplies (such as ammunition, food and water, fuel, etc.). ○ There will be a resupply of ammunition at 1800hrs. ○ verb to supply something again ○ They resupplied the garrison with water.

retake /rɪˈteɪk/ verb to capture a position or location which has been captured by the enemy ○ B Company have retaken the hill.

retaliating /rɪˈtælіənt/ verb to take action in response to an attack, insult or provocation ○ The soldiers have been ordered not to retaliate if they are insulted by the local population.

retaliation /rɪˈtæliʃən/ noun an act of retaliating ○ There has been no retaliation to the air strikes. ○ They killed three villagers in retaliation for the murder of the general.

retaliatory /rɪˈtæliətɔrɪ/ adjective made in retaliation to an act or incident ○ NATO has authorized retaliatory air strikes.

retire /rɪˈtaɪər/ verb 1. to move away from the enemy ○ We retired to our own lines. 2. to move back towards your own forces or territory ○ The enemy have retired, ○ retreat, withdrawn

retreat /rɪˈtreeət/ noun 1. an act of retreating ○ The enemy forces are in retreat. ○ The retreat from Moscow was accompanied by huge losses. 2. (retreat) a ceremony to signify the close of the working day in barracks (usually around 1800hrs), when the flags are lowered ○ beating the retreat ceremonial parade of music and marching, which is held in the evening ○ verb 1. to move away from the enemy ○ We had to retreat when B Company’s position was overrun. 2. to move back towards your own forces or territory ○ The enemy are retreating, ○ retire, withdraw

COMMENT: The word retreat is normally used when one is forced to move back (for example because one has been defeated or your position has become untenable), whereas retire or withdraw imply a more positive movement as part of a planned manoeuvre or in order to occupy a better position. Consequently, retire or withdraw are sometimes used instead of retreat because they sound more positive

return /rɪˈtɜrn/ verb 1. to come back ○ The patrol has returned. ○ All planes returned safely to base. 2. to give something back ○ He returned the equipment. ○ to return fire to shoot back, when shot at

returned to unit /rɪˈtɜrn tɔ juːt/ ‘juːt noun full form of RTU

revellie /rɪˈvɛli/ noun a time at which troops are woken up ○ Reveille at 0600hrs.

reverse /rɪˈvɜrs/ verb to drive backwards ○ The tank reversed into a barn. ○ noun a failure or misfortune ○ After several reverses, the enemy withdrew. ○ adjective opposite

reverse slope /rɪˈvɜrs /ˈsləʊp/ noun the far side of a hill, which is in dead ground to the enemy ○ The Duke of Wellington always preferred a reverse slope position.

revet /rɪˈvɛt/ verb to strengthen the sides of a trench or other fortification, using corrugated iron, wood or other material ○ Pickets are used in the revetting of trenches and other fortifications. (NOTE: revetting – revetted)

review /rɪˈvjuː noun a large-scale parade and inspection of troops ○ He is attending a review. ○ verb to inspect a large number of troops, etc., on parade ○ The Queen came to review the fleet.

revolt /rɪˈvɑːlt/ noun armed resistance to the established government or to the army command ○ The revolt has spread to the neighbouring provinces. ○ verb to oppose the established government with armed force ○ We expect members
of the former president’s bodyguard to revolt against military rule.

revolution /ˌrevəˈljuːʃən/ noun an overthrow of a government or social order by the use of force

revolutionary /ˌrevəˈljuːʃənəri/ adjective relating to a revolution

revolutionaries have been arrested.

Overthrow of a government or social order by the use of force.

rise /raɪz/ noun a long narrow line of high ground, formed where two slopes meet each other.

After several hours of hand-to-hand fighting we took the ridge.

rise /raɪz/ noun a hand-held firearm with a long rifled barrel and a butt, which is placed against the shoulder for firing.

Rifle /ˈraɪfl/ noun a normal company in an infantry battalion, as opposed to support company.

right-flanking /ˈraɪt flæŋkɪŋ/ adjective relating to an attack on the right flank of an enemy position.

Rifle grenade /ˈraɪfl grɪdʒ/ noun a grenade designed to be fired from the muzzle of a rifle.

Rifleman /ˈraɪflmən/ noun an infantry soldier armed with a rifle.

Comment: Most modern riflemen carry assault weapons.

Rifling /ˈraɪflɪŋ/ noun spiral grooves, cut into the barrel of a gun or artillery piece in order to make the projectile spin during flight.

The barrel is carefully rifled.

Riflemen /ˈraɪflmən/ noun a group of riflemen which carries out a reconnaissance before planning an operation or task.

Full form recce group

R HA abbreviation regimental headquarters

RHA abbreviation rolled homogeneous armour

R Group abbreviation R Group

R Group /ˈreɪgruːp/ noun a small group (usually consisting of a commander and his subordinate commanders), which carries out a reconnaissance before planning an operation or task.

Full form recce group

R HQ abbreviation regimental headquarters

Ricochet /ˌraɪkəˈʃeɪt/ noun a projectile (especially a bullet) which bounces off a surface.

He was hit by a ricochet.

Verb (of projectiles, especially bullets) to hit the ground or some other hard object and bounce off (often in a different direction to the original line of flight).

The bullet ricocheted around the room.

(Note: The plural form is pronounced /ˈraɪkəʃeɪt/.)

Ride /raɪd/ noun a wide path cut through a wood or forest.

We came under fire as we were crossing a ride.

Verb

1. to travel on a horse or motorcycle.

The general rode into the defeated city on a white horse.

2. to travel, sitting on the top of a vehicle.

The infantry were riding on tanks.

(Note: riding — rode — has ridden)

Riot /ˈraɪət/ noun a violent public disturbance.

There have been riots in all the major cities.

Verb to take part in a riot.

The inhabitants rioted when the police arrested the editor of the local newspaper.

Rioter /ˈraɪətər/ noun a person who takes part in a riot.

Three of the rioters were shot dead.

Rip-cord /ripˈkɔrd/ noun a device which is pulled by hand in order to open a parachute.

Rise /raɪz/ noun high ground.

The enemy position is just over the next rise.
risk /rɪsk/ noun the danger or the possibility of a bad result
river /ˈrɪvər/ noun a body of fresh water, which flows along a natural channel towards a sea or lake
RLC noun the unit of the British Army responsible for logistics. Full form Royal Logistic Corps
RLG abbreviation rocket-launched grenade
RM abbreviation Royal Marines
RMO abbreviation regimental medical officer
RN abbreviation Royal Navy
road /rɔːd/ noun a way with a prepared surface, designed for use by vehicles ○ Only one road was suitable for tanks. ○ There are very few roads in the region.
roadblock /ˈrɔːdbloʊk/ noun 1. an obstruction set up by troops or police in order to control the movement of vehicles ○ We set up a roadblock on the edge of the town. 2. the troops or police manning a roadblock ○ The roadblock was attacked during the night.
rock /rɒk/ noun 1. a hard mineral substance, forming part of the earth’s surface ○ The sappers were digging into the rock under the castle walls. 2. a piece of rock ○ Rocks had rolled down the hillside and blocked the road.
rocket /ˈrɒkɪt/ noun a projectile which contains its own propellant
 COMMENT: The term rocket usually refers to a direct-fire or indirect-fire weapon, whereas a missile is normally equipped with its own guidance system, which controls its flight onto the target.
rocket-booster /ˈrɒkɪt ˈbɜːstər/ noun an additional charge of propellant fitted to an artillery shell, which detonates in mid-air and increases its range
rocket-launched grenade /ˈrɒkɪt ˈlɑːntʃd ɡreɪnd/ noun a grenade which has been launched from a rocket. Abbr RLG
rocket launcher /ˈrɒkɪt ˈlɑːŋɡə/ noun an apparatus or vehicle from which a rocket is fired
rocky /ˈrɒki/ adjective (of terrain) consisting mainly of rock
ROE abbreviation rules of engagement
roger /ˈroʊdʒər/ adjective (radio terminology) 1. that is correct ○ ‘Hallo 22, this is 2, confirm that you are at the RV, over.’ – ‘2, roger, out.’ 2. I have understood your instructions ○ ‘Hallo 22, this is 2, move now, over.’ – ‘2, roger, out.’ ○ affirmative, copy
Roland /ˈrɔlənd/ noun a French/German-designed short-range surface-to-air missile (SAM)
role /rəʊl/ noun the function or purpose for which a person or thing is used ○ The role of an anti-tank platoon is the destruction of enemy armour.
role specialization /,rəʊl ˈspeʃələt/ noun a situation where one nation is responsible for supplying one type of equipment or personnel to a multinational force. ○ multirole
rolled homogeneous armour /ˌrəʊld ˌhəʊmədʒiˈnəʊm/ noun armour composed of a single substance (such as steel alloy), which has been rolled to a uniform thickness. Abbr RHA
NOTE: Homogeneous is often written incorrectly as homogenous, pronounced /haʊməˈdʒiːnəs/ which is actually a biological term describing organisms which are similar because they share a common ancestry. The error is so common that many dictionaries now treat the two words as interchangeable.
roll up /ˌrəʊl ˈʌp/ verb to assault through an enemy position sideways, destroying or capturing it trench by trench ○ Once we had gained a foothold on the position, we were able to roll it up from the right.
ROM /rəʊm/ abbreviation refuelling on the move
Roman Catholic Church /ˌrəʊmən ˈkæθəlɪk ˈʃɜːfl/ noun an original western European form of Christianity. Compare Orthodox Church, Protestant Church
Romeo /ˌrəʊmiəʊ/ noun the eighteenth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Rt)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>romer</td>
<td>/ˈruːmər/ noun a simple mathematical instrument for calculating accurate grid references from a map, consisting of a piece of clear plastic printed with a grid which subdivides a grid square into ten northings and ten eastings. I need a romer for a 1:20,000 map.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>route march</td>
<td>/ˈrʊt mɑːtʃ/ noun a long-distance march, designed to improve or maintain physical fitness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>routine</td>
<td>/ˈrʊtɪn/ adjective normal, which happens all the time. That is a routine inspection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domestic</td>
<td>/ˈdəməstɪk/ verb to complete one tour of duty and move on to the next one. I am rotating back to the States next month.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>round</td>
<td>/rɔʊnd/ noun a projectile plus the propellant required to fire it. Ten rounds HE, fire for effect!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roundel</td>
<td>/rɔʊnd(ə)l/ noun a circular identification mark painted on aircraft (usually denoting nationality). British aircraft usually have roundels of red and blue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>round</td>
<td>/rɔʊnd/ noun a set of horizontally rotating blades, which gives a helicopter its upward lift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rotor</td>
<td>/ˈrɔtər/ noun a recruit (slang)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rope</td>
<td>/rəʊp/ noun a thick line of twisted fibres, normally used for pulling or suspending heavy objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rotary-wing aircraft</td>
<td>/ˌrɔtəˈwɪŋ/ noun a helicopter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rotate</td>
<td>/ˈrəʊtət/ verb 1. to rotate around an axis. The rotor was not rotating properly. 2. to complete one tour of duty and move on to the next one. I am rotating back to the States next month.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Navy</td>
<td>/ˌrɔʊl əˌnɛvi/ noun the British navy. Abbr RN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Royal Warrant 210

Royal Warrant /ˌrɔːl wəˈrɑnt/ noun an authority by which a warrant officer holds a rank in the armed forces

RP abbreviation regimental police

RPG-7 /ˈærpiːdʒiː/ noun a Soviet-designed hand-held anti-tank rocket

RPK /ˈærpiːk/ noun a Soviet-designed light machine-gun (LMG), based on the AK-47 assault weapon

RPV abbreviation remotely piloted vehicle

RQMS abbreviation regimental quartermaster sergeant

RRF abbreviation rapid reaction force

RSM abbreviation regimental sergeant major

RSO abbreviation regimental signals officer

RTU /ˈrɔːtuː/ verb to remove a person from a training course prematurely, usually as a result of injury or failure or misdemeanour • He’s been RTU’d.

rubber bullet /ˈrʌbər ˈbulət/ noun a large projectile made of plastic or rubber which is fired from a special gun and is designed to knock a person over but not to cause a serious injury. Also called plastic bullet, baton round

rubble /ˈrʌbl/ noun fragments from damaged or destroyed buildings • The streets are blocked with rubble.

rucksack /ˈrʌksæk/ noun a large fabric container, designed to be carried on a person’s back. • bergen, pack

rudder /ˈrʌdər/ noun 1. a vertical blade at the stern of a boat or ship which is used for steering 2. a vertical blade hinged to the tail of an aircraft, which is used for steering

ruffles and flourishes /ˈrʌflz əˈflɔːrs/ noun • a set of rules governing the firing of weapons and use of force by soldiers (usually in a peace-keeping or counter-insurgency role). Abbr RFS

run /rʌn/ verb 1. to move quickly on foot • He ran to the latrine. 2. to manage something • He is running the mortar course. (NOTE: running — ran — have run)

runner /ˈrʌnər/ noun a soldier used to deliver verbal messages • A runner came up with a message from the general.

runway /ˈrʌnweɪ/ noun a prepared surface used by aircraft for take-off and landing • The runway has been captured by the enemy. • This runway if too short for transport aircraft.

runway lights /ˈrʌnweɪ laɪts/ plural noun lights arranged along the sides of a runway or across it, to indicate where it is

Rupert /ˈrʌpət/ noun an officer (soldiers’ slang) • He got busted for hitting a Rupert.

rural /ˈrjuːrəl/ adjective relating to the countryside (as opposed to towns and cities). Compare urban

ruse /ˈruːz/ noun an act of deception • The enemy withdrawal was just a ruse.

rushing /ˈrʌʃɪŋ/ verb 1. to move suddenly and quickly towards something • They rushed towards the vehicles. 2. to make a sudden assault • The enemy tried to rush our positions.

rust /rʌst/ noun a harmful brown discolouration to iron or steel, caused by exposure to damp air or water. • There is rust on your weapon. • verb to be affected by rust • Your weapon will rust if you don’t oil it. • Rusting equipment littered the courtyard of the former command HQ.

rusty /ˈrʌstɪ/ adjective affected by rust • Look at that gun – it’s rusty. • The road through the desert was lined with rusty tanks.

rut /rʌt/ noun a deep mark made by wheels passing over damp ground • The lorry got stuck in a deep rut.
rutted /ˈrʌtɪd/ adjective (of ground, especially roads and tracks) affected by ruts ○ The track is badly rutted.

RV /əˈvɪz/ noun 1. rendezvous ○ The RV is at grid 453213. 2. a re-entry vehicle ○ The missile is fitted with three nuclear RVs. ■ verb to meet at a rendezvous ○ We will RV at grid 453213.

RWR /ˈrɔdər wɔrɪŋ riːsər/ noun a device which warns a pilot that his aircraft is being hit by a radar beam. Full form radar warning receiver
S-3 /es ’θri:/ noun an American-designed sea-strike aircraft. Also called Viking
SA- /es ’ti/ abbreviation NATO prefix given to Soviet-designed surface-to-air missiles (SAM)
SA-1 noun a Guild surface-to-air missile
SA-2 noun a Guideline surface-to-air missile
SA-3 noun a Goa surface-to-air missile
SA-4 noun a Gane relative missile
SA-5 noun a Gammon surface-to-air missile
SA-6 noun a Gainful surface-to-air missile
SA-7 noun a Grail surface-to-air missile
SA-8 noun a Gecko surface-to-air missile
SA-9 noun a Gaskin surface-to-air missile
SA-10 noun a Grumble surface-to-air missile
SA-11 noun a Gopher surface-to-air missile
SA-12 noun a Gremlin surface-to-air missile
SA-13 noun a Gimlet surface-to-air missile
SA-14 noun a Gillet surface-to-air missile
SA-15 /es ,et ’etiz/ noun a British-designed 5.56mm assault rifle (NOTE: The plural form is SA-80s /es ,et ’etiz/)
SAA abbreviation 1. small arms ammunition 2. skill at arms
Saab-35 /sæb 0zti’farv/ noun a Swedish-designed multirole fighter aircraft. Also called Draken
Saab-37 /sæb 0zti ’seven/ noun a Swedish-designed fighter aircraft, which is also suitable for ground attack. Also called Draken
Saab-39 /sæb 0zti ’num/ noun a Swedish-designed multirole fighter aircraft. Also called Gripen
saber /’seiba/ noun US spelling of sabre
sabkha /sæbkə/, sabqua noun the firm crust on the surface of a dried-up lake bed, underneath which is soft mud (Arabic) ∘ We got stuck in sabkha
COMMENT: Sabkha is a serious hazard in the desert, because the outer margins are usually strong enough to support the weight of a vehicle, thus allowing it to get bogged down out in the middle of the lake bed from where it is extremely difficult to recover. It therefore provides a useful natural obstacle for the tactician. Good desert maps will show known areas of sabkha.
sabot /sæbət/ noun 1. a metal collar or sleeve, which is fitted to a long-rod penetrator in order to give it stability and extra kinetic energy as it travels up the barrel of the gun, and which is designed to fall away, once the projectile has left the muzzle of the weapon 2. any type of tank ammunition which consists of a long-rod penetrator and a discarding-sabot ∘ Load with sabot! ∘ armour-piercing discarding-sabot, armour-piercing fin-stabilized discarding-sabot
sabotage /’sebətədʒ/ noun an act of damaging or destroying an enemy installation or piece of equipment, so that it cannot be used ∘ verb to carry out an act of sabotage ∘ Protesters tried to sabotage the missile installation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>saboteur</td>
<td>noun a person who carries out an act of sabotage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sabqu</td>
<td>noun another spelling of sabkha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sabre</td>
<td>noun a heavy curved sword, traditionally used by cavalrymen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sabre-rattling</td>
<td>noun an increase in military activity during a period of international tension (deployment of troops on a border, recall of reservists, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saddle</td>
<td>noun a ridge joining the tops of two hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>safe</td>
<td>adjective 1. free from danger 2. (of weapons) loaded, but not cocked and with no round in the breech 3. (of explosive devices) not armed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salute</td>
<td>noun a military greeting made between officers and other ranks, which is carried out by raising the right hand to the peak of the cap to take the salute to salute and be saluted by marching troops on parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sacrifice</td>
<td>verb to accept the loss of one or more of your groupings in order to avoid greater loss elsewhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>safety</td>
<td>noun a peacekeeping term for a secure area in which members of an ethnic or sectarian minority can seek safety from the hostility of the main population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salient</td>
<td>noun part of an army's front line, which sticks out at an angle towards the enemy's front line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salmonella</td>
<td>noun a group of bacteria which cause food poisoning and typhoid fever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The enemy troops occupying the salient are particularly vulnerable, because they can be attacked on two sides by the enemy.
carry out a salute. Ordinary ranks must salute officers.

COMMENT: The British naval salute has the hand more or less flat and horizontal, and is similar to the American style of saluting. The British army and air force salute has the hand flat, but with the palm facing outwards.

SALUTE /ˈsɔːlət/ noun a word used to help soldiers remember the important things to note when observing a situation (Size, Activity, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment)

saluting base /ˈsɔːltɪŋ bɛs/ noun a small wooden stand for the officer or important person taking the salute at a military parade

carlo /ˈsɑːlərəʊ/ noun 1. the firing of several large-calibre guns at the same time (especially at sea) 2. the firing of several rockets at the same time

SAM /ˈsæm/ abbreviation surface-to-air missile

Sam Browne /ˈsæm ˈbraʊn/ noun a leather belt with a diagonal shoulder strap, traditionally worn by army officers

sand /ˈsænd/ noun a substance consisting of tiny grains of rock, which covers the ground on beaches and in deserts

sandbag /ˈsændbæɡ/ noun a small hessian sack, designed to be filled with sand or soil, and used in the construction of fortifications

sandbank /ˈsændbæŋk/ noun a deposit of sand, found in shallow water in rivers, estuaries and the sea

Sandhurst /ˈsændhʌst/ noun a British army officer training establishment. He passed out of Sandhurst in 1980. Full form Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

sangar /ˈsæŋɡər/ noun 1. a field fortification, constructed by building a circular wall of rocks or sandbags, when the ground is too hard or too wet to dig trenches. 2. a reinforced position for a sentry, constructed on the perimeter of an army base or installation

sanitation /ˌsænɪˈteɪʃn/ noun 1. the practice of keeping yourself and your surroundings clean, in order to prevent disease. 2. Sanitation is extremely important in refugee camps. 3. washing and toilet facilities. 4. Sanitation is traditional

Sanitation is extreme- ly important in refugee camps.

sapper /ˈsæpər noun (traditional) 1. an engineer 2. the title of the lowest rank in the Royal Engineers

Sapper Williams

SAR abbreviation search and rescue

Saracen /ˈsærəsən/ noun a British-made wheeled armoured personnel carrier (APC)

Saracen

SAS /ˈseɪs ˌes/ es/ noun an elite British Army special forces organization. Full form Special Air Service

satellite /ˈseɪtələt/ noun an unmanned spacecraft, which is positioned in the earth’s orbit and is designed to carry communications, surveillance or other electronic equipment

satellite photograph /ˌseɪtələtˈfɒtəɡrɑːf/ noun a picture of an area of ground, taken from a satellite

SAS /ˌseɪtələtˈnaveɪ/ abbreviation satellite navigation

savana /ˈsævənə/ noun a wide level area of grassland with few trees (in tropical regions)

savannah /ˈsævənə/ noun a wide level area of grassland with few trees (in tropical regions)

save /sɛv/ verb 1. to rescue a person from danger 2. The helicopter managed to save the crew of the ship. 3. to rescue a person from captivity 4. The hostages were saved by the SAS. 5. to avoid waste 6. Save your ammunition. 7. to keep something for future use 8. We are saving most of our mortar rounds for the main assault.

SAW /ˌseɪʃələtˈoʊmətər/ abbreviation Squad Automatic Weapon

SAX /ˈseksən/ noun a British-designed wheeled armoured personnel carrier (APC)

say again /ˌseɪ əˈgen/ verb to repeat a message (radio terminology) of ‘Hello 2, this is 22. Say again last message. Over.’

(NOTE: On the radio, repeat is only used
when you want the artillery or mortars to repeat a fire-mission. It is never used when you want someone to repeat a message.)

SBS /ˈesbiː/ ‘es/ noun an elite British special forces organization, recruited from the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Full form Special Boat Service

**scale** /ˈskɛl// noun 1. the ratio of size between a map and the area of ground which it represents. Most military maps have a scale of 1:50,000. 2. a diagram representing distance, which is usually found on the key of a map. Look at the scale to work out how far the village is from here. 3. a quantity of ammunition, equipment or weapons, which are allocated to a unit or grouping. 4. special forces have larger scales of ammunition than normal units. The new ammunition scale is 200 rounds per gun.

**Scrabar** /ˈskræbər// noun a Soviet-designed tactical surface-to-surface missile

**scaper** /ˈskærəp/ verb to run away (slang) The enemy have scarpered.

**scatter** /ˈskɛtər/ verb 1. to throw or drop objects over a wide area. These shells are designed to scatter leaflets over the enemy lines. 2. (of a group or crowd) to run away or take cover in different directions. The protesters scattered when we opened fire.

**scenes of crime officer** /ˈsɛnz əvˈskrɛm ˌpɪlər/ noun full form SOCO

**schedule** /ˈskɛdjuːl/ verb to fix the time at which something will happen. The attack was scheduled to begin at 0600 hrs.

**Schwerpunkt** /ˈʃvərpoŋkt/ noun German the point of main effort. The Schwerpunkt for this attack will be at Lingen. (NOTE: German nouns are always spelt with a capital letter.)

**Scimitar** /ˈsɪmɪtər/ noun a British-made light tank (CVRT), equipped with a 30mm Rarden cannon

**scorched earth** /ˈskɔrəd ˈɜːθ/ noun the deliberate destruction of your own infrastructure and resources so that the enemy cannot use them. Throughout history, the Russians have used scorched earth tactics to defeat invaders.

**scorpion** noun an insect with two front claws and a long jointed tail which it uses to inflict a venomous sting

**Scorpion** /ˈskɔrəpʃən/ noun a British-made light tank (CVRT), equipped with a 76mm gun

**scout** /ˈskɔːt/ noun 1. a person sent out on a reconnaissance. The scouts haven’t returned yet. 2. a person or vehicle which moves ahead of a grouping, in order to find a suitable route or locate the enemy. The scout vehicle drove into a minefield. 3. verb, 1. to act as a scout. 2. to reconnoitre. 6. Platoon is scouting the enemy position.

**Scout** /ˈskɔːt/ noun a small British-made utility helicopter

**scramble** /ˈskrəmbəl/ verb 1. to move over rocky terrain, using your hands when necessary. This scout is using his hands when necessary to move over rocky terrain, using his hands when necessary. 2. (of fighter aircraft) to take off quickly in order to go into action. Two fighter squadrons scrambled. 3. (of communications) to adapt a transmission electronically, so that it can only be understood by someone with the correct receiving equipment. All messages to HQ must be scrambled.

**scramble net** /ˈskrəmbl ˈnet/ noun a net used by soldiers to climb from a ship into a landing-craft

**scrape** /ˈskrep/ noun a shallow pit dug to provide a hull-down position for an armoured fighting vehicle. The tank was hit as it was reversing out of the scrape. 1. shell-scrape

**scree** /ˈskriː// noun a loose surface of a mountain slope, consisting of a thick layer of small stones. We heard the enemy patrol moving across the scree.

**scrim** /ˈskrɪm/ noun small pieces of fabric, used as camouflage on helmets and camouflage nets. (NOTE: no plural)

**scrub** /ˈskrəb/ noun 1. vegetation consisting of small trees and bushes. The hill is covered with scrub. 2. an area of ground covered with scrub. The enemy position is to the right up the scrub. (NOTE: no plural)
scrubland /skrəbˈlænd/ noun terrain consisting mainly of scrub
Scud /skʌd/ noun a Soviet-designed surface-to-surface missile, capable of carrying a variety of warheads (e.g. chemical, high explosive, nuclear, etc.)
SDI abbreviation Strategic Defence Initiative
sea /semi/ noun a mass of salt water, which covers most of the earth’s surface
seaborne /siˈbɔːrni/ adjective deployed or carried by ships of enemy air defence
SEAD /siˈed/ abbreviation suppression of enemy air defence
Sea Dart /siːdɑːrt/ noun a British-designed long-range naval surface-to-air missile (SAM)
Sea Eagle /siː ˈeɡəl/ noun a British-designed anti-ship missile
Sea Harrier /siː ˈhærəri/ noun a British-designed multirole fighter aircraft with a vertical take-off capability, which is designed to operate from aircraft carriers and certain other ships
Seahawk /siːhɔːk/ noun an American-designed multirole helicopter designed to operate from a ship
Sea King /siː ˈkɪŋ/ noun an American-designed multimode helicopter designed for operating off ships
SEALS /siːlz/ noun American naval special forces. Full form sea, air, land
Sea Lynx noun same as Navy Lynx
seaman /ˈsiːmən/ noun 1. a rank in the British Navy (formerly) Also called able rating, leading rating 2. US a junior non-commissioned rank in the navy
seaman apprentice /ˈsiːmən ɑːˈprɛntɪs/ noun US the lowest non-commissioned rank in the navy
sea mile /siː/ noun US the same as nautical mile
seaplane /ˈsiːpleɪn/ noun an aircraft designed to take off from and land on water
sea power /siː poʊər/ noun warships and weaponry used at sea
search /sɜːtʃ/ noun an act of searching • verb to look for someone or something
search and rescue operation /ˈsɜːtʃ ənd ˈrɪskjʊər əˈoperæʃən/ noun an operation to look for someone and rescue them
searchlight /ˈsɜːtʃliːt/ noun a powerful electric light, which produces a concentrated beam for illuminating objects
search warrant /ˈsɜːtʃ wɔrnt/ noun a warrant authorizing the security forces to search a specified building or property
Sea Skua /siː ˈskjuːə/ noun a British-designed medium-range naval surface-to-air missile (SAM)
Sea Stallion /siː ˈstæliʃən/ noun CH-53
sea-strike /ˈsiː strɪk/ noun a naval aviation role, involving the use of carrier-based aircraft to attack enemy shipping
COMMENT: Sea-strike is the maritime equivalent of fighter ground-attack.
Sea Wolf /siː ˈwʊlf/ noun a British-designed short-range naval surface-to-air missile (SAM)
second1 /ˈsɛkənd/ noun a unit of time, corresponding to a sixtieth part of one minute
second2 /ˈsiːkənd/ verb to post a serviceman to another arm or service or even to the armed forces of a foreign state, usually to provide specialist expertise or training • He was seconded to the Sultan of Oman’s Armed Forces.
secondary armour /ˌsɛkərərē/ noun additional armour fitted onto an armoured vehicle in order to increase its protection
secondary jungle /ˌsɛkərərē jʊndʒl/ noun a jungle where the original trees have been cleared (by man or by fire) and replaced by a dense growth of bushes and young trees
second dogwatch /ˈseknd ˈdɒgwɔt// noun the period of duty from 1800–2000hrs. = watch

second in command /ˈseknd in ˈkɑːmənd// noun the most senior person after the commander and nominated to take command in his absence. Abbr 2IC

second lieutenant /ˈseknd ˈlefi ˈtenənt// US /ˈseknd ˈljuːˈtenənt// noun 1. the lowest officer rank in the army or marines (usually in command of a platoon or equivalent-sized grouping) 2. US the lowest officer rank in the army, marines or air force (usually in command of a platoon or equivalent-sized grouping) = abbr 2Lt

secondment /ˈsekndment// noun an act of being seconded = He went on secondment to the Sultan of Oman’s Armed Forces.

secret /ˈsekrət// adjective 1. not for common knowledge = They got out of the camp through a secret tunnel. 2. high level of security classification for documents and information = This information is classified as secret. = noun a fact or information which is secret = He was charged with passing secrets to the enemy.

Secretary for Defense /ˈsekrətri ˈfa dɪˈfens//, Defense Secretary /ˈdɪfens ˈsekrətri// noun a US government minister in charge of the armed forces

Secretary of State for Defence /ˈsekrətri ɔv stɛt ˈfɔ dɪˈfens//, Defence Secretary /ˈdɪfens ˈsekrətri// noun a government minister in charge of the armed forces

sectarian /ˈsektəriən// adjective relating to conflict caused by differences in religion (e.g. Roman Catholic as opposed to Protestant or Orthodox) = This was a sectarian attack. = The conflict in Bosnia was sectarian rather than ethnic.

section /ˈsekʃən// noun 1. a sub-unit of a platoon 2. a tactical infantry grouping of eight men (usually divided into two fireteams) 3. US a tactical armoured grouping of two tanks (NOTE: In the US Army, section-sized infantry groupings are known as squads.)

COMMENT: British infantry sections are usually commanded by corporals.

section commander /ˈsektərə ˈkəʊ mənd// noun an NCO in command of a section

sector /ˈsekər// noun a subdivision of an area of ground = There has been no enemy activity in this sector.

secure /ˈsɪkjʊər// adjective 1. (of ground) in your possession and prepared for defence = The LZ is now secure. 2. (of objects) properly attached or fastened = Make sure that all your kit is secure. 3. (of containers, rooms, buildings or places) locked or otherwise protected against theft = Put these documents in a secure place. 4. (of communications) encoded or scrambled = Is the line to HQ secure? = verb 1. (of ground) to capture or otherwise take possession of a location, and prepare it for defence = The objective has been secured. 2. (of objects) to attach or fasten properly = He secured the field dressing to his webbing. 3. to make sure that something happens = The aim of the operation is to secure the release of the hostages.

security /ˈsɪkjʊərəti// noun 1. all measures taken by a unit to protect itself from surveillance or offensive action by the enemy = The enemy has breached our security. 2. all measures taken by an organization to protect its property and personnel from attack, espionage, sabotage, theft or any other threat or danger = He is responsible for security on the base. 3. a department or organization responsible for protection against theft, etc. = Security has reported a break-in.

security forces /ˈsɪkjʊərəti ˈfɔrɛs// noun a state’s armed forces and police force (especially in a counter-insurgency situation)

security zone /ˈsɪkjʊərəti ˈzon// noun an area of ground around a groupings positions, which is covered by its weapons systems, surveillance equipment and patrol activity

seek /sɪk// verb 1. to look for something 2. to try to achieve something = He is seeking promotion.
seeker /ˈsiːkər/ noun a person or device which is looking for something

segregate /ˈsɛɡrɪɡeɪt/ verb to separate a person or group from other people, and keep them apart. The officers were segregated from the other prisoners.

seize /ˈziːz/ verb 1. to capture a company has seized the objective. 2. to take something by force. The security forces have seized a large quantity of explosives.

self-control /ˈsɛlf kənˈtrəʊl/ noun the ability to control your own emotions (e.g. anger, fear, etc.)

self-inflicted wound /ˈsɛlf ɪnˈfɪktɪd ˈwʊnd/ noun a wound inflicted by a person on himself, usually in order to get out of the combat zone.

self-loading rifle /ˈsɛlf laʊrdʒən ˈraʊf(ə)rɛl/ noun 1. a semi-automatic rifle (that is, one that reloads itself after each shot) 2. a British-produced 7.62mm assault weapon, based on the Belgian-designed FN-FAL. abbr SLR

self-propelled /ˈsɛlf prəˈpɛld/ adjective having a motor which makes it move.

self-propelled anti-aircraft gun /ˈsɛlf prəˈpɛld əˈsɛni ˈeɪkruərtf əˈgən/ noun an armoured fighting vehicle fitted with an anti-aircraft gun. abbr SPAA-G. NOTE: These weapons frequently have two or more barrels.

self-propelled gun /ˈsɛlf prəˈpɛld əˈgən/ noun an artillery piece, in the form of an armoured vehicle. abbr SPG

self-propelled howitzer /ˈsɛlf prəˈpɛld əˈhauətsər/ noun a howitzer in the form of an armoured fighting vehicle (AFV). abbr SPH

semi-automatic /ˌsemi əˈtæmətɪk/ adjective (of firearms) designed to reload automatically after each shot (as opposed to bolt-action rifles, which are operated by hand). The government forces are equipped with semi-automatic weapons.

semi-automatic command line of sight /ˌsemi əˈtæmətɪk ˈkəmənd lɪnəv əˈsaɪt/ noun full form of SAC-LOS

semi-automatic weapon /ˌsemi əˈtæmətɪk ˈweɪpən/ noun a firearm which reloads itself after each shot (e.g. a self-loading rifle)

Semtex /ˈsɛmtɛks/ noun a Czech-produced plastic explosive (PE). COMMENTS: Semtex is favoured by terrorists, because it has no smell and does not "sweat". This makes it very difficult to detect.  

send /ˈsɛnd/ verb to make something go from one place to another. Britain has sent two battalions to the region.

sending nation /ˈsɛndɪŋ ˈneɪʃən/ noun a nation which has sent forces to be part of a multinational force. NOTE: sending – sent

senior /ˈsiːnər/ adjective of higher rank. He is senior to you. The senior officers were accommodated in a hotel. 

seniority /ˈsiːnərɪtɪ/ noun a position in the rank structure. You do not have the seniority to do this job.

sensitive site exploitation /ˌsɛnsɪtɪv ˈsaɪt ˌɛksplɔˈteɪʃən/ noun full form of SSE

sensor /ˈsɛnsər/ noun a device which is designed to detect something (such as chemical agent, movement, radiation, etc.)

sentry /ˈsɛntri/ noun 1. a serviceman assigned to guard a military base or installation. A sentry challenged us as we approached the perimeter fence. 2. a soldier assigned to watch for any approaching enemy, while others rest or carry out other tasks.

Sentry /ˈsɛntri/ noun an American-designed E-3 airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft

servant /ˈsɜːvənt/ noun a non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the US and British army, marines or air force. abbr Sgt. a flight sergeant, master sergeant, staff sergeant

servant major /ˈsɜːvənt ˈmeɪdʒər/ noun 1. a warrant officer in the army or marines. 2. US a senior non-commis-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sergeant</td>
<td>a nickname for the American-designated M-247 self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERPACWA</td>
<td>a cream or paste which is smeared on the skin in order to reduce or delay the exposure to chemicals used in chemical warfare. Full form skin exposure reduction paste against chemical warfare agents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>serve</td>
<td>to be employed in the armed forces. Men serving in the armed forces are eligible for a pension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service</td>
<td>1. an act of serving in the armed forces. He has ten years' service. 2. the services. The armed forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service commander</td>
<td>the most senior commander from one particular service (e.g. army, navy or air force) in a combined arms force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service dress</td>
<td>a smart khaki uniform worn on formal duties and parades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>serviceman</td>
<td>a man serving in the armed forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service number</td>
<td>the number given to each individual member of the armed forces for identification purposes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service support</td>
<td>a general term for administration and logistics at small unit level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>servicewoman</td>
<td>a woman serving in the armed forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>servicing</td>
<td>doing work for someone, repairing or maintaining equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>adjective ready to function. The ambush is now set.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>verb to put something into a certain position. He set the control to manual. (NOTE: setting – have set)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set off</td>
<td>to start on a journey. They set off under cover of darkness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>setting</td>
<td>a position in which the control knobs or switches of an apparatus are set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set up</td>
<td>to assemble something. We will set up the mortar here. 2. to establish something at a location. The RAP has been set up in the village.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sewer</td>
<td>a system of underground tunnels, used to carry water from drains and toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF</td>
<td>a nickname for the American-devised M-247 self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shake out</td>
<td>to deploy from march formation (e.g. column or file) into tactical formation for advance or assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shanty town</td>
<td>an area of poor dwellings built from waste materials (often found on the edges of cities in poor countries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHAPE</td>
<td>abbreviation Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shaped-charge warhead</td>
<td>an anti-tank warhead, in which the explosive is packed around an inverted metal cone (on detonation, the cone collapses inwardly to form a high velocity liquid-like jet which is capable of penetrating armour).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shaping fire</td>
<td>a preliminary attack which is an attempt to weaken enemy forces so that they can be easily destroyed by later attacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shared use</td>
<td>the use of forces or supplies sent by different nations to a multinational force</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
mouth during sandstorms

suitable for protecting the nose and

around the neck or as a headdress and is

additional Arab scarf, which may be worn

on the town during the night.

from any dangerous effects

used as a shield

for a long period of time

lying on his stomach

protection from artillery fire to a man

scrapes every time we halt.

shield

signed to be held in front of your body

held disposable launcher

flare, which is fired from a small hand-

by placing something between him and

the night.

We could hear shellfire during

We heard shooting during the night.

We were shielded from the blast by the truck.

hello 2, this is 22, am being

The enemy shelled the town for several hours.

British troops to wear a shemagh.

Gulf War, it was fashionable among

post-traumatic stress disorder

injured because he had removed the

safety shield.

We were shot in the leg.

He was shot in the leg.

The Exocet

Stop or I’ll shoot!

The tailplane was

The deserters were taken away and

The riot police were equipped with

commanders were shot in the fighting.

We were almost shot away by cannon fire.

There has been a shooting.

There was a shooting.

Shells fell

explosion by the truck.

by the violent collision of two objects

physical collapse, as a result of a seri-

ous wound or horrifying experience

He was suffering from shock.

shock

formerly, a charge by heavy cavalry

a sudden or aggressive attack or counter-

attack, especially by tanks

elite troops who are kept in re-

serve in order to attack or counter-at-

tack the enemy when he is at his most

vulnerable (e.g., during reorganization)

This position offers a good shoot into the

valley.

1. to fire a weapon at something

Stop or I’ll shoot! to kill

or wound someone by firing a weapon

at him

He was shot in the leg.

Both commanders were shot in the fighting.

3. to kill someone as a punishment

The deserters were taken away and

This was a long take-off and landing

used over short distances

The Exocet

is a short-range missile.

a technology

shell 220

dshell /ʃeI/ noun 1. artillery projectile

consisting of a metal case filled with

high explosive, which is designed to

explode on impact with the ground or

when detonated by a fuse. Shells fell

on the town during the night.

2. US a

cartridge to fire artillery shells at

targets. ‘Hello 2, this is 22, am being

shelled, wait out’

The enemy shelled

the town for several hours.

shell case /ʃeI ˈkeIz/ noun a metal

cartridge, used to hold the propellant of

an artillery shell

shellfire /ʃeIˈfɜːr/ noun firing of

shells. We could hear shellefire during the night.

shell-scrape /ʃeIˈskreɪp/ noun a shallow

pit designed to offer limited protection from artillery fire to a man lying on his stomach.

We dig shell-scrapes every time we halt.

shell shock /ʃeI/ noun 1. mental and physical collapse, as a result of being shelled or simply being in combat for a long period of time.

He is suffering from shell shock.

battle fatigue,

post-traumatic stress disorder

shemagh /ʃɪˈmɑːɡ/ noun Arabic a traditional Arab scarf, which may be worn around the neck or as a headdress and is suitable for protecting the nose and mouth during sandstorms.

During the Gulf War, it was fashionable among British troops to wear a shemagh.

Sheridan /ˈʃɛrdən/ noun an American-designed light tank

shermuly /ʃɜːrˈmʌli/ noun a parachute

flare, which is fired from a small hand-
held disposable launcher

shield /ʃiːld/ noun 1. a piece of metal, plastic or other material, which is designed to be held in front of your body as protection from blows or projectiles.

The riot police were equipped with

butons and shields.

2. anything which is used as a shield.

A structure which is fitted to a piece of equipment or machinery, in order to protect the operator from any dangerous effects.

He was injured because he had removed the safety shield.

We were shielded from the blast by the truck.
which enables a fixed-wing aircraft to take off and land over considerably shorter distances than those required by conventional fixed-wing aircraft. Abbr STOL

**COMMENT:** Vertical take-off aircraft also require a short take-off and landing capability because vertical take-off is not usually possible when the aircraft is carrying a full payload of munitions. Once these munitions have been discharged, however, a normal vertical landing would again be possible. The acronyms STOVL (short take-off and vertical landing) and V/STOL (vertical or short take-off and landing) are used to describe these capabilities.

**shot** /ʃɔt/ noun 1. an act of firing a weapon ○ We heard a shot. ○ He took two shots at the enemy tank. 2. a person who shoots ○ He’s an excellent shot. 3. small metal balls fired from a shotgun (NOTE: The term is plural in this meaning.)

**shotgun** /ʃɔtɡʌn/ noun a gun, usually with two barrels, which fires a quantity of small metal balls (or shot)

**shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon** /ˌʃɔldər-ləˈmənjuːpərə pəˈsər əl ˌwepən/ noun full form of SMAW

**shovel** /ˈʃəvəl/ noun a tool consisting of a rounded metal blade attached to a long wooden handle, designed for digging holes in the ground

**shovel recce** /ˈʃəvəl rəˈki/ noun going to the toilet in the field ○ I’m just going on a shovel recce.

**shrapnel** /ˈʃraŋpl/ noun 1. an artillery shell containing ball-bearings, which become projectiles when the shell explodes (historical) 2. projectiles formed by fragments of an exploding artillery shell or grenade ○ He was hit in the leg by shrapnel. ○ He was blinded by a piece of shrapnel. (NOTE: no plural)

**Shrike** /ˈʃraɪk/ noun an American-designed air-to-ground anti-radar missile (ARM)

**shrine** /ˈʃrɪn/ noun a small building or structure which is used for religious purposes
sign

transmissions. Full form signals intelligence

sign /sɪɡn/ noun 1. written words or symbols painted or printed on a board or on the surface of an object, in order to convey information (such as direction, identity of a unit, location of a minefield, etc.) ○ Follow the signs to Brigade HQ. 2. a gesture designed to convey a meaning ○ He made a sign for us to keep quiet. 3. evidence of activity or the presence of something (such as blood, discarded equipment, vehicle tracks, etc.) ○ There was no sign of the enemy. ■ verb 1. to write your name in a special way to show that you have approved a document ○ The report must be signed by the author. ○ to sign on to join the armed forces for a period of time and sign a contract of employment ○ He signed on for seven years.

signal /ˈsɪɡn(ə)l/ noun 1. a sign made by flags, gestures, light or any other means, in order to convey information or instructions ○ The signal to withdraw is a red flare followed by a green flare. 2. a message transmitted by radio ○ We have received a signal from HQ. 3. the electromagnetic waves transmitted by a radio transmitter ○ I am getting a very weak signal. ■ verb 1. to make a sign, in order to convey information or instructions ○ He signalled to us to get down. 2. to send a message by radio ○ They signalled HQ to request air support for the operation.

signaller /ˈsɪɡn(ə)lə/ noun US spelling of signaller

signaller /ˈsɪɡn(ə)lə/ noun 1. a serviceman, who specializes in the use of radios and other communications equipment 2. the title of a private in the Royal Corps of Signals ○ Signaller Jones

signalman /ˈsɪɡn(ə)lmən/ noun same as signaller (NOTE: The plural form is signalmen.)

signals /ˈsɪɡn(ə)lz/ plural noun communications (especially radio) ○ We have captured an enemy signals detachment.

signals centre /ˈsɪɡn(ə)lz ˌsentə/ noun same as communication centre
behind the other line of men or vehicles moving one from our truck. Especially as a result of an attack (squat) collected for a particular purpose and being used to store artillery fire, firing of a missile, etc.) apparatus designed to simulate effects or conditions for training purposes (such as the control of an aircraft, direction of artillery fire, firing of a missile, etc.)

deline /simju:leif(ə)n/ noun an act of simulating

simulator /'smjju:leitə/ noun an apparatus designed to simulate effects or conditions for training purposes (such as the control of an aircraft, direction of artillery fire, firing of a missile, etc.)

single file /'sing(ə)l/ 'faɪl/ noun a single line of men or vehicles moving one behind the other

sink /sɪŋk/ verb 1. (of boats and ships) to go to the bottom of the sea, river or other area of water. The ship sank in a storm. 2. to make a boat or ship sink (especially as a result of an attack). The enemy have sunk HMS Sheffield. (NOTE: sinking – sank – have sunk)

Sioux /sjuː/ noun an outdated American-designed reconnaissance helicopter

siphon /'saɪf(ə)n/, syphon /'saɪf(ə)n/ verb to move liquid from one container to another using atmospheric pressure. One container is placed in a higher position than the other and liquid is then sucked from the higher container through a hose and directed into the lower container. The liquid will then flow freely as a result of pressure. We caught some men trying to siphon fuel from our truck.

siren /ˈsɪrən/ noun a device which makes a loud noise as a signal or warning

site /saɪt/ noun a location which is selected for a particular purpose. This would be a good site for the RAP. Where have you sited the machine-gun?

SITREP /'sɪtrɪp/ abbreviation situation report

situation /ˌstɪˈʃuːʃən/ noun what is happening at a particular moment in time

situation report /ˌstɪˈʃuːʃən rɪˈpɔːt/ noun a verbal or written message describing everything of importance which is happening or has happened in a unit or sub-unit’s area of responsibility. Abbrev SITREP

ski /skɪ/ noun one of a pair of long thin pieces of wood or plastic, which a person attaches to his feet in order to move over snow. In winter, they patrol the border on skis. A verb to move on skis. We will have to ski to the RV.

ski-jump /ˈskiː dʒʌmp/ noun a ramp at the end of the flight deck on an aircraft carrier, which is designed to assist take-off

skill /skɪl/ noun the ability to carry out a task or procedure (usually improved by teaching and practice)

skill at arms /skɪl ət 'ɑːmz/ noun skill in the use of weapons, especially small arms. Abbrev SAA

ski-mask /ˈskiː mæsk/ noun a woolen garment which covers the head, neck and face, with holes for the eyes, which is designed to protect a person’s face in extremely cold conditions, but is also sometimes used to conceal a person’s identity. The terrorists were all wearing ski-masks.

skin exposure reduction paste against chemical warfare agents /skin ɪk ˌspəʊʃən ˌrɛdʒərənʃ ə tʃɪmməl ˈwɛrəl ətʃɪm ˈwerəl / noun full form of SERPACWA

skirmish /ˈskɜːmɪʃ/ noun a short battle between small groups of soldiers. Skirmishes broke out along the line. Battle, engagement, firefight. A verb to assault or withdraw, using fire and manoeuvre. The section skirmished onto the forward edge of the enemy position.

Sky Flash /ˈskai flæʃ/ noun a British-designed radar-guided air-to-air missile (AAM)

Skyhawk /ˈskaihɔʊk/ noun same as A-4

SL abbreviation start line
slacken /ˈslaːkən/ verb to become less intense ○ We assaulted as soon as the enemy fire started to slacken.

SLAM /ˈsləm/ noun an American-designed long-range air-to-ground missile. Full form stand-off land attack missile

sleeper /ˈslɪpər/ noun an agent who lives and works in an enemy country but carries out no action until the time is right (e.g. at the outbreak of war) ○ We believe that a sleeper has planted a virus in our computer system.

sleeping-bag /ˈslɪpɪŋˌbæg/ noun a quilted bag used for sleeping in. ○ bivy bag, kitbag

sleeping sickness /ˈslɪpɪŋˌsɪknəs/ noun a common name for the disease, African trypanosomiasis, which is spread by the tsetse fly

sling /slɪŋ/ noun a leather or webbing strap, by which a weapon can be hung from a person’s shoulder so that he is free to use his hands ○ We made a rope out of rifle slings.

slingshot /ˈslɪŋʃɒt/ noun US a weapon made of a Y-shaped piece of metal with a rubber attached, used to send stones and other small projectiles over long distances (NOTE: The British English term is catapult.)

slit trench /ˈslɪt tɛntʃ/ noun same as fire trench

sloop /slʌp/ noun a small armed naval ship

slope /sləʊp/ noun 1. an area of ground, in which one part is higher than the other ○ The tank rolled down the slope. 2. the side of a hill ○ The enemy is dug in on the forward slope. ■ verb (of ground) to form a slope ○ The ground slopes to the south.

SLR abbreviation self-loading rifle

small arms /ˈsmedəˌaːrnz/ plural noun arms which can be carried, such as rifles, machine-guns and sub-machine-guns

smallbore /ˈsmedəbɔːr/ adjective with a barrel which has a small bore ○ a smallbore shotgun

smallpox /ˈsmɔːlpɒks/ noun a potentially fatal infectious disease, causing fever and a severe rash on the skin, which often results in permanent scars. COMMENT: Caused by the pox virus, smallpox is also known as variola. The disease has been practically eradicated from the developed world as a result of widespread vaccination programmes. However, certain nations are believed to have developed strains of the virus for use as a biological weapon.

smart bomb /ˈsmɔːt bɒm/ noun a name given by the media to precision guided munitions (PGM). Compare dumb bomb

SMAW /ˈsmɔː/ noun an American-designed hand-held rocket launcher (basically an anti-tank weapon). Full form shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon

smoke /smɔːk/ noun 1. particles of carbon produced by a burning object or substance, which are suspended in the air to form a thick black or white cloud ○ Clouds of smoke reduced visibility. 2. any projectile or grenade, which is designed to produce smoke, in order to blind the enemy or to mask the movements of friendly forces ○ Five rounds smoke, fire for effect! ■ verb 1. to give off smoke ○ The burnt-out tank is still smoking. 2. to smoke a cigarette ○ He reminded his men that they were not allowed to smoke after dark.

smoke break /ˈsmɔːk b्रɛrk/ noun a break to have a cigarette

smoke canister /ˈsmɔːk ˌkænɪstə/ noun a metal container containing chemicals which produce smoke

smoke discharger /ˈsmɔːk dɪsˈdзɪfrə/ noun a device which releases smoke or smoke canisters

smoke grenade /ˈsmɔːk ɡrɪndʒ/ noun a grenade which releases smoke

smoking /ˈsmɔːkɪŋ/ noun an act of smoking a cigarette ○ Smoking is dangerous close to fuel supplies.

smooth-bore /ˈsmɔːθ bɔːr/ adjective referring to a gun with a barrel that has a smooth inside surface with no rifling
smuggle /ˈsmʌɡ/ verb 1. to import illegal goods (e.g. drugs, weapons) or import goods without paying customs duty (e.g. alcohol, tobacco) ○ He was prosecuted for smuggling cigarettes. 2. to convey something secretly into or out of a location ○ They were caught trying to smuggle a girl into the barracks.

smuggler /ˈsmʌɡlər/ noun a person who smuggles ○ He is a well-known drug smuggler.

snake /sneɪk/ noun a creature with a very long, thin body and no legs, which often has a poisonous bite

snatch /snætʃ/ verb to rush in and arrest or capture a person ○ Our mission is to snatch an officer from the enemy position.

snatch squad /ˈsnætʃ skwɒd/ noun a small group of soldiers detailed to grab and arrest someone

sniffer dog /ˈsnɪfa ˈdɔɡ/ noun a dog trained to detect explosives or weapons by their smell

snipe /ˈsnɪp/ verb 1. to shoot at a person from a hidden fire-position 2. to shoot at selected enemy personnel such as commanders, machine-gunner, signalers, etc., as opposed to any person who happens to be within your field of fire 3. to shoot at enemy personnel as a form of harassment (especially when they are not actually fighting)

sniper /ˈsnɪpər/ noun a trained marksman, who specializes in sniping at the enemy ○ The street patrol came under sniper fire. ○ He was disabled by a sniper’s bullet.

COMMENT: Snipers are usually sited away from the main force, so that they can concentrate on shooting at selected targets instead of being drawn into the general firefight. They are also less likely to be affected when the main force comes under artillery fire.

snorkel /ˈsnɔrk(ə)l/ noun 1. a tube used by a person to breathe through, when swimming underwater ○ He was using a snorkel. 2. a breathing tube, fitted to a tank for crossing rivers or landing on a beach ○ This tank can be fitted with a snorkel for river crossings.

snow /ˈsnɔʊ/ noun flakes of crystallized ice, which fall from the sky ○ Most of the mountain roads were blocked by snow. ○ He wanted to leave the mountain camp for home by the time the snow began to fall.

snowcat /ˈsnɔʊkæt/ noun a lightweight tracked vehicle designed for use in arctic conditions

snowshoe /ˈsnɔʊʃu/ noun a device, similar in appearance to a tennis racket, which is strapped on the foot to allow a person to walk across deep snow

SOCO /ˈsʌkəʊ/ abbreviation US Special Operations Command Europe

SOF /ˈsɔf/ noun special forces (e.g. commandos, rangers, SAS, SEALs, Spetznaz, etc.). Full form special operating forces

soft-skinned vehicle /ˈsɔft ˈskɪnd ˈvɜzɪk(ə)l/ noun a vehicle which is not protected by armour (such as a jeep, lorry, truck, etc.) ○ All soft-skinned vehicles were withdrawn to the rear.

soft target /ˈsɔft ˈtɑrət/ noun a person or unit or vehicle which is vulnerable or unable to defend itself properly ○ The terrorists are only interested in attacking soft targets.

soil /ˈsoʊl/ noun a substance, consisting of particles of rock and decayed vegetation, in which plants grow

solar still /ˈsəʊlər ˈstɪl/ noun a device, consisting of a plane of glass covering a container placed at the bottom. The container is then covered with some plastic sheeting which is secured at the sides by heated sand and weighted in the centre by a small stone, thereby forming an inverted cone. Droplets of water form through
condensation on the underside of the sheet and trickle down into the container. (NOTE: Condensation can be increased by placing pieces of vegetation in the pit or even urinating in the sand of the pit.)
soldier /ˈsɔldər/ noun (private) soldier a person serving in the army. A group of soldiers took command of the radio station. o We were trapped in the camp by enemy soldiers.
soldiering /ˈsɔldərɪŋ/ noun the profession of being a soldier
soldier of fortune /ˈsɔldər ə vɔrˌtʃən/ noun a mercenary
solution /ˈsəluʃən/ noun 1. a mixture of a solid substance with a liquid. o He cleaned the wound with a solution of salt and water. 2. an answer to a problem. o We've got a solution to your supply problem. 3. a moment when the operator of a guided weapon has the target in his sights and the guidance system is activated. o He achieved a solution on the leading plane. o lock-on (NOTE: used with the verb achieve)
Soman /səˈmɑn/ GD
sonar /ˈsɔnər/ noun a system for detecting underwater objects through the transmission of sound waves, which are reflected back by the object
SOP abbreviation standard operating procedure
sortie /ˈsɔrti/ noun 1. an operational flight. o We lost two aircraft in the last sortie. 2. a small offensive operation mounted by troops who are occupying a defensive position. o We made a sortie while the enemy were reorganizing.
SOS /es əˈes/ noun an international distress signal, signifying an urgent request for assistance. o They sent out an SOS
source /ˈsɔrs/ noun an agent or informer who provides intelligence. o We've heard from a reliable source that the terrorists are planning an attack.
south /sɔθ/ noun 1. one of the four main points of the compass, corresponding to a bearing of 180 degrees or 3200 mils. 2. an area to the south of your location. o The enemy are approaching from the south. 3. o the South the southern part of a country. o adjective relating to south. o the South Gate o south wind wind blowing from the south. o adverb towards the south. o The enemy is moving south.
southbound /ˈsɔθbaʊnd/ adjective moving or leading towards the south. o A southbound convoy
southerly /ˈsɔθəli/ adjective 1. towards the south. o The troops were heading in a southerly direction. 2. of (wind) from the south.
southern /ˈsɔθən/ adjective relating to the south. o the southern part of the country
Southern Hemisphere /ˌsɔðən hɪˈemɪərə/ noun an area of the earth's surface south of the Equator
southward /ˈsɔθwɔrd/ adjective towards the south. o They moved in a southward direction. o adverb US towards the south. o They are moving southward.
southwards /ˈsɔθwɔrdz/ adverb towards the south. o They are moving southwards.
Soviet /ˈsɔviət/ adjective of or relating to the Soviet Union. o the Soviet Union (USSR) the empire of communist Russia, which disintegrated in 1991.
COMMENT: The former Soviet Union is now generally known as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
SP abbreviation start point
SPAAG abbreviation self-propelled anti-aircraft gun
space /spejs/ noun 1. an empty area between objects. o There is not enough space to deploy the brigade. 2. an unlimited area beyond the earth's atmosphere. o The Americans have sent another satellite into space.
Space Command /ˈspejs kəˈmɑnəd/ noun the department of the US forces responsible for the use of satellites (e.g., for surveillance, communications, GPS, missile guidance, NMD, etc.)
spacecraft /ˈspejskraft/ noun a machine designed to travel in space
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>spade</strong></td>
<td>noun a simple digging tool consisting of a metal blade attached to a long wooden handle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>spoil</strong></td>
<td>noun fragments of armour which are broken off and blasted into the interior of an armoured vehicle, as a result of a hit by an anti-tank projectile</td>
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<td><strong>Spandrel</strong></td>
<td>noun a Soviet-designed tube-launched, wire-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>spanner</strong></td>
<td>noun a metal tool with an opening which fits round a nut and which can be twisted to undo the nut or tighten it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>spare</strong></td>
<td>adjective kept in order to replace something which is lost or damaged; This vehicle doesn't have a spare wheel. verb 1. to manage without. 2. to not kill. Only the women and children were spared.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>spares</strong></td>
<td>plural noun spare parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>sparkle</strong></td>
<td>verb to illuminate a target with a laser target designator (forward air controller jargon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sparrow</strong></td>
<td>noun an American-designed radar-guided air-to-air missile (AAM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>sparrow-fart</strong></td>
<td>noun first light (slang)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spartan</strong></td>
<td>noun a small British-designed armoured-personnel carrier (APC) normally used by specialist troops (e.g. anti-tank, artillery, engineers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>spat</strong></td>
<td>noun a garment of fabric, which is worn over the ankle and lower leg and extends over the upper part of the shoe or boot, in order to keep your trousers dry and to prevent small stones and other objects going into your boots. The pipers were wearing kilts and white spats.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMMENT:** Spats are now usually worn as part of a ceremonial uniform, although American troops wore them in combat during World War II.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>spearhead</strong></td>
<td>noun leading elements of a large-scale offensive operation. The enemy's spearhead has reached Minden. To act as spearhead. 3 Brigade will spearhead the attack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special</strong></td>
<td>adjective for a specific purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Air Service</strong></td>
<td>noun an elite British Army special forces organization. Abbreviation SAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Boat Service</strong></td>
<td>noun an elite British special forces organization, recruited from the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Abbreviation SBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special forces</strong></td>
<td>noun highly trained elite troops, who specialize in unconventional military operations (such as covert operations, intelligence gathering, raids, sabotage, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Investigation Branch</strong></td>
<td>noun the detective branch of the British military police, which investigates criminal offences committed by servicemen while they are subject to military law (e.g. on MOD property or while on operational service). Abbreviation SIB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>speciality</strong></td>
<td>noun something that a person is specially trained to do, or is particularly good at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special operating forces</strong></td>
<td>full form of SOF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special operations capable</strong></td>
<td>adjective having sufficient training and expertise to carry out specialized military tasks. Abbreviation SOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special training</strong></td>
<td>noun training in specialist areas such as guerrilla warfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>specialty</strong></td>
<td>US same as speciality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>special weapon</strong></td>
<td>noun same as weapon of mass destruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>specifications</strong></td>
<td>plural noun detailed information about</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
spent /spent/ adjective used ○ Spent ammunition lay round the machine-gun.

Spetznaz /spetznaz/ noun an elite Soviet special forces organization ○ Spetznaz units are operating in this area.

SPG abbreviation self-propelled gun

SPH abbreviation self-propelled howitzer

Spigot /spigot/ noun a Soviet-designed wire-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW)

spinney /spinni/ noun a small wood ○ We think the enemy has an OP in that spinney.

Spinal /spiral/ noun a Soviet-designed laser-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW)

spire /spirə/ noun a sharp pointed tower, usually forming part of a church

Spirit /spirit/ noun B-2

spitlock /spitlink/ verb to mark the proposed layout of a trench or other fortification, by digging its outline into the turf ○ The recce group had spit-locked the positions for us.

splash /splaʃ/ verb (of liquids) to be thrown in small drops onto another object or thing ○ He was splashed with burning petrol when the jeep exploded. ○ noun the impact of an explosive projectile as seen by an observer (usually from an aircraft) ○ We didn't see the splash but we heard the explosion.

splice /splæs/ verb ○ splice the mainbrace according to a naval custom, to give every man a measure of rum ○ The admiral told his captains to splice the mainbrace.

splint /splint/ noun a stiff support tied to a broken leg or arm to prevent the bone from moving

splinter /splɪntə/ noun a thin, sharp fragment ○ He was killed by a shell splinter.

spoil /spɔɪəl/ noun soil or sand which is dug out of the ground ○ The spoil from a trench is used to build the parapet and parados.

spoiling attack /spəʊliŋ ˈætæk/ noun an attack mounted on an advancing enemy force in order to disrupt its activities and prevent it carrying out its intentions ○ H-hour was delayed when the enemy mounted a spoiling attack in 3 Brigade's sector.

spook /spɔːk/ noun a person involved in extremely covert operations (e.g. spy, special forces, etc.) (slang)

spore /spɔːr/ noun a reproductive body in certain bacteria ○ This warhead releases spores of anthrax into the atmosphere.

spot /spɒt/ verb 1. to catch sight of ○ I spotted someone moving in the garden. 2. to observe and direct artillery fire (usually from an aircraft) ○ He was spotting from a helicopter. ○ noun a location ○ This is a good spot for the mortars. ○ on the spot at the particular place where something happens

spot height /spɔt ˈhæt/ noun a point marked on a map to show where a measurement of altitude has been made

spotter /spɔtə/ noun an officer or NCO who directs artillery fire (usually from an aircraft)

spotter aircraft, spotter plane noun an aircraft used for observing and directing artillery fire

spring /spraɪŋ/ noun 1. a place where water comes out of the ground naturally ○ There are very few springs in these mountains. 2. a flexible piece of metal (often in the form of tightly coiled wire), which is used as a shock absorber or to keep a catch or clip closed or to maintain tension ○ We need to replace the springs on this vehicle.

springing-mine /sprɪŋɪŋ ˈmaɪn/ noun an anti-personnel mine, which is designed to jump into the air in order to inflict injury to a person's upper body

spur /spɔːr/ noun a ridge protruding from a hill or mountain into lower-lying ground (topographical) ○ We cannot ad-
tank grouping of three or more troops

spy /ˈspaɪ/ noun a person who secretly tries to obtain information about the enemy, or about a foreign power. Information about the troop movements came from our spies in the capital.

verb to act as a spy: He was accused of spying for the enemy.

Sqn abbreviation squadron

SGN LDR abbreviation squadron leader

squad /ˈskwɔd/ noun 1. a small grouping of servicemen, formed for a specific purpose or task (such as drill) 2. a sub-unit of an infantry platoon 3. US a tactical infantry grouping of nine men (usually divided into two fire teams) 4. US a tactical armoured cavalry grouping of seven men 5. a US Marine Corps tactical grouping of thirteen men (usually divided into three fire teams)

COMMENT: American infantry squads are usually commanded by sergeants.

Squad Automatic Weapon /ˈskwɔd əˈmeɪntɪk ˈweɪpən/ noun M-249. Abbr SAW (Note: In the British Army, a squad-sized infantry grouping is known as a section.)

squaddie /ˈskwɔdɪ/ noun an ordinary soldier (slang)

squad leader /ˈskwɔd ˈlɪdə/ noun US the commander of an infantry squad

squadron /ˈskwɔdrən/ noun 1. a small tactical grouping of warships ○ He commanded a British squadron in the West Indies. 2. an air force unit consisting of two or more flights, ie between ten and eighteen aircraft ○ Two squadrons of fighters were sent to intercept the bombers. 3. a company-sized tank grouping of three or more troops 4. US a battalion-sized armoured cavalry grouping, consisting of three cavalry troops, one tank company and one battery

COMMENT: The number of aircraft in a squadron will vary according to aircraft type and role. A bomber squadron may have as few as six aircraft while a fighter squadron may have as many as twenty-four. In the army, a British armoured brigade might consist of two armoured regiments and one armoured or mechanized infantry battalion or, alternatively, two infantry battalions and one armoured regiment, plus artillery and supporting arms. On operations, these units are broken down and combined into battle groups. As an example, an armoured battle group might consist of two squadrons of tanks and one infantry company, which are organized into two squadron and company groups and a company and squadron group under the command of the armoured regimental HQ. The exact composition will vary according to the tactical requirement at the time. In the US Army, a battle group is known as a task force, while company and squadron groups and squadron and company groups are known as company teams.

squadron and company group /ˈskwɔdrən ən ‘kæmp(ə)ni ˈgruːp/ noun a combined arms grouping based on a tank squadron (equivalent of a company team in the US Army)

squadron leader /ˈskwɔdrən ˈlɪdə/ noun an officer in the air force, below wing commander and above flight lieutenant (usually in command of a squadron)

squall /ˈskwɔːl/ noun a sudden storm of wind and rain, at sea

square /ˈskweə/ adjective having four sides of equal length ○ a square piece of wood ○ noun a flat area where drill is carried out

square-bashing /ˈskweə ˈbreʃɪŋ/ noun drill practice (informal)

square brigade /ˈskweə ˈbreidʒ/ noun a brigade, consisting of two armoured regiments and two battalions of armoured or mechanized infantry

SR-71 /ˈsɑːr ‘sevnənti ‘sɜːrˈeɪni/ noun an American-designed strategic reconnaissance aircraft. Also called Blackbird

SS abbreviation submarine

SSB abbreviation submarine (with ballistic missiles)

SSBN abbreviation submarine (nuclear-powered, with ballistic missiles)

SSE noun the detection and removal of weapons of mass destruction or possi-
SSG

Stable weapons of this type, and the materials used in building them. Full form sensitive site exploitation

SSG abbreviation submarine (with guided missiles)

SSGN abbreviation submarine (nuclear-powered, with guided missiles)

S/Sgt, Ssgt abbreviation staff sergeant

SSM abbreviation surface-to-surface missile

Stabilloy straight line caused by the use of stabilizers or counterweights in a weapon or vehicle to arrange vehicles or aircraft so that they are not in a straight line.

Staff sergeant noun a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the army (usually employed as the quartermaster sergeant). In the British Army, the infantry equivalent of staff sergeant is colour sergeant (C/Sgt).

Staff officer noun an officer who serves in a staff

Staff sergeant noun a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the army (usually employed as the quartermaster sergeant of a company or equivalent-sized grouping) 2. US a senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) in the army, marines or air force (NOTE: In the British Army, the infantry equivalent of staff sergeant is colour sergeant (C/Sgt)).

Stag noun a period of duty as a sentry or on radio watch (slang)

Stagger verb 1. to arrange actions so that they do not happen at the same time 2. To arrange vehicles or aircraft or men so that they are not in a straight line. We advanced in a staggered formation.

Staging area noun a place along a route where troops can stop, in order to rest and reorganize before continuing their journey. The enemy are using that wood as a staging area.

Staging camp noun a camp where troops are accommodated for a short period, before moving to another destination. You will go to a staging camp, where you will wait until we can move you forward to your battalion.

Stalk verb to creep towards a person or vehicle, in order to shoot at him or it from a close range

Stand noun support to support yourself, using your feet and legs, in a stationary position. He was standing next to the tank. (NOTE: standing – stood)

Standard adjective basic or normal 1. This is the standard type of respirator. 2. Officially recognized as the correct way to do something. Your boots are not up to standard. 3. The standard of shooting is very high.

Standard issue noun for normal everyday use (as opposed to specialist tasks). He was wearing standard issue combat clothing.

Standardization noun making sure that all procedures, personnel and material all work in the same way

Standardization agreement noun an agreement between various nations to use standard equipment, operating procedures, etc.

Standard Missile noun an American-designed long-range naval surface-to-air missile (SAM)

Standard operating procedure noun a set of instructions, produced by an arm, grouping or unit, which explain
<table>
<thead>
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<th>word</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>static</td>
<td>not moving, in a fixed position</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Exactly how various duties and tasks should be carried out. Abbr SOP stand by /stænd 'bæ/ verb to be ready to do something. B Company is standing by to give fire support.

**stand-by** /stænd 'baɪ/ noun an act of standing by. on stand-by ready to do something. the battalion is on stand-by to deploy to the Gulf.

Stand down /stænd 'daʊn/ verb 1. to stop standing to. 2. to stop standing by. The Brigade was ordered to stand down. noun an act of standing down (as part of a routine). Stand down is thirty minutes after first light. Compare stand by, stand to.

Stand fast /stænd 'fæst/ verb to stop what you are doing and wait for further instructions. We were ordered to stand fast.

Standing army /stændɪŋ 'ɑːmi/ noun the regular army of a state, as opposed to reserve forces. The country maintains a standing army of 100,000 men.

Standing orders /stændɪŋ 'ɔːdz/ plural noun a set of rules and regulations relating to duties and discipline.

Standing patrol /stændɪŋ 'pɑːtraʊl/ noun a patrol sent out to occupy a covert position in no-man’s-land in order to provide warning of enemy activity.

Stand off /stænd 'ɔf/ verb to remain at a distance from something. The tanks stood off in order to engage the enemy from the flank.

Stand-off land attack missile /stænd əf 'lænd ə'tæk_mɪsɪl/ noun full form of SLAM.

Stand to /stænd 'tʊ/ verb (of a unit or sub-unit) to be awake and at battle stations, in order to receive an enemy attack. The battalion stood to at first light. noun an act of standing to (as part of a routine). Stand to is at 0545hrs.

Star /stɑːr/ noun 1. a tiny point of light, visible in the sky at night. 2. an insignia in the shape of a star, used as a badge of rank. Also called pip.

**COMMENT:** In the British Army, one star denotes a second lieutenant, two a lieutenant and three a captain. In the US Army, one star denotes a brigadier general, two a major general, three a lieutenant general and four a general.

Starboard /stɑːbərd/ noun a right-hand side of an aircraft, boat or ship. Enemy fighters approaching starboard. Compare port.

Starlifter /'stɑːlflɪtə/ noun C-141

Starlight scope /'stɑːrlɪt/ noun a type of image intensifier.

Stars and Stripes /stɑːz/ noun a national flag of the United States of America (USA)

Star shell /stɑː/ 'ʃəʊp/ noun an illuminating round used by artillery.

Starstreak /'stɑːstrɪk/ noun a British-designed surface-to-air missile (SAM).

Start /stɑːt/ verb to begin an activity. We will start the advance at 0600hrs. He started to run.

Start line /stɑːt lɪn/ noun a real or imaginary line, the crossing of which marks the start of an advance, attack or other offensive operation. Abbr SL. Line of departure.

Star Wars /stɑːr/ 'wɔːz/ noun a media name for the American Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI). NMD

State /stæt/ noun 1. condition or situation. He was horrified by the state of the prisoners. 2. an independent community of people, with its own territory, government and armed forces. Country, nation plural noun the States United States of America (USA).

State of hostilities /stæt əv hoʊ 'stɪltɪz/ noun armed conflict

**COMMENT:** State of hostilities is normally used to describe a situation where fighting occurs between the armed forces of two states, but they are not officially at war. Thus, the Falklands conflict of 1982 was described as a state of hostilities rather than a war, because Great Britain never actually declared war on Argentina.

Static /'stætɪk/ adjective not moving, in a fixed position.
static defence /ˈstætɪk dɪˈfɛns/ noun a defensive doctrine which relies on static defensive positions and the use of attrition to halt an enemy advance. Also known as positional defence. Compare mobile defence.

station /ˈsteɪʃn/ noun 1. a place where soldiers are based. 2. a base location for an air-force grouping. 3. a regular stopping place on a railway line. The train finally arrived at the station two hours late. • verb to send a service-man to serve in a particular location. I was stationed in Germany.

stationary /ˈstɛʃənəri/ adjective not moving. He aimed at the station commander.

station commander /ˈsteɪʃn kəˈmənərri/ a commanding officer of a RAF unit.

steal /stiːl/ verb to take another person’s property without his or her agreement or permission. Someone has stolen my helmet. (NOTE: stealing = stole = have stolen. The noun for this verb is theft.)

stealth /stɛlθ/ adjective referring to an aircraft which is difficult or impossible to detect by radar and other surveillance equipment, as a result of its design: e.g. reduced radar cross-section (RCS) and the use of materials such as radar absorbent material (RAM) and radar-absorbent structural material (RAS). Stealth bombers were used in the operation.

steel /stiːl/ noun a metal, made of iron and carbon, which is used in the production of armour, weapons and vehicles.

steep /stiːp/ adjective (of hills or steps) to slope at a high angle.

steeples /stɪp/ noun a wide area of uncultivated grassland with few trees (especially in Russia and Eurasia) (NOTE: The American English term is prairie).

Step Up /ˈstɛp ˈʌp/ noun a small headquarters party, which moves forward in advance of the main party to set up a new headquarters location. Once Step Up is established, the old headquarters hands over control of the battle and moves forward to join it.

stern /ˈstɜːrn/ noun 1. the rear part of a ship. Compare bow 2. a thin sheet of metal or plastic or stiff card, out of which letters or numbers or other shapes have been cut, and which is placed on the surface of an object (e.g. vehicle, container, etc.) and painted over to reproduce the shapes on the surface below. I need stencils for the letters A and G.

stick /stɪk/ noun 1. a long thin piece of wood, which is broken or cut from a branch of a tree. 2. a quantity of bombs, which are released by an aircraft at the same time. 3. a group of paratroopers, who jump out of an aircraft during a single pass over the drop zone (DZ).

Stinger /ˈstɪŋə/ noun an American-designed hand-held surface-to-air missile (SAM).

stock /ˈstɒk/ noun a quantity of supplies held ready for use.

Stockholm Syndrome /ˈstɒkholəmˌsɪndrəm/ noun a psychological reaction to fear and stress, in which hostages start to feel sympathetic towards their captors.

STOL abbreviation short take-off and landing.

stone /ˈstoun/ noun a small piece of rock. The sentry heard stones rolling down the slope. • verb to throw stones at a person or vehicle. The patrol was stoned by a group of youths.

stonk /ˈstɒŋk/, stoning noun an attack by artillery or mortars (slang). We gave the enemy OP a bloody good stonking!

stood to /ˈstʊd ˈtʊz/ adverb standing to (i.e. awake and at battle stations). The battalion was stood to for most of the night.
Stop /stop/ verb 1. to finish doing something ○ He stopped working. 2. to stop moving and stand still ○ Stop, or I will shoot! 3. to prevent someone or something from moving ○ Our orders are to stop all vehicles and check the drivers. 4. to prevent the enemy from advancing or successfully completing an attack ○ The enemy have been stopped at the river.

Stoppage /ˈstɒpɪdʒ/ noun (of automatic or semi-automatic firearms) a mechanical failure, which prevents further firing.

Store /stɔːr/ noun 1. a quantity of things, which are kept for future use ○ The fire destroyed our store of winter clothing. 2. a place used for storing things ○ He works in the clothing store. 3. US a shop ○ Several stores were looted during the riot. ● verb to keep things for future use

Stores /stɔːz/ plural noun quantities of different things which are stored for a particular purpose ○ We airlifted stores to the garrison.

Storm /stɔːm/ noun 1. violent weather, consisting of high wind and rain, snow or hail ○ The sortie was cancelled because of the storm. 2. ○ by storm (noun) using force in order to occupy an enemy position ○ the troops took the enemy positions by storm ● verb to assault and capture a position or place ○ The town was stormed by the 7th Infantry Regiment.

Storm channel /ˈstɔːrn (ˈʃeɪn(ə))l/ noun a ditch designed to receive water produced by seasonal rainstorms.

Storm Shadow /stɔːrn ʃeɪnd/ noun a cruise missile which was developed for attacking fortified buildings.

STOVFL abbreviation short take-off and vertical landing.

Stow /stɔʊ/ verb to pack equipment or supplies tidily into an aircraft, ship or vehicle ○ All the equipment has been stowed ready for take-off.

Straddle /stræd/ verb 1. (of troops, formations or positions) to be positioned on either side of something ○ A Company’s position straddles the main road. 2. (of artillery or mortar fire) to land rounds on either side of a target.

Strafe /strɛf/ verb (of fighter aircraft) to shoot at targets on the ground, especially along a road or at ships at sea ○ Enemy fighters strafed the advancing column.

Straggle /ˈstræɡ(ə)l/ verb to be unable to keep up with your unit during a long journey or march ○ Many of the soldiers were unfit and started to straggle.

Straggler /ˈstræglər/ noun a soldier who is unable to keep up with his unit during a long journey or march ○ We captured some enemy stragglers.

Strait /ˈstreɪt/, straits /ˈstreɪts/ noun, plural noun a narrow stretch of sea connecting two larger areas of sea ○ the straits of Gibraltar (NOTE: often used in the plural).

Strap /stræp/ noun a long thin piece of webbing or leather, which forms part of a soldier’s load-bearing equipment or is used to fasten objects together.

STRATCOM /ˈstrætkəm/ noun US the department of the US forces responsible for inter-continental ballistic missiles (ICBM) and missile submarines. Full form strategic command.

Strategic /ˈstrɛtɪdʒɪk/ adjective 1. relating to strategy ○ This town is of great strategic importance. 2. (of bombs and missiles) directed at the enemy’s home territory, in order to destroy both his civil and his military infrastructures, thereby reducing his ability to conduct a war.

Strategic bombing /ˈstræ,tɪdʒɪk ˈbɒmɪŋ/ bombing of enemy towns and cities, industrial centres or communications (such as ports and airports, railways, roads, etc.), command centres, missile sites, airfields or any other target of strategic importance.

Strategic command /ˈstræ,tɪdʒɪk kəˈmɑːnd/ noun full form of STRATCOM.

Strategic Defence Initiative /strəˌtɪdʒɪk ˈdɪfərəntʃ ɪˌnɪtʃəˈeɪt/ noun an American programme to develop satellites which are capable of destroying...
strategic mobility 234

enemy missiles in space. Abbr NMD, SDI. Also called Star Wars

strategic mobility /stra‘tri-dʒi-kəl/ noun the ability of forces to move over very great distances

strategic nuclear weapon /stra‘tri-dʒi-kəl-ju-ri-kəl/ noun a large, long-range nuclear weapon designed to destroy targets of strategic importance. Compare tactical

strategist /stra‘tri-dʒist/ noun a person who is concerned with strategy. Military strategists in the high command recommended a different course of action.

strategy /stra‘tri-dʒi/ noun an art of using of large military groupings (such as armies, corps, fleets, etc.) in order to achieve long-term objectives which will affect the course of a campaign or war. The commander’s long-term strategy was to wear the enemy down by cutting off his supply routes. Compare tactics

COMMENT: Strategy refers to the movement of armies in order to achieve the overall objectives of a campaign or war (for example the capture of a port, which can be used to land supplies and reinforcements for future operations), while tactics refers to the movement of battalions, brigades, divisions and equivalent-sized groupings, in order to achieve local objectives (for example the destruction of an enemy battalion, which is defending one of the approaches to the port).

stray round /‘strē-‘raʊnd/ noun a bullet or other projectile, which misses the target at which it was aimed. He was killed by a stray round.

stream /strɪm/ noun a small river

street /strɪt/ noun a road with buildings on each side

strength /strɪŋθ/ noun 1. a state of being strong or in large numbers. This projectile will test the strength of the tank’s armour. 2. the number of men, aircraft, ships or vehicles available to a grouping at full strength having all the men, aircraft, ships or vehicles which one should have in strength in large numbers. The enemy is crossing the river in strength. on strength available to a unit. We have 875 men on strength.

stretcher /‘stretʃər/ noun a piece of fabric suspended between two poles, which is used to carry an injured person

stretcher-bearer /‘stretʃər-ˈbɛrə/ noun a person who helps to carry a stretcher

stretcher-case /‘stretʃər-ˈkeɪs/ noun a casualty who needs to be carried on a stretcher

strike /strɪk/ 1. (of projectiles, especially missiles) an act of hitting a target, an attack (especially by aircraft or missiles on ground targets). The last strike destroyed our fuel dump. 2. verb to hit someone or something. He was arrested for striking an officer.

(strike) - struck

strike aircraft /strɪk ,ekræft/ noun a fighter aircraft used to attack targets on the ground. Fighter-bomber

string /strɪŋ/ noun a thin line of twisted fibres, normally used for binding objects together

string of mines /strɪŋ av ‘mænz/ noun several mines which are connected in such a way that the detonation of one will cause all the others to detonate too

strip /strɪp/ verb 1. (of people) to take off all your clothing. 2. to strip down to take a weapon to pieces (for cleaning)

stripe /strɪp/ noun a chevron (slang)

strip map /strɪp mæp/ noun a simple map showing a route between two places and any significant features along that route, but giving no details of the surrounding area

stripwood /strɪpʊwd/ noun long thin wood

strobe /strəʊb/ noun a lamp which produces intermittent flashes of very bright light and is used by someone on the ground to attract the attention of aircraft. We switched on the strobe when we heard the helicopter.
strong point /'strɒŋ pont/ noun a key point in a defensive position, which is usually heavily fortified and well-armed
Stryker /'strækə/ noun an eight-wheeled armoured vehicle used by the US Army
stun grenade /'stʌn grɪd,ɛn/d noun a blast grenade designed to stun its victim, but not inflict physical injury
Styx /'stɪks/ noun a NATO name for a Soviet-designed R-15 long-range anti-ship missile (ASM)
SU-24 /es ju: twenti 'fɔː/ noun a Soviet-designed fighter-bomber (NOTE: known to NATO as Fencer)
SU-25 /es ju: twenti 'fɔːr/ noun a Soviet-designed ground-attack aircraft (NOTE: known to NATO as Frogfoot)
SU-27 /es ju: twenti 'sevən/ noun a Soviet-designed fighter aircraft (NOTE: known to NATO as Flanker)
sub /sʌb/ abbreviation submarine
subaltern /səbəl'tən/ noun a lieutenant or second lieutenant
sub-lieutenant /səb ˈlɛfənt/ noun a junior officer in the navy. Abbr Sub-Lt
Sub-Lt abbreviation sub-lieutenant
sub-machine-gun /səb'miʃən/ noun a small hand-held machine-gun, which is carried as a personal weapon
submarine /səb'məˈrɪn/ noun a warship designed to move and operate underwater, armed with torpedoes or nuclear weapons. Submarines attacked and sank three of our ships. Their ship was torpedoed by an enemy submarine.
submariner /səb'mɑːrɪnə/ noun a sailor who serves on a submarine
submerge /səbˈmɜːdʒ/ verb to go or position something under water. The submarine has submerged.
submunitions /səbˈmjuːnʃən/ plural noun small projectiles, which are often used in clusters. TGSM
subordinate /səbˈɔːrdɪnət/ adjective
1. of a lower rank (than another person) o All subordinate commanders will attend the O Group.
2. working under another person’s command or supervision. o You are subordinate to Captain Jones for this operation. o noun a person who works under another person’s command or supervision. o He is always rude to his subordinates.
subsonic /səbˈsɒnɪk/ adjective travelling at less than the speed of sound. o This is a subsonic projectile.
substantive /səbˈstæntɪv/ adjective (of rank) permanent (as opposed to acting or temporary). o He has the substantive rank of colonel.
sub-unit /səb ˈjuːnɪt/ noun a grouping, which forms part of a larger grouping.
COMMENT: A section is a sub-unit of a platoon; a platoon is a sub-unit of a company; a company is a sub-unit of a battalion.
subway /'sʌbwεɪ/ noun 1. a tunnel under a road. 2. US an underground railway
suffer /ˈsʌfər/ verb to experience discomfort, pain or unhappiness. o The civilian population suffered many casualties. o We have suffered heavy losses. o The enemy is suffering from low morale. o After three months on the front line he suffered a breakdown.
suffering /ˈsʌfər(ɪ)ŋ/ noun an experience of discomfort, pain or unhappiness
suicide bomb /ˈsjuːsəsbd bəm/ noun a terrorist bombing tactic, where a terrorist carries an explosive device or drives a vehicle containing an explosive device up to a target (e.g. a security force base) and initiates it, deliberately killing himself in the process
suicide bomber /ˈsjuːsəsbd ˈbəmə/ noun a terrorist who detonates, or attempts to detonate, a suicide bomb
Sukhoi /ˈsʊkəʊ/ noun a Soviet-designed fighter aircraft
Sultan /ˈsɔltən/ noun a British-designed armoured vehicle, which is designed to be used as a mobile command post
summit /ˈsʌmɪt/ noun the highest point of a hill or mountain
Sunray /sənˈreɪ/ noun the commander of a unit or sub-unit (radio terminology)
○ Sunray will be at your location in ten minutes.
sunrise /ˈsʌnraɪz/ noun a time at which the sun appears over the horizon in the morning. ○ dawn, first light
sunset /ˈsʌnset/ noun a time at which the sun disappears below the horizon in the evening. ○ dusk, last light
Super Étendard /ˈsuːpər ˌɛtəndɔːr/ noun a French-designed multirole fighter aircraft, designed to operate from an aircraft carrier.
superior /suːˈpærɪər/ adjective 1. of higher rank than another person ○ He is always rude to superior officers. 2. bigger or stronger than something else ○ We were attacked by a superior force. 3. of better quality than something else ○ Our night-viewing equipment is superior to the enemy’s. ○ noun a person who holds a higher rank than another person ○ You must obey your superiors. Compare inferior
superiority /suˌpærɪˈərɪtɪ/ noun a state of being superior
supernumerary /ˌsuːpəˈnəmjʊərəri/ adjective additional to the establishment of a grouping ○ All supernumerary personnel will return to their own units. ○ noun an extra or unwanted person or thing ○ All supernumeraries were ordered to move to the rear.
supерpower /suːpəˈpɜːrpaʊər/ noun an extremely powerful country with great economic strength and large armed forces ○ The USA is the world’s single superpower.
supersonic /ˌsuːpəˈsɔːrɪk/ adjective capable of travelling faster than the speed of sound
Super Stallion /ˈsuːpər ˈstælʃən/ noun CH-53
supervise /suːpəˈveɪz/ verb to control or guide the actions or work of other people ○ He is supervising the digging of the latrines.
supervisor /suːpəˈveɪzər/ noun a person who supervises other people
suppress /'sə'pres/ verb to fire at an enemy, in order to prevent him using his weapons. • neutralize

COMMENT: When suppressing enemy forces, it is not necessary to kill them. The object is simply to make them keep their heads down.
suppression /'sə'presn/ noun an act of suppressing

supreme /'su'prim/ adjective most senior • the Supreme Commander of NATO forces in Europe.

Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic /′su,prim ˌɛləid kə′mju:nərəm ə′lentik/ noun full form of SACLANT

Supreme Allied Commander Europe /′su,prim ˌɛləid kə′mju:nərə mju′nəpələ/ noun full form of SACEUR

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers in Europe noun the main NATO headquarters in Europe. Abbr SHAPE, SACEUR, SACLANT

surface /′sɜːfəs/ noun 1. the outside of an object 2. the top part of the earth (i.e. the land or sea) • verb (of submarines) to return to the surface of the sea after being under water • We dropped depth charges in order to try to force the submarine to surface.

surface-to-air missile /′sɜːfəs tə′ɛərəsˌmiːsɪl/ noun an anti-aircraft missile designed to be fired from the ground or from a ship. Abbr SAM

surface-to-surface missile /′sɜːfəs tə′surəsˌmiːsɪl/ noun a missile designed to be fired from a launcher on the ground or on a ship at a target on the ground. Abbr SSM

surface vessel /′sɜːfəs ,vəsˈɛəl/ noun a boat or ship which travels on the surface of water (as opposed to a submarine)
surgeon /′sɜːdʒən/ noun a doctor who specializes in surgery

surgeon-captain /′sɜːdʒən ˈkæptən/ noun a naval medical officer with the rank of captain

surgery /′sɜːdʒəri/ noun the process of treating illness or injury by cutting into a person's body in order to repair or remove damaged tissue or organs • He will need surgery.

surgical /′sɜːдʒərək(ə)/ adjective relating to surgery • A surgical team is on stand-by.
surprise /′sərˈpraɪz/ noun 1. an unexpected action or event • The raid was a complete surprise to the enemy. 2. an act of surprising someone • Surprise will be vital to the success of this operation. • verb 1. to do something unexpected to another person • We surprised him as he was stealing petrol. 2. to mount a surprise attack • We surprised the enemy as they were crossing the river.
surprise attack /′sərˈpraɪz ˈætæk/ noun an attack which is mounted on the enemy when he is not expecting it

surrender /′sərˈrendər/ noun an act of surrendering • We don’t know what happened to him after the surrender. • At the surrender, the defeated enemy general gave up his sword. • verb to stop fighting and hand oneself over to the enemy • 7 Brigade has surrendered. • Two thousand soldiers surrendered to our unit.
surround /′sərˈraʊnd/ verb 1. to be on all sides of something • The village is surrounded by woods. 2. to position your forces on all sides of an enemy, so that he is unable to escape or be reinforced • 6 Brigade is surrounded.
surveillance /′sərˈvɛləns/ noun 1. any method which can be used to locate the enemy or observe his activities and movements or listen to his radio transmissions • The general places great importance on good surveillance. 2. people or equipment involved in surveillance • This manoeuvre is designed to confuse the enemy surveillance.
surveyor /′sərvərə/ noun an assistant to a forward observation officer (FOO). Also called OP/ack

survival /′sərvəl(ə)/ noun an act or process of surviving

survival area /′sərvəl(ə) ,ərəvəl/ noun a concealed location, to which a unit deploys when war is imminent, because the unit's peacetime location is probably registered as a target and may be attacked as soon as hostilities begin.
survival course 238

survival course /ˈsɜːvəl kɔrs/ noun a series of lessons, lectures and practical exercises on how to survive in a particular situation. I am going on a survival course.

survive /ˈsɜːrv/ verb to remain alive, in spite of a dangerous situation or life-threatening injury. He survived the plane crash.

survivor /ˈsɜːrvər/ noun a person who survives. There were no survivors from the massacre.

SUSAT noun an optical sight used on a combat rifle. Full form Sight Unit Small Arms Trilux

suspect /ˈsəspekt/ noun a person who is thought to have committed a crime

sustainability /ˌstæstəˈboləti/ noun the ability of a force to remain equipped and ready for action during the whole of an operation

sustained fire /ˌstænd ðˈfər/ noun fire from a machine-gun, which has been mounted on a tripod and fitted with a special sight, so that it can engage registered targets at long ranges, even when visibility is poor. Abbreviation SF

swamp /swɒmp/ noun a thick woodland growing on wet ground, much of which is permanently under water

sweep /swɪp/ noun a search of an area of ground or sea. A verb to search an area of ground or sea (especially for mines). The channel has been swept for mines. (Note: Sweeping – swept)

Swingfire /ˈswɪŋfaɪə/ noun a British-designed wire-guided anti-tank missile (ATGW), usually fired from a variant of the AFV-432

csword /ˈsɔrd/ noun a weapon with a long blade, formerly used in warfare, but now ceremonial. At the surrender, the defeated enemy general gave up his sword.

csword of honour /ˈsɔrd ɔv 'ɔnə/ noun a sword presented to the best student in a class at a military college

synagogue /ˈsinəgɡə/ noun a building used for religious worship by Jews.

synchronize /ˌsɪŋkrənaɪz/ /ˈsɪŋkraɪnaɪz/ verb 1. to make (actions, etc.) happen at the same time. The attacks were not synchronized properly. 2. to adjust clocks or watches, so that they are all showing the same time. The commanders forgot to synchronize their watches at the O Group.

syphon /ˈsaɪf(ə)n/ noun another spelling of siphon

syrette /ˈsɜriːt/ noun a device similar to a syringe, containing an individual dose of a drug or vaccine, which is designed to be carried by a soldier so that he can inject himself in an emergency. Each man was issued with three syrettes of atropine.

syringe /ˈsɜrɪndʒ/ noun a device, consisting of a tube, plunger and needle, which is used to inject liquid into a person’s body or to extract blood or other fluids. We found a syringe in his locker.
TANGO - Tt

T-54 /ˌtiː fɪtʃi/ 'fɔː/ noun a 1950s-era Soviet-designed main battle tank (MBT) (NOTE: The plural form is T-54s /ˌtiː.fɪtʃi′fɔːz/.)

T-62 /ˌtiː.ˈsɪkstɪ/ 'tʊz/ noun a 1960s-era Soviet-designed main battle tank (MBT) (NOTE: The plural form is T-62s /ˌtiː.ˈsɪkstɪ′tʊzz/.)

T-64 /ˌtiː.ˈsɪkstɪ/ 'fɔː/ noun a 1970s-era Soviet-designed main battle tank (MBT) (NOTE: The plural form is T-64s /ˌtiː.ˈsɪkstɪ′fɔːzz/.)

T-72 /ˌtiː.ˈsɛvənti/ 'tʊz/ noun a simpler version of the Soviet-designed T-64 main battle tank, produced for export to Warsaw Pact countries and other allies of the Soviet Union (NOTE: The plural form is T-72s /ˌtiː.ˈsɛvənti′tʊzz/.)

T-80 /ˌtiː.ˈɛtʃi/ 'nɔːn/ a 1980s-era Soviet-designed main battle tank (MBT) (NOTE: The plural form is T-80s /ˌtiː.ˈɛtʃi′z/.)

TA abbreviation Territorial Army

TAA abbreviation tactical assembly area

tab /ˈtæb/ noun 1. a small coloured patch worn on each side of the collar o The general is the one with the red tabs. 2. a march (infantry slang) o We had a long tab to our pick-up point. v verb to go on foot (infantry slang) o We were tabbing for most of the night.

Tabun /ˈtæbun/ noun GA

TAC /ˈtæk/, TAC HQ abbreviation tactical headquarters

TACC /ˈtiːˌtɛs/ 'sɪs/ noun US the principal command centre for air operations in an operational theatre. Full form tactical air command centre

TACP /ˈtæk′pɪ/, Tac-P noun US a small group, trained to direct close air support o We've got a TACP attached to us for Phase 1. Full form tactical air control party /ˈfæks/ FAC

TAC-SAT /ˈtæksət/ noun a secure radio system, in which the signal is transmitted to a satellite before being redirected to another radio with the correct receiving equipment. Full form tactical satellite radio

tac-sign /ˈtæk ˌsæn/ noun 1. a small unobtrusive signpost (often marked with symbols instead of words) o Just follow the tac-signs. 2. identification symbol painted on a vehicle o Our tac-sign is a black triangle. full form tactical sign

tactic /ˈtæktɪk/ noun a combination of firepower, formation and manoeuvre, which is used to achieve a military objective

COMMENT: Strategy refers to the movement of armies in order to achieve the overall objectives of a campaign or war (for example the capture of a port, which can be used to land supplies and reinforcements for future operations), while tactics refers to the movement of battalions, brigades, divisions and equivalent-sized groupings, in order to achieve local objectives (for example the destruction of an enemy battalion, which is defending one of the approaches to the port).

tactical /ˈtæktɪk(ə)/ adjective 1. relating to tactics 2. relating to the battlefield

tactical air command centre /ˌtæktɪk(ə)l ˌɛnˈfeɪrəl ˌpɜːrti/ noun full form of TACC

tactical air control party /ˌtæktɪk(ə)l ˌɛnˌtrəʊl ˌpɜːrti/ noun full form of TACP
tactical area of responsibility 240

tactical area of responsibility /ˌtæktɪk(ə)r,əˈriə/ noun the area of ground defended and patrolled by a unit or other tactical grouping. Abbr TAOR

tactical bombing /ˌtæktɪk(ə)bəm/ noun bombing carried out in direct support of ground forces

tactical bound /ˌtæktɪk(ə)bɔnd/ noun a distance which ensures that one group is close enough to support another group without the risk of both coming under effective fire from the same enemy. Plateau HQ was moving in a tactical bound behind the point section.

tactical electronic reconnaissance system /ˌtæktɪk(ə)rɪˈkɒnɪsəns, sɪstəm/ noun full form of TERS

tactical exercise without troops /ˌtæktɪk(ə)ˈɛksəsəz wɪ,ˈhau t ˈtrʌps/ noun full form of TECT

tactical fighter wing /ˌtæktɪk(ə)ˈfɪtər wɪŋ/ noun US tactical air-force grouping of three fighter squadrons plus supporting arms. Abbr TFW

tactical headquarters /ˌtæktɪk(ə)ˈhɛdərkwɔːts/ plural noun a small mobile headquarters, used by a commander when he is moving around the battlefield. Abbr TAC

tactical mobility /ˌtæktɪk(ə)ˈməʊbiəlɪtɪ/ noun the ability to move forces to respond to an enemy attack

tactical nuclear weapon /ˌtæktɪk(ə)nʌˈkraʊlər wɛpən/ noun a small nuclear weapon designed to destroy enemy forces on the battlefield

tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel /ˌtæktɪk(ə)rɪˈkɔːftər ɪər pəˈpɜnl/ noun full form of TRAP

tactical reserves /ˌtæktɪk(ə)ˈrɛzvəz/ plural noun reserve forces kept for use in the battlefield

tactical satellite radio /ˌtæktɪk(ə)sælət ˈreɪdiəʊ/ noun full form of TACSAT

tactical sign /ˌtæktɪk(ə)sain/ noun full form of TAC-SIGN

tactical situation /ˌtæktɪk(ə)sɪˈteɪʃən/ noun positions, strengths and known or probable intentions of both friendly forces and enemy forces. Compare strategic

tactical withdrawal /ˌtæktɪk(ə)wɔːdər/ noun withdrawal from the enemy as part of a planned manoeuvre

tactician /ˌtæktɪʃən/ noun a person who is an expert at tactics

tactics /ˈtæktɪks/ plural noun the art of employing military forces on the battlefield. Compare strategy

tail /teɪl/ noun 1. the rear elements of a large military force or grouping. The enemy's tail is now extremely vulnerable to air attack. 2. the rear end of an aircraft (informal) Look out! There's a bogey on your tail!

tailplane /ˈteɪlpleɪn/ noun a small wing-like structure at the rear of an aircraft. The tailplane was almost shot away by cannon fire.

tail wind /ˈteɪlwɪnd/ noun a wind blowing in the same direction as that in which an aircraft or ship is travelling

take /teɪk/ verb 1. to acquire. He took a cigarette from the packet. 2. to capture. The enemy has taken the bridge. The patrol took two prisoners. 3. to remove. Someone has taken my rifle. 4. to carry with you. The patrol is taking a night viewing device. 5. to be accompanied by. We took a local farmer as a guide. (Note: taking – took – have taken)

take action /teɪk ˈækʃən/ verb to do something

take off /ˈteɪk ˈɔf/ verb (of aircraft) to leave the ground. The fighters took off at first light.

take-off /ˈteɪk ɔf/ noun an action of an aircraft taking off from the ground. Take-off at 0630hrs. The plane crashed on take-off. Take-off was delayed by fog.

COMMENT: Vertical take-off is not usually possible when the aircraft is carrying a full payload of munitions. In such cases, the aircraft would need to take off from a runway like any conventional fixed-wing aircraft. Most
vertical take-off aircraft, however, require a considerably shorter distance to take off than do conventional aircraft, and would therefore be able to use stretches of road or grass areas as runways. Once the aircraft has discharged its munitions it would be able to carry out a normal vertical landing. The acronymi STOVL (short take-off and vertical landing) and V/STOL (vertical or short take-off and landing) are used to describe these capabilities.

take out /ˈteɪk ˈaʊt/ verb to kill or destroy ∷ B troop took out six APCs.
talc /ˈteɪkl noun clear plastic sheeting, which is used to cover maps and which may be written upon or marked

tally /ˈteɪli noun or verb I have seen an enemy aircraft or other target (air force terminology)

**COMMENT:** This expression is taken from the sport of foxhunting.

tandem warhead /ˈtændəm ˈwɔrˌheid noun an anti-tank warhead, consisting of two shaped charges positioned one behind the other, which is designed to defeat explosive reactive armour (ERA); the first charge activates the ERA and the second charge then penetrates the main armour underneath

Tango /ˈtæŋgo noun the twentieth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Tt)
tank /ˈteɪŋk noun 1. an armoured fighting vehicle fitted with tracks and a gun 2. a large container or structure designed to hold liquid or gas ∷ A shell hit a fuel storage tank. 3. part of an aircraft or ship or vehicle which contains its fuel ∷ The plane exploded when a round hit its fuel tank.
tank action /ˈteɪŋk ˈækʃən noun the act of using a gun as a direct-fire weapon against tanks

tank commander /ˈteɪŋk ˈkəməndər noun an officer in charge of a tank or tank unit
tanker /ˈteɪŋkər noun 1. an aircraft, ship or vehicle fitted with a tank or tanks designed to carry liquid or gas (especially fuel) 2. a soldier in an armoured unit

tank gunner /ˈteɪŋk ˈɡʌnər noun a soldier operating a tank’s guns

**tank-heavy task force** /ˈteɪŋk ˈhevi ˈtæsk,fə ˈfəz noun three tank companies and one company of infantry

tank transporter /ˈteɪŋk ˈtrænsˌpɔrˈtərn noun a large wheeled vehicle, designed to carry a tank or other armoured vehicle over long distances by road

tannoy /ˈteɪnəʊ noun an officer in charge of a tank or tank unit

tap /ˈteɪp noun 1. a strip of fabric or plastic, used to bind objects together or as a marker or for other purposes 2. a magnetic tape, used for recording sound o He was listening to a tape of military music. o They played back the tape of the conversation. □ verb 1. to record on magnetic tape o We have taped some of the enemy radio transmissions. 2. a to tape off to use mine tape as a barrier or boundary o We have taped off the area of the explosion.

Taps /ˈteɪps noun US a nickname for the bugle-call ‘Last Post’
target /ˈteɪʒt ˈnɑrtʃʃ noun any object or area which is shot at, fired upon or bombed o They dropped six bombs on the target. □ verb to select as a target o The enemy have denied that they were targeting civilians.

target acquisition /ˈteɪʒt əˌkwɪˈzɪʃn noun the act of selecting and locking onto a target with a weapon guidance system

target indication /ˈteɪʒt ɪnˈdɛkʃən noun a sequence of verbal instructions for informing your comrades of the exact location of a target

tarmac /ˈteɪmərk noun a trademark for a road surface made of a mixture of tar and gravel (NOTE: The American English term is asphalt.)
tarp /ˈteɪp noun tarpaulin

tarpaulin /ˈteɪpəlɪn noun a waterproof sheet used to protect an object from dust or rain
tartan /ˈtɑːtən/ noun a traditional Scottish fabric pattern of coloured lines and checks ◦ Some Scottish regiments wear tartan flashes on their bonnets.

task /tɑːsk/ noun something which must be done ◦ He failed to complete his task. ◦ We have been given the task of collecting information on underground organizations. ◦ verb to allocate a task ◦ B Company has been tasked for this mission.

task force /tɑːsk fɔːs/ noun 1. a US combined arms grouping based on an infantry or tank battalion (NOTE: The British equivalent is battle group; the US Marine Corps equivalent is battalion landing team (BLT).) 2. a large combined arms grouping formed for a specific operation or campaign ◦ The government is sending a task force to this mission.

team /tiːm/ noun a group of people who work together

tear agent /ˈtɪər əˈdʒənt/ noun a chemical agent designed to irritate the eyes and throat, normally used for crowd control

tear gas /ˈtɪər ɡæs/ noun a chemical agent which irritates the eyes and makes people choke. ◦ CS gas

technical /ˈtɛknɪk(ə)l/ adjective relating to instruments, machinery, radios, weapons, etc.

technical arrangements, technical agreements plural noun agreements reached between commanders of different NATO forces regarding the implementation of higher level agreements on the ground. Also called detailed support arrangements

technical officer /ˈtɛknɪk(ə)l ˈɒfiʃər/ noun an officer who has technical skills, e.g. in engineering or communications

technical quartermaster /ˈtɛknɪk(ə)l ˈkwɔːtrməstər/ noun an officer (with a quartermaster commission) responsible for all technical equipment and machinery held by a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Abbr TQM

technical quartermaster sergeant /ˈtɛknɪk(ə)l ˈkwɔːtrməstər ˈsærɪdʒənt/ noun a warrant officer who assists the technical quartermaster of a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping. Abbr TQMS

technical sergeant /ˈtɛknɪk(ə)l ˈsærɪdʒənt/ noun US a senior non-commissioned officer in the air force

technical technician /tekˈnɪtʃən/ noun a person trained in the repair and maintenance of technical equipment

teeth arms /ˈtiːθ ərzmz/ plural noun branches of the armed forces which actually fight (such as armour, artillery, infantry). Compare supporting arms

tel /ˈtel/ noun a vehicle designed to carry and launch a surface-to-surface missile (SSM). Full form transporter-erector-launcher. ◦ MEL

telescope /ˌtelɪskəʊp/ noun an optical instrument formed of a single long tube with lenses at both ends, designed for looking at distant objects ◦ He examined the bridge through a powerful telescope. ◦ field-glasses, binoculars

telescopic /ˌtelɪsˈskɒpɪk/ adjective 1. relating to a telescope 2. made in sections which slide together, for ease of carriage or storage. ◦ telescopic antenna

telescopic sight /ˌtelɪsˈskɒptɪk ˈsɔːnt/ noun a small telescope used as a sight for a rifle

template /ˈtemˈplet/ noun 1. a simple mathematical instrument for working out the danger area for a field-firing range, consisting of a thin piece of plastic cut to specific angles and measurements. ◦ On this course, officers are shown how to construct and apply range templates. 2. a range danger area,
marked on a map by means of a template. 

**tenable** /ˈtɛnəb(ə)l/ adjective possible to defend o Our position is no longer tenable.

tent /tent/ noun a portable shelter made of waterproof fabric, which is supported by poles o The unit will be housed in tents for the period of the exercises.

**TEREC** /ˈtɛrɛk/ noun an airborne radar receiving system used for the location of enemy radar sites. Full form tactical electronic reconnaissance system

territorial guided /ˈtɛrətɪˈriərɪl/ adjective capable of guiding itself automatically towards its own target

territorially guided submunitions /ˈtɛrətɪˈmɪn(ə)li /ˈterəlɪd,ˌsʌbˈmjuːnɪf(ə)ntz/ plural noun full form of TGSM

territorially guided warhead /ˈtɛrətɪˈmiːndli /ˈterəlɪdˈwɜːʃed/ noun an anti-tank missile which uses a radar seeker to search for suitable targets. Abbr TGW

terminate /ˈtɛrɪˌmiːnɪt/ verb 1. to finish something o We will have to terminate the conference now. 2. US to kill o He has been terminated.

terrace /ˈtɛrəs/ noun one of a series of level areas constructed on the side of a hill, in order to cultivate crops

terraced housing /ˈterɪt ˈhauzn/ noun a line of houses along a street or road, which are all joined to each other

**terrain** /ˈtɛrɪrn/ noun 1. ground 2. a type of land (such as desert, farmland, mountains, woodland, etc.) o The attack will be launched through wooded terrain.

terrain feature /ˈtɛrɪrn ˈfɪʃə/ noun part of a landscape, e.g. a mountain or river

terrain-orientated mission /ˈtɛrɪrnˌɔrɪˈtɛrtɪd ˈmiʃən/ noun a mission with the principal aim of either capturing or holding ground. o MOPP

terrier /ˈtɛrɪr/ noun a member of the Territorial Army (TA) (informal) o

We're being relieved by a battalion of terriers.

**territorial** /ˈterɪˈtɒriəl/ adjective relating to the territory of a state o noun a member of the Territorial Army o 200 territorials were sent to the area.

**Territorial Army** /ˈterɪˈtɒriəl ˈɑːmi/ noun a volunteer force of part-time soldiers, designed to reinforce the regular army in the event of war. Abbr TA

**territorial waters** /ˈterɪˈtɒriəl ˈwɜːtəz/ plural noun an area of sea coming under the jurisdiction of a state o The ship was attacked in French territorial waters.

territory /ˈterɪt(ə)ri/ noun an area or region coming under the control or jurisdiction of a state or military force o The squad wandered into enemy-occupied territory.

terrorism /ˈtɛrərɪzəm/ noun the use of physical violence to intimidate a government or the general public, in order to achieve political objectives

terrorist /ˈtɛrərɪst/ noun a person involved in terrorism

**COMMENT:** The use of this word is very much a question of perception. A terrorist in one person's view may very well be seen as a freedom fighter by another person holding opposing views.

tetanus /ˈtetənas/ noun a sometimes fatal bacterial disease, an infection affecting the nervous system caused by Clostridium tetani in the soil; it affects the spinal cord and causes spasms in the muscles which occur first in the jaw

**TEWT** /ˈtɛdʒənt/ noun an exercise involving only the command elements of a tactical grouping, who examine an area of ground in order to plan and then discuss a hypothetical military operation o We are going on a TEWT tomorrow. Full form tactical exercise without troops

**TEZ** abbreviation 1. tactical exclusion zone 2. total exclusion zone

**TF** abbreviation task force

**TFW** abbreviation tactical fighter wing
**TGSM** /ˈtiːʒiː/ es ˈɛmə noun small anti-armour projectiles, which are released by a missile over a target area and which then independently seek out and attack their own targets. Full form **terminally guided submunitions**

**TGW** /ˈtiːʒiː/ ˈdæbləjʊəl/ abbrevation terminally guided warhead

**theater** /ˈθeətər/ noun US spelling of **theatre**

**theatre** /ˈθeətər/ noun an area in which operations are being carried out. **Strategic mobility implies the ability of forces to move rapidly between theaters.**

**theft** ˈθɛft/ noun an act of stealing

**thermal** /ˈθɜːməl/ noun adjective relating to heat

**thermal identification panel** /ˈθɜːməl ɪdɛntɪˈfɪkeɪʃən/ noun a battle command identification system consisting of panels which are attached to vehicles and uniforms which radiate heat and glow when they are viewed through infrared optical devices. They show whether the vehicles and troops belong to friendly forces.

**thermal image** /ˈθɜːməl ɪmˈdʒiː/ noun an image produced by equipment which can identify the varying levels of heat given off by different objects. Abbr TI

**thermal imager** /ˈθɜːməl ɪˈmɪdʒər/ noun an optical instrument which produces a thermal image. Abbr TI

**thermal imaging sight** /ˈθɜːməl ɪˈmɪdʒɪŋ ˈsaɪt/ noun a weapon sight designed around a thermal imager. Abbr TIS

**thermal radiation** /ˈθɜːməl ˈrɛdɪeɪʃən/ noun the rays of heat and light given off by a nuclear explosion

**thermobaric bomb** /ˈθɜːməbərɪk ˈbɒmb/ noun a bomb that sends out a cloud of explosive material which then ignites and so creates a pressure wave

**thermos** /ˈθɜːməs/ trademark for a container designed to keep drinks hot for several hours. I took a thermos of tea out to the gun position.

**threat** /θriːt/ noun 1. something which is dangerous or hostile. **The partisans were posing a major threat to our supply routes.** 2. enemy forces. **The main threat is from the east.** 3. a statement declaring a person’s intention to do harm. **He was making threats to other people in the bar.**

**threaten** /θrent/ verb 1. to manoeuvre against. **The enemy is threatening our left flank.** 2. to say that you intend to do harm to someone. **He threatened me.** He threatened to shoot me.

**three-star general** /ˈθreɪri/ ˈθɜːtənrəl noun a lieutenant general

**throat-mike** /ˈθroʊt mɪk/ noun a radio microphone which is strapped to the user’s throat and utilizes the vibrations from his vocal cords

**thrust** /θrʌst/ noun an advance. G2 reports a strong enemy thrust in the direction of Prague. **verb** to move forward with force. **The invaders thrust on towards the capital.**

**thumbs-up** /ˈθʌmsˌʌp/ noun a gesture, consisting of a clenched fist with the thumb pointing upwards, which indicates that everything is alright, or that the next phase of an activity may proceed. **Once the minefield was breached, he gave a thumbs-up to the company commander.** to give something the thumbs-up to approve a course of action. **The operation has been given the thumbs-up.**

**Thunderbolt** /ˈθʌndərboʊlt/ noun same as A-10

**thunderbox** /ˈθʌndərbox/ noun a late 19th-century, usually consisting of a box-seat positioned over a pit (slang). **As a punishment, you can clean out the thunderbox.**

**thunderflash** /ˈθʌndərflæʃ/ noun a pyrotechnic device, producing a small explosion but no shrapnel or other dangerous fragments, which is designed to simulate artillery or grenade explosions on training exercises

**T1 abbreviation** 1. thermal image. 2. thermal imager
tick /tɪk/ noun a small insect which attaches itself to an animal’s skin in order to suck its blood

tidal /ˈtɪd(ə)l/ adjective affected by tides. The river is tidal as far as Carrick-on-Suir.
tide /tɪd/ noun the rise and fall of the sea which takes place twice a day
tilt-switch /ˈtɪlt swɪtʃ/ noun a device for initiating an explosive device (especially booby traps), consisting of a small glass or plastic container, fitted with a positive and a negative electric wire and half-filled with mercury; when the container is moved, the mercury flows over the exposed ends of the two wires, completing the electrical circuit and thus initiating the explosion

COMMENT: Terrorist bombs which have been designed to be initiated by timer or remote control, are often fitted with a tilt-switch as well, in case anyone tries to remove or defuse the device

time-bomb /ˈtaɪm bɔm/ noun a bomb detonated by a time mechanism
time phased force deployment list /ˈtaɪm feɪzd ʌs drˈplɔrnənt lɪst/ noun full form of TPFDL
timer /ˈtaɪmər/ noun a device for arming or initiating an improvised explosive device (IED) at a pre-set time. They used a small alarm clock as a timer.
timing /ˈtaɪmɪŋ/ noun a time at which an event is scheduled to occur. All the timings were changed at the last moment. He sent a list of timings to HQ.

COMMENT: Military timings are always given using the twenty-four hour clock, usually followed by the word hours which is abbreviated to hrs.

Thus, 8.15am = 0815hrs, 1pm = 1300hrs, 6.30pm = 1830hrs, etc. NATO forces normally use Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) for their timings. This is known as Zulu time (for example: H-Hour at 0645Z. The time of the country in which one is operating is known as local time.
tin /ˈtaɪn/ noun a metal container in which food or drink is hermetically sealed for storage over long periods. We found some tins of meat left in the camp. (NOTE: In American English, can is more usual.)

t intersection /ˈɪntərˌsektʃən/ noun US spelling of tyre

tire /ˈtaɪər/ noun US spelling of tyre

TIS abbreviation thermal imaging sight

T-junction /ˈtiːdʒənʃn/ noun a place where two roads meet at right angles to each other

TNT /ˈtiːnt/ noun a type of high explosive. Full form trinitrotoluene

TOGS /ˈtɒgз/ abbreviation thermal observation gunnery sight

Tomahawk /ˈtɒməhɔk/ noun an American-designed cruise missile

Tomcat /ˈtɒmcæt/ noun F-14

ton /ˈtɒn/ noun 1. a unit of weight corresponding to 1,016.05 kilograms (long ton) 2. US a unit of weight corresponding to 907.19 kilograms (short ton)
tonne /ˈtɔn/ noun a unit of weight corresponding to 1,000 kilograms (metric ton)
topographical /ˌtɒpəˈgræfɪk(ə)rəl/ adjective crest an actual crest from which the bottom of the slope may not be visible

top secret /ˈtɒp ˈsiːkrət/ adjective highest security classification for documents and information. That information is classified top secret.

He left some top-secret documents on the back seat of a taxi.
torch /tɔ:tʃ/ noun a hand-held battery-powered device for producing light. He used a torch to attract attention.

flashinglight /ˈflæʃɪŋlɪt/ verb to set fire to something (informal). They torched the village.

Tornado /ˈtɒnərəʊd/ noun a British/German/Italian-designed fighter aircraft

Tornado F-3 /ˈtɒnərəʊd f ˈɒrɪ/ noun a long-range interceptor

Tornado GR.1 /ˈtɒnərəʊd ɡrəʊ.1/ noun a multirole fighter optimized for ground-attack

torpedo /ˈtɒrpədəʊ/ noun an underwater missile, designed to explode when it hits a ship.
torpedo-boat 246
sink) a ship using a torpedo ○ Their ship was torpedoed by an enemy submarine.
torpedo-boat /ˈtɔrəˈpiːdəʊ bɔt/ noun a small fast-moving warship, designed to fire torpedoes at other ships.
torpedo tube /ˈtɔrəˌpiːdəʊ ˈtjuːb/ noun a barrel through which a torpedo is fired from a submarine.
torture /ˈtɔrtʃ/ noun a deliberate act of inflicting pain on a person (usually in order to extract information) ○ The enemy is known to use torture. ○ The prisoner died under torture. ■ verb to deliberately inflict pain on another person ○ The rebels have been torturing civilians.
toss-bombing /ˈtɔs ˈbomɪŋ/ noun an attack where bombs are released as the aircraft is making a shallow climb at high speed; the bombs’ trajectories then carry them forward a considerable distance before they hit the ground, making it unnecessary for the aircraft to pass directly over its target.
toss-bombing /ˈtɔs ˈbomɪŋ/ noun an attack where bombs are released as the aircraft is making a shallow climb at high speed; the bombs’ trajectories then carry them forward a considerable distance before they hit the ground, making it unnecessary for the aircraft to pass directly over its target.
tot/ˈtɒt/ noun the total number of personnel available for an operation.
total personnel strength /ˈtɔtəl ˈpɜrəsnəl ˈstreŋθ/ noun the total number of personnel available for an operation.
touch /tʌtʃ/ verb to come into physical contact with another thing ○ He couldn’t touch the dead man. ■ noun physical contact ○ I can’t stand the touch of a dead body. ○ in touch radio contact with another call-sign (radio terminology) ○ Are you in touch with 33? ○ to get in touch to establish radio contact with another call sign ○ Get in touch with 22B and ask them for a SI-TREP.
touch down /ˈtʌtʃ ˈdɑːn/ verb (of aircraft) to land ○ The aircraft touched down at 1500 hrs.
tour /ˈtɔr/ noun a period of operational duty ○ The regiment has just completed its second tour of duty in the region.
tourniquet /ˈtɔrənɪk/ noun an act of twisting a stick through a bandage which is bound around a limb, in order to constrict the artery and thus reduce the bleeding from a serious wound ○ He applied a tourniquet.

COMMENT: A tourniquet can do more harm than good if it is incorrectly applied.
tow /təʊ/ verb to move a vehicle, aircraft or ship by pulling it ○ We had to tow the tank off the battlefield. ■ noun an act of pulling a vehicle behind another one using e.g. a rope ○ The broken-down truck was on tow.
TOW /təʊ/ noun an American-designed anti-tank missile. Full form tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided missile.
tower /ˈtɔʊər/ noun a tall structure, usually built for observation or defence ○ tower/ˈtɔʊər/ noun a large settlement.
toxic /ˈtɒksi/ adjective poisonous ○ Clouds of toxic gas rose from the burning supply dump.

TP abbreviation troop.
TPFDL /tiː piː diː el/ noun US a document showing the order in which units and groupings deploy to an area of operations. Full form time phased force deployment list.
TPr abbreviation trooper.
TQM abbreviation technical quartermaster.
TQMS abbreviation technical quartermaster sergeant.
TR-1 /ˈtɛri/ noun an American-designed high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft.
trace /ˈtreɪs/ noun a piece of transparent paper or plastic, marked with boundaries, positions, routes, and other information relating to an operation, which is designed to be placed over a map as a means of briefing the participants. Also called overlay.
tracer /ˈtreɪsə/ noun a bullet which is designed to ignite after firing and burn in flight, so that the fall of shot can be observed. Also called incendiary bullet.
tracer bullet /ˈtreɪsə ˈbʌlt/ noun same as incendiary bullet.
track /ˈtræk/ noun 1. marks on the ground, made by the movement of a person or vehicle ○ We followed the tracks of the convoy. 2. a rough path or...
trained to follow the smell of a person

3. Minden. I have some trade for you, north-west of countries

4. goods (especially between different countries) the business of buying and selling trade (of a general term for targets) fire projectiles with a very high trajectory.

3. The war has severely disrupted all trade in the region.

4. The enemy has captured our train.

5. The battalion will move by train.

6. A column of vehicles carrying supplies, which accompanies a military force

7. The enemy has captured our train. 

8. verb 1. to teach or instruct. He has been trained in the use of explosives.

9. verb 1. to follow the track of a person or vehicle. The deserters were tracked to the local railway station.

10. to follow the movement of an aircraft, vehicle or ship using surveillance equipment or a missile guidance system

11. They were unable to track the aircraft.

12. We are being tracked.

13. tracked /trækd/ adjective (of armoured vehicles) fitted with tracks.

14. tracker dog /trækdr dɒg/ noun a dog trained to follow the smell of a person

15. tracker dog /trækdr dɒg/ noun a dog trained to follow the smell of a person

16. tracking /trækknɪŋ/ noun the act of following the movement of an aircraft, vehicle or ship using surveillance equipment or a missile guidance system

17. trade /trɛd/ noun 1. a general term for the business of buying and selling goods (especially between different countries)

18. The war has severely disrupted all trade in the region.

19. 2. targets (especially enemy aircraft) (air-force jargon) Hello Fruitbat, this is Merlin. I have some trade for you, north-west of Minden.

20. traffic /træfɪk/ noun 1. vehicles moving on a road. The convoy was delayed by heavy traffic.

21. 2. a mass of messages on radio. There is too much unnecessary traffic on this net.

22. trail /trɛl/ adjective relating to the subsequent waves of an advancing force, which are in a position to reinforce the leading elements or take over the lead when required.

23. The enemy trail units were broken up by our airstrikes.

24. follow-on forces noun 1. a rough path or track. The patrol made its way up the trail.

25. 2. marks on the ground, made by the movement of a person or vehicle.

26. The trail left by enemy soldiers.

27. 3. a structure at the rear of an artillery piece, which enables it to be towed by a vehicle.

28. He fell over the trail of the gun.

29. 4. the way in which a bomb falls behind an aircraft after it has been dropped, because the aircraft’s forward speed is greater than that of the bomb

30. trailer /trɛɪər/ noun a vehicle with no engine, designed to be towed by another vehicle

31. train /trɛn/ noun 1. several railway carriages towed by a railway engine.

32. The battalion will move by train.

33. 2. a column of vehicles carrying supplies, which accompanies a military force

34. The enemy has captured our train.

35. trainer /trɛnər/ noun an aircraft used for training

36. training /trɛnɪŋ/ noun the teaching and practice of military skills.

37. We were sent to signals school for training.

38. The unit spent two weeks in Norway undergoing Arctic training.

39. traitor /trɛtər/ noun a person who assists an enemy power against the interests of his own state

40. trajectory /trəˈdʒektrɪ/ noun the curved flight of a projectile from the weapon to the point of impact. Mortars fire projectiles with a very high trajectory.

41. transceiver /træn’sɪvər/ noun a combined radio receiver and transmitter

42. transfer /trænsfɜzər/ noun an action of moving someone or something to a different position

43. transfer of authority /trænsfɜzər əv ˈɔːtərɪəti/ noun the action of passing authority over forces from one commander to another, or from a national command to a NATO command

44. transistor /trænˈzɪstr/ noun part of a radio which amplifies the signal received

45. transit /trænˈstɪt/ noun movement from one location to another. In transit moving from one location to another.

46. The equipment was damaged in transit.
transit camp /ˈtrænʃt kæmp/ noun a camp providing temporary accommodation for people who are moving from one location to another

transmission /trænzˈmɪʃn/ noun an act of sending a radio signal

transmit /trænzˈmɪt/ verb 1. to send a radio signal o We were unable to transmit the signal. 2. to infect with a disease o The disease is transmitted by a parasite.

transmitter /trænzˈmɪtər/ noun an apparatus used to send a radio signal o We found a transmitter hidden in the attic of the farmhouse.

transport /trænˈspɔrt/ noun 1. an act of moving people or things by aircraft, ship or vehicle o The transport of the brigade will be carried out by aircraft. 2. an aircraft, ship or vehicle used to transport people or things o The tanks were transported by train.

transportation /trænˈspɔrtən/ noun same as transport

transport helicopter /trænˈspɔrt hɛlɪkˈkɒptər/ noun a helicopter designed to transport men or equipment.

trap /træp/ noun a deception or trick which encourages a person to place himself in a dangerous situation from which there is no escape o B Company have walked straight into a trap. 7. verb to place a person in a dangerous situation from which there is no escape o 3 Brigade has been trapped by the enemy encirclement. o The pilot was trapped in his cockpit.

TRAP /træp/ noun a mission to recover an aircraft and its crew, after being shot down or crashing in enemy territory. Full form tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel

trapdoor /træpˈdɔːr/ noun a small door or hatch in a ceiling, floor or roof

traveller /træv(ə)lər/ noun 1. a person who travels from one place to another 2. same as gipsy

traverse /ˈtrɑːvərs/ noun a pair of right-angled bends in a trench, which is designed to prevent anyone firing up the entire length (in the event of the enemy capturing part of the trench). 7. verb 1. to move across an area of ground o We had to traverse 200m of open field. 2. (of guns) to move the barrel sideways when aiming or firing o Traverse left!

treachery /ˈtreʃəri/ noun an act of betraying your country or comrades

treaty /ˈtrɪti/ noun a legal agreement made between countries, e.g. to form an alliance or set out peace terms after a war

treeline /ˈtrɪliən/ noun 1. a line of trees o There is an enemy OP in that treeline. 2. the edge of a forest or wood o We stopped at the treeline. 3. an altitude above which trees cannot survive o The patrol moved back down to the treeline.

trembler /ˈtrɛmlər/ noun a device designed to initiate an explosive device at the slightest movement. 7. tilt-switch

trench /ˈtrentʃ/ noun a narrow hole or channel dug into the ground, in order to provide protection from enemy fire

COMMENT: The length of a trench can vary from a few metres to several kilometres, depending upon the tactical requirement at the time. During the First World War (1914–18), both the Allies and the Germans occupied trench systems which extended, without a break, from the North Sea to the Alps.

trench foot /ˈtrentʃ ˈfʊt/ noun a severe fungal infection of the feet, caused by wearing wet boots over a long period

trews /ˈtreuz/ noun trousers of tartan cloth, worn by some Scottish regiments

triage /ˈtrɪədʒ/ noun the process of assessing a casualty’s priority for medical treatment according to the nature of his injuries o We’ll set up triage over there.

triangulate /ˈtraɪənɡjʊleɪt/ verb 1. to locate a radio using direction-finding equipment, by taking bearings on its emissions from three different locations
and then seeing where the bearings intersect on a map. To calculate your position by working out the back-bearing from three known or probable reference points and then seeing where the back-bearings intersect on a map.

**triangulation point** /ˈtraɪˌɡənəlju ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a small concrete or stone pillar, designed to serve as a firm base for cartographers’ surveying instruments. Also called trig point.

**tribe** /ˈtraɪb/ noun a group of families or communities sharing a common language or dialect, distinct ethnic or religious links, and a strong sense of group identity and loyalty to their own leaders.

**tribal** /ˈtraɪbəl/ adjective relating to tribes. The civil war is essentially a tribal conflict.

**trig point** /ˈtrɪŋk ˌpɔɪnt/ noun a small concrete or stone pillar, designed to serve as a firm base for cartographers’ surveying instruments. Also called triangulation point.

**trip** /trɪp/ verb to stumble or fall as a result of catching your legs in something. He tripped over an ammunition box.

**trip-flare** /ˈtrɪp fliər/ noun a flare which is activated by a trip-wire.

**Triplicate** /trɪpˈleɪkət/ noun a third copy of a document. In triplicate in three copies.

**triphase** /trɪpˈfeɪs/ noun a private soldier in an armoured regiment. Abbr Tpr

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**tricolour** /trɪkələr/ noun a flag consisting of three different blocks of colour (usually side by side) The French national flag is a tricolour of blue, white and red.

**trigger** /ˈtrɪɡər/ noun a moving lever which releases the firing mechanism of a gun.

**trigger-happy** /ˈtrɪɡər ˈhæpi/ adjective lacking in judgement when using firearms, willing to shoot at random.

**trig point** /trɪŋk ˌpɔɪnt/ noun same as triangulation point.

**trinitrotoluene** /trɪnɪtɔrəˌtjuːliən/ noun TNT

**trip** /trɪp/ verb to stumble or fall as a result of catching your legs in something. He tripped over an ammunition box.

**triplin** /trɪplən/ noun a private soldier in an armoured regiment. Abbr Tpr

**tropical** /trɪˈpælə/ adjective 1. relating to the Tropics. We had to get used to tropical conditions. 2. designed for use in hot climates. Tropical clothing will be issued for the operation.

**Tropics** /trɪpˈlɪkʊs/ noun the Tropics the region between latitudes 23° 28N (Tropic of Cancer) and 23° 28S (Tropic of Capricorn).
truce /tr̩ːs/ noun an agreement by both sides to stop fighting. ○ Both sides agreed to sign a truce.

turning movement /ˈtɜːrnɪŋ/ noun a manoeuvre designed to force an enemy to change his positions to meet a new threat, usually achieved by advancing on him from an unexpected direction (e.g. from a flank)

tube /tjuːb/ noun a cylindrical container ○ a tube of cam-cream

tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided missile noun full form of TOW

tumulus /ˈtjʊmjʊləs/ noun a small man-made mound, usually marking the site of an ancient grave (NOTE: The plural form is tumuli.)

tunic /ˈtjuːmɪŋk/ noun a close-fitting jacket, worn as part of a ceremonial uniform ○ The soldiers wore red tunics.

tunnel /ˈtjuːnl/ noun a man-made passage dug under the ground or through a hill ○ Terrorists have blown up the railway tunnel. ○ We found a system of tunnels under the enemy position. ○ verb to dig a tunnel ○ They managed to escape by tunnelling under the prison wall

turf /tɜːf/ noun a layer of grass and the soil surrounding its roots, which can be removed from the ground intact or in sections ○ The turf is used to camouflage the parapet and parados.

tyre /ˈtɪər/ noun a circular rubber cover containing an air-filled inner tube, which is fitted to a vehicle wheel

 COMMENT: Epidemics of typhus are very common in wartime due to a breakdown in hygiene and sanitation.

typhoid fever /ˈtaɪfɔɪd/ noun an infection of the intestine, caused by Salmonella typhi in food and water
**UNIFORM - Uu**

**UAV** /juː/ 'juːt/ noun another name for a drone. Full form unmanned aerial vehicle. Also called remotely piloted vehicle (RPV)

**UCAV** noun an attack aircraft which is controlled remotely from the ground or the air. Full form unmanned combat aerial vehicle

**UCMJ** noun the laws that govern the conduct of the members of the US armed forces. Full form Uniform Code of Military Justice

**UFO** /juː ˈfʊə/ noun any unexplained object which is seen flying through the air or detected on a radar screen. Full form unidentified flying object (NOTE: This term is usually applied to suspected alien spacecraft.)

**UGS** abbreviation unattended ground sensor

**UH-1** /juː ˈhæt/ noun Huey

**UH-60** /juː ˈstɜːkstɪ/ noun Blackhawk

**UHF** abbreviation ultra high frequency

**UK** abbreviation United Kingdom

**UKL** abbreviation United Kingdom Land Forces

**UKLO** abbreviation United Kingdom liaison officer

**ULC** /juː el/ 'jʌl/ noun a large metal container pre-packed with artillery rounds, designed to be transported onto the battlefield

**ulimatum** /əlˈtɪmətəm/ noun a demand accompanied by a threat to take action if the demand is not met

**ultra high frequency** /ˈʌltrə hæt frɛkwənsi/ noun the range of radio frequencies from 300 – 3,000 megahertz (Mhz). Abbr UHF

**umpire** /ˈʌmpər/ noun a person assigned to observe a military training exercise and to assess the performance of those taking part. He was acting as umpire. • verb to act as an umpire. He is umpiring the exercise.

**UN** abbreviation United Nations

**unarmed** /ənˈɑːrmɪd/ adjective without weapons

**unarmed combat** /ənˈɑːrmɪd ˈkɒm ˈbæt/ noun fighting using the hands, arms and feet, but not guns. Marines receive special training in unarmed combat.

**unmanned** /ənˈəʊməd/ adjective (vehicle) which is not protected by armour (such as a jeep, lorry, truck, etc.). Also called soft-skinned

**unattached** /ənˈətətʃt/ adjective not attached

**unattached personnel** /ənˈətətʃt ˈpɜːsənəl/ noun people who are not members of or attached to a specific unit

**unauthorized** /ənˌɑːtəraɪzd/ noun not authorized. Unauthorized entry is prohibited.

**unclassified** /ənˈklɛsɪfɪd/ adjective (of documents or information) without a security classification (such as restricted, secret, etc.) This information is unclassified.

**COMMENT:** Unclassified information is information which may be passed to the media and the general public.

**unconditional surrender** /ənˈkɑːndədə ˈsɜːrɛndər/ noun surrender where the side which is surrendering is not permitted to dictate any of its own terms or conditions. They de-
unconscious 252

manded the unconditional surrender of the whole battalion.

unconscious /ənˈkɒnʃəs/ adjective not awake and unaware of your surroundings as a result of illness or injury ○ One of the casualties is unconscious.

undercarriage /ˈʌndəkærɪdʒ/ noun a structure to which the wheels of an aircraft are attached ○ The pilot was unable to lower the undercarriage.

underground /ˌʌndəˈgrɑːnd/ adjective 1. constructed or designed to operate beneath the surface of the ground ○ an underground railway 2. relating to a group or movement which is working secretly against the established authority or an occupying power ○ I have been given the task of collecting information on underground organizations. ● noun 1. an underground railway 2. a group or movement which is working secretly against the established authority or an occupying power ○ The commandos were working with the local underground.

undergrowth /ˈʌndəɡrəʊθ/ noun bushes and plants growing beneath the trees of a wood or forest ○ Someone is moving through the undergrowth on our left.

underpass /ˈʌndəpɑːs/ noun a road which passes beneath another road (by means of a tunnel or bridge)

underslung load /ˈʌndəslʌŋ ləud/ noun a load of equipment or supplies which is carried suspended from a helicopter

unexploded /ʌnˈɛksploʊd/ adjective referring to a bomb or other device which has failed to explode but is still capable of exploding

UNHCR abbreviation United Nations High Commission for Refugees

unidentified flying object /ˌʌnɪdɛntɪfɪd ˈfliːɪŋ ˈɒbjɛkt/ noun full form of UFO

UNIFICYP abbreviation United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

unified command /ˌʌnɪˈfaɪd kəˈmɑːnd/ noun the process of placing all your military assets under one overall commander (commander in chief) and his headquarters

uniform /juˈnɪfɔːm/ adjective (of pattern, shape, size, weight, etc.) exactly the same, identical ○ The armour is of uniform thickness all over the vehicle. ● noun standard military clothing worn by members of the same arm or grouping

Uniform Code of Military Justice /juˈnɪfɔːm kɑːd əv ˈmɪlt(ə)ri ˈdʒæstɪs/ noun full form of UCMJ

UNIMOG abbreviation United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group

uninhabited /ˌʌnɪnˈhæbitɪd/ adjective not lived in ○ The village is uninhabited.

Union flag /juˈnɪʃən ˈflæg/ noun the national flag of Great Britain. Also called Union Jack

Union Jack /juˈnɪʃən ˈdʒæk/, Union flag /juˈnɪʃən ˈflæg/ noun the national flag of Great Britain (NOTE: The term Union flag is more correct, but Union Jack is more usual.)

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics /juˈnɪʃən əv ˈsəʊvət ˈsæjəˈslɔːr ˈrɪpˈbliks/ noun full form of USSR

unit /juˈnɪt/ noun 1. a military grouping with its own organization and command structure 2. a standard quantity ○ A kilometre is a unit of linear measure. ○ COMMENT: In the army, a unit normally refers to a battalion or equivalent-sized grouping.

United Kingdom /juˈnɪtɪd ˈkɪŋdm/ noun a country formed of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Abbr UK

United Nations /juˈnɪtɪd ˈnɛntzn/ noun an international organization dedicated to the promotion of world peace, and able to call upon its member states to contribute military forces for international peacekeeping operations. Abbr UN

United States /juˈnɪtɪd ˈsteɪts/, United States of America noun a large country in North America, the world's
single superpower o The United States were not involved in the peace talks. Abbr US
United States Air Force /ju:ˌnɔrtid /stxts ˈɛəˌfɔːr/ noun the American air force. Abbr USAF
United States Marine Corps /ju:ˌnɔrtid /steɪts ˈmərɹin /kɔrps/ noun American units of marines. Abbr USMC
unlawful combatant /ˈʌnˌlɔːfəl /kəmbətənt/ noun US someone such as a terrorist who undertakes military-style operations, but is not a member of a country’s regular armed forces or following the rules of war
unload /ˈʌnləʊd/ verb 1. to remove ammunition from a weapon o They were ordered to unload. 2. to remove a load from an aircraft, ship or vehicle o The enemy attacked while we were unloading the ship.
unloading bay /ˈʌnləʊdnɪŋ /beɪ noun a place where weapons may be loaded and unloaded safely
unmanned /ˈʌnmænd/ adjective 1. (of an aircraft) designed to fly without a pilot (that is, by remote control) 2. (of an installation) not needing people to man it o The rebroadcasting station is unmanned.
unmanned aerial vehicle /ˈʌnmænd /əˈvɛərɪl /ˈvɜːtɪk(ə)l/ noun full form of UAV
unmanned combat aerial vehicle /ˈʌnmænd /kəmbət /əˈvɛərɪl /ˈvɜːtɪk(ə)l/ noun full form of UCAV
unmetaled /ˌʌnmɛtəld/ adjective US spelling of unmetalled
unmetalled /ˌʌnmɛtəld/ adjective (of roads and tracks) without a surface of asphalt or tarmac or other strengthening materials (e.g. gravel or small stones). o dirt road
UNMO /ˈʌnməʊ/ abbreviation United Nations military observer
unobtainable /ˌʌnəˈtenəbl(ə)/ adjective not in radio contact (radio terminology) o B Company is unobtainable at the moment.
UNPF abbreviation United Nations peace forces
UNPROFOR /ˌʌnprəˌfoʊr/ abbreviation United Nations Protection Force
UNSCR abbreviation United Nations Security Council
UNPA abbreviation United Nations protected area
US /ju:/ adjective referring to the United States of America o US troops landed last night.

253 US

I need to update you on the latest intelligence.

Fortunately, our position was untenable.

Here is the latest intelligence up-to-date. o verb to give someone fresh information o I need to update you on the latest intelligence.

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update /ˈʌpɪdʒ/ noun fresh information o Here is the latest intelligence update. o verb to give someone fresh information o I need to update you on the latest intelligence.

The rebroadcasting station is unserviceable. o The radio is unserviceable. Abbr u/s
untenable /ˈʌntənəbl/ adjective impossible to defend o Our position is untenable.

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u/s abbreviation unserviceable
USA abbreviation 1. United States Army 2. United States of America
USAF abbreviation United States Air Force
USAFE abbreviation United States Air Force in Europe
USAREUR abbreviation United States Army in Europe
USEUCOM abbreviation United States European Command
USMC abbreviation United States Marine Corps
USN abbreviation United States Navy
USS /juːs/ abbreviation prefix given to all ships of the United States Navy. I served on board the USS Saratoga. Full form United States Ship
USSR /juːsˈɛr/ noun the full official title of the former Soviet Union. Full form Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
utility /juːˈtɪlti/ adjective designed for general use
utility helicopter /juːˈtɪlti ˈhelɪkɒptər/ noun US a helicopter designed to transport men, equipment or supplies
U-turn /juː tɜːrn/ noun an act of turning a vehicle sharply around, so that it is facing in the direction from which it has just come. The tank did a U-turn and disappeared behind the church.
UXB abbreviation unexploded bomb
UXO noun any bomb, missile, explosive projectile or other explosive device which has been dropped or fired or initiated and has failed to explode, either partly or completely. There is a lot of UXO lying about. They’re doing UXO disposal in the village. Full form unexploded bomb. UXB
Uzi / juː zi/ noun an Israeli-designed 9mm sub-machine-gun
vaccinate /ˈveksɪnt/ verb to give someone a vaccine which prevents him or her from contracting a disease. We were vaccinated against anthrax.

vaccination /ˌvekstɪˈneɪʃən/ noun an act of vaccinating someone. The troops were given anthrax vaccinations.

vaccine /ˈveksɪn/ noun a substance, containing the germs of a disease, which provides a person with immunity to that disease.

V-agent /ˈvɪdʒənt/ noun a persistent nerve agent.

valley /ˈvɛli/ noun an area of low ground flanked by hills, usually with a river running through it.

van /ˈvæn/ noun 1. a light motor vehicle designed for carrying goods. The bomb was hidden in a small white van. 2. a vanguard. The general was moving in the van of the advancing force.

vanguard /ˈvæŋɡərd/ noun leading elements of the main body of an advancing force.

COMMENT: The vanguard should not be confused with the advance guard which moves ahead of the main body.

vantage point /ˈvæntɪdʒ ˈpent/ noun a place from which one can observe a thing or area. That hill is an excellent vantage point.

vapor /ˈveɪpər/ noun US spelling of vapour.

vapour /ˈveɪpər/ noun particles of liquid or other substance suspended in air. This chemical agent is used in the form of a vapour.

variable-time fuse /ˈveərətɪm/ noun a fuse fitted to an artillery shell, which causes it to explode at a specified height above the ground. Abbr VT.

variant /ˈveərɪənt/ noun a model, which is different from the original design. The Russians are testing a new variant of the T-80.

VCP /ˈvɪks ˌsɪk/ noun 1. a place on a road where soldiers or policemen stop vehicles in order to search them or to check the identity of the occupants. We set up a VCP at the crossroads. 2. the persons manning a vehicle check-point. The VCP was attacked by partisans.

vehicle check-point /ˈvɪːkəl tʃekˈpɔɪnt/ noun.

VD abbreviation venereal disease.

vector /ˈvektər/ noun a course taken by an aircraft. Vector two-three-nine for CAP.

vegetation /ˈvedʒətʃən/ noun plants in general. There is very little vegetation on the island.

vehicle /ˈvedʒəl/ noun a machine which moves on land.

vehicle check-point /ˈvedʒəl tʃekˈpɔɪnt/ noun full form of VCP.

vehicle state /ˈvedʒəl stɛt/ noun the condition of vehicles held by a unit or sub-unit.

vehicular first-aid kit /ˈvɛhɪˈkjuələr ˈfɜːrst ˈeɪd ˈkɪt/ noun a first aid kit kept in a vehicle.

veiled speech /ˈvedəl ˈspɪtʃ/ noun an act of speaking on a telephone or radio, in such a way as to conceal the true meaning of the conversation, without actually using a code.

veld /ˈvɛld, ˈvlɛd/ noun in South Africa, an uncultivated grassland.

vanguard /ˈvɛld/ noun a vanguard.

vanguard /ˈvɛld/ noun an aircraft.

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vanguard /ˈvɛld/ noun a vanguard.
velocity /ˈvɛləˈnɪstɪ/ noun the speed at which an object travels

venereal disease /vəˈnɪərəl dɪˈziː/ noun a disease which is passed by sexual contact (e.g. gonorrhoea, syphilis, etc.). Abbr: VD

venomous /ˈvenəməs/ adjective (of snakes, insects and some other creatures) having a poisonous bite or sting. I don’t think this snake is venomous.

verbal /ˈvɜːr-bal/ adjective spoken (as opposed to written or other forms of communication). All verbal requests should be confirmed in writing.

verification /ˌvɜːrɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun the process of establishing if something is accurate or true. We need verification of the report.

verify /ˈvɜːrɪfaɪ/ verb 1. to establish if something is accurate or true. We need to verify the report. 2. to confirm that something is accurate or true. He verified the allegation.

vertical take-off and landing /ˌvɜːrtɪkəl ˈteɪkˌɒf ənd ˈlændɪŋ/ noun technology which enables a fixed-wing aircraft to take off and land from a stationary position (i.e. without the need for a runway). The Harrier has a vertical take-off and landing capability. Abbr: VTOL

COMMENT: Vertical take-off is not usually possible when the aircraft is carrying a full payload of munitions. In such cases, the aircraft would need to take off from a runway like any conventional fixed-wing aircraft. Most vertical take-off aircraft, however, require a considerably shorter distance to take off than do conventional aircraft, and would therefore be able to use stretches of road or grass areas as runways. Once the aircraft has discharged its munitions it would be able to carry out a normal vertical landing. The acronyms STOVL (short take-off and vertical landing) and V/STOL (vertical or short take-off and landing) are used to describe these capabilities.

very high frequency /ˈvɜːrɪ hɪjˈfrɛkwənsi/ noun the range of radio frequencies from 30 – 300 megahertz (MHz). Abbr: VHF

Very light /ˈvɜːrɪ lɪt/ noun an illuminating flare which is fired from a Very pistol

Very pistol /ˈvɜːrɪ pɪst(ə)l/ noun a pistol designed to fire an illuminating flare into the air

vessel /ˈves(ə)l/ noun a boat or ship

to vet /vet/ noun 1. a person who is qualified to give medical treatment and surgery to animals. The guard dog was taken to the vet. 2. US a veteran (informal). A party of vets is visiting the base. A verb to check a person’s history and family and social connections, in order to establish whether they are suitable for a job or to have access to classified information. He will have to be vetted. (NOTE: vetting – vettred.

veteran /ˈvet(ə)ˈræn/ noun 1. a person with considerable combat experience. They replaced the battalion of recruits with veterans of the last campaign. 2. US an ex-serviceman or ex-service-woman

COMMENT: In recent years, the media have started to apply this term to anyone who has taken part in a military operation, however short the duration (for example Falklands veterans, Gulf veterans, etc.)

vetting /ˈvɛtɪŋ/ noun an act of vetting a person. He was given a thorough vetting.

VHF abbreviation very high frequency

vice admiral /ˈvaɪs ˈɛdəmərəl/ noun a senior officer in the US Navy

vice-admiral /ˈvaɪs ˈɛdəmərəl/ noun a senior officer in the British Navy, above a rear-admiral

vicinity /ˈvɪsɪnəti/ noun an area which surrounds a place. Enemy special forces are operating in the vicinity of Linz.

victim /ˈvɪktɪm/ noun a person who is killed or injured as the result of an action or occurrence

victor /ˈvɪktər/ noun a person who is victorious

Victor /ˈvɪktər/ noun the twenty-second letter of the phonetic alphabet (Vv)

victorious /ˈvɪkˈtɔriəs/ adjective relating to a military force or state which has defeated an enemy. The victorious
troops looted the town. ○ The victorious army conquered one state after another.

victory /vɪktrɪ/ noun the defeat of an enemy in battle or war ○ It was a decisive victory which changed the outcome of the war. ○ Marlborough won a series of victories in Northern Europe.

view /vjuː/ noun an area which is visible from a particular location

Viggen /ˈvɪgən/ noun • Saab-37

vigilance /ˈvɪdʒəlns/ noun an act of guarding against a possible danger or threat ○ We need to show extra vigilance tonight.

vigilant /ˈvɪdʒələnt/ adjective alert to a possible danger or threat

vigor /ˈvɪgər/ noun US spelling of vigour

vigorous /ˈvɪgərəs/ adjective showing or demanding strong physical effort ○ Paratroops undergo a vigorous training course.

vigour /ˈvɪgər/ noun a strong physical effort ○ The attack was not pressed home with sufficient vigour.

Viking /ˈvɪknɪŋ/ noun see ○ S-3

village /ˈvɪldʒ/ noun a small rural settlement

virus /ˈvɜːrəs/ noun a germ cell which infects the cells of living organisms, thus causing disease

visibility /ˈvɪzɪbəlɪtɪ/ noun the amount of what is visible ○ Visibility was poor because of the fog. ○ Visibility is down to two hundred metres.

visible /ˈvɪzəbl/ adjective able to be seen ○ The tanks were clearly visible.

vision /ˈvɪʒən/ noun the ability to see ○ He suffered a temporary loss of vision.

visor /ˈvɜrəz/ noun a movable shield attached to a helmet, which is designed to protect the face while allowing the wearer to see

visual /ˈvɪʒuəl/ adjective relating to sight ○ to have a person on visual to be able to see a person

visual contact /ˈvɪʒuəl ˈkɒntækt/ noun a situation where two or more people or groupings can see each other

visual display unit /ˈvɪʒuəl ˈdɪsplə juːnt/ noun an apparatus similar to a television, attached to a computer, which shows data on a screen. Abbr VDU

vital /ˈvɪt(ə)l/ adjective 1. of the greatest importance ○ It is vital that you capture that position. 2. essential to the outcome of a matter

vital ground /ˈvɪt(ə)l ˈɡraʊnd/ noun an area of ground which, if captured by the enemy, will make it impossible for a unit or sub-unit to fulfil its mission

COMMENT: The vital ground of a sub-unit (such as a platoon) will often constitute the ground of tactical importance of its higher formation (i.e. the company). If a unit’s vital ground is captured, then that unit has effectively lost its part of the battle.

voice procedure /ˈvɔɪs prəˌsɪdʒə/ noun the standard words and expressions which are used when talking on a radio ○ ‘Hello 22, this is 2, use correct voice procedure, out’

volatile /ˈvɒlətəl/ adjective likely to change suddenly, or likely to become violent and dangerous without warning ○ The situation in the capital is still extremely volatile.

volley /ˈvɒli/ noun an act of firing several weapons at the same time, in order to produce a concentration of fire ○ They fired several volleys into the crowd. ■ verb to fire several guns together

volume /ˈvɒlmjuː/ noun a quantity of sound given out by a radio or other apparatus

volunteer /ˈvɒlənˈtər/ noun 1. a person who offers to do a task ○ I need a volunteer to take a message back to headquarters. 2. a person who joins the armed forces because he wishes to, rather than because he is conscripted ○ Most of the men in the battalion are volunteers. ■ conscript ■ verb to offer to carry out a task (usually one which is dangerous or unpleasant) ○ He volunteered to take the message back to HQ.

vomit /ˈvɒmɪt/ verb to bring up food from one’s stomach ○ The gas made him vomit.
vomiting agent /vəmɪtɪŋ ərɪdʒənt/ noun a chemical agent designed to make a person feel ill and vomit
voyage /ˈvɔɪdʒ/ noun a journey made by a ship
VR55 /ˈvɜːrktʃəriəl/ noun a NATO name for Soviet-produced nerve agent
VSI abbreviation very seriously injured
V/STOL abbreviation vertical or short take-off and landing
VT abbreviation variable-time fuse
VTOL abbreviation vertical take-off and landing
Vulcan /ˈvʌlkən/ noun 1. a nickname for the American-designed M-61A1 20mm anti-aircraft cannon 2. an obsolete British-designed strategic bomber aircraft
vulnerable /ˈvʌlnərəbl/ adjective 1. (of people) easy to injure or kill ○ We are extremely vulnerable in this position. 2. (of things) easy to damage or destroy ○ This vehicle is vulnerable to small-arms fire. 3. (of groupings) easy to outmanoeuvre or overrun ○ Our left flank is now extremely vulnerable.
VX /ˈvɛks/ noun an American-produced type of nerve agent
COMMENT: The chemical composition of VX is still secret.
WHISKY - Ww

WAC /ˈweɪk/ abbreviation weapons-aiming computer
wade /weɪd/ verb to walk through water ◦ The company had to wade the river.
wadi /ˈweɪdi/ noun in Arabic countries, a dry river-bed or gully (in desert regions) ◦ The mortar line was sited in a wadi.
wage /weɪdʒ/ verb ▶ to wage war on someone to fight a war against someone wait out /ˌweɪt ˈaʊt/ phrase I am too busy to give you further information at the moment, but I will call you as soon as I am able to (radio terminology) ◦ ‘Hello 2, this is 22, contact, grid 021944, wait out!’ ◦ ‘Hello 3, this is 33d, am being shelled, wait out!’
war /wɔːr/ noun 1. an armed conflict between nations ◦ War broke out in the Middle East. ◦ to declare war on someone to state officially that you are in a state of war with someone ◦ to be on a war footing to be at full strength and fully equipped and prepared to fight a war ◦ The battalion is now on a war footing. 2. used in names of particular wars ◦ the Crimean War ◦ the First World War war correspondent /ˈwɔːr kərəsˈpɒndənt/ noun a journalist or reporter who is attached to a military force, in order to report on a war war crime /ˈwɔːr krɑːm/ noun an act which violates international rules of war wardroom /ˈwɔːrdruːm/ noun an officers’ mess on a warship warehouse /ˈweɪusahaan/ noun a large building used for storing goods warfare /ˈwɔːfər/ noun a war (in general) ◦ arctic warfare ◦ nuclear warfare warfighter /ˈwɔːfɪtər/ noun someone engaged in fighting in a war or armed conflict warfighting /ˈwɔːfɪtɪŋ/ noun active engagement in armed conflict wargame /ˈwɔːgɛm/ verb to test the viability of an operational plan, by playing it out on a map and calculating likely enemy responses ◦ We wargamed several different scenarios.
wargames /ˈwɔːgɛmz/ plural noun a military training exercise ◦ exercises, manoeuvres War Graves Commission /ˈwɔːr grɛtvz ˌkɑːmɪʃən/ noun an official British organization responsible for setting up and maintaining cemeteries for servicemen who die or are killed in wartime warhead /ˈwɔːhed/ noun an explosive head of a missile or other projectile War in Iraq /ˈwɔːr ɪn ˈɪræk/ noun same as Gulf War II warn /wɔːrn/ verb 1. to inform another person of a danger or threat ◦ We warned him of the increased chemical threat. 2. to inform another person that his actions or conduct are unacceptable and that he will be punished if it happens again ◦ He was warned about his behaviour. warning /ˈwɔːrnɪŋ/ noun 1. an act of warning someone ◦ We have received a warning of a probable nuclear strike. 2. an official record that a person has been warned about his actions or conduct ◦ He was given a warning. warning order /ˈwɔːrnɪŋ ˌɔrəd/ noun a message which warns a unit or sub-
warning signal 260

unit of a future operation or task, and provides sufficient information for the unit to start making its preparations.

COMMENT: Apart from the task itself, the most important piece of information in a warning order is the timing 'no move before ...'.

warning signal /ˈwɔrɪŋ / signal /ˈsɪgn(e) / noun a signal such as a red light, which warns that something has gone wrong

warrant /ˈwɔrənt / warrant officer 1st class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɒfɪsə / warrant officer second class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɔfɪsə fəst / warrant officer 2nd class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɔfɪsə sekənd / noun a document which authorizes a person to do something

warrant officer /ˈwɔrənt ˌɒfɪsə / 1, a senior non-commissioned officer in the army or air force who holds his or her rank by Royal Warrant 2. US a senior non-commissioned officer who holds a special rank because his or her job requires a greater level of responsibility than that which is normally expected of senior enlisted personnel. abbr WO

warrant officer first class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɒfɪsə ˈfɜːst / warrant officer second class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɔfɪsə sekənd / noun a regimental sergeant major or someone of equivalent seniority. Abbr WO1

warrant officer second class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɔfɪsə ˌsekənd / warrant officer 3rd class /ˈwɔrənt ˌɔfɪsə ˈɜːrənt / noun a company sergeant major or regimental quartermaster sergeant or someone of equivalent seniority. Abbr WO2

war reserves /ˈwɔː rɛrəvz / plural noun stocks of equipment and supplies kept to be available immediately in case of war

warming /ˈwɔrɪŋ / adjective actively involved in armed conflict. Negotiations between the warring factions have collapsed.

Warrior /ˈwɔrɪər / noun a British-designed 1980s-era infantry fighting vehicle (IFV)

Warsaw Pact /ˈwɔrəsə / noun a military alliance, consisting of the Soviet Union and other communist countries of Eastern Europe (e.g. Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, etc.), which disintegrated following the collapse of communism at the end of the 1980s
watchkeeper /ˈwɔtʃˌkiːpər/ noun 1. a naval duty officer on a warship who, in the event of an unforeseen incident, is qualified to make command decisions until a more senior officer takes over. He's just been awarded his watchkeeper's ticket. 2. an operational appointment in the army, in which an officer or non-commissioned officer has limited control over a headquarters department while the normal staff officer is resting or engaged in other tasks.

waterproof /ˈwɔtərprəuf/ a waterproof sleeping-bag cover.

waterproof his boots.

waterbowser /ˈwɔtərˈbəʊzər/ noun a water storage tank mounted on the back of a vehicle.

watercourse /ˈwɔtərkəʊs/ noun a canal, river, stream or dry river-bed.

waterfall /ˈwɔtərfɔːl/ noun a place where a river or stream flows over a cliff or rocks.

water point /ˈwɔtərpɔɪnt/ noun a location where water may be replenished.

waterproof /ˈwɔtərprouf/ adjective (of clothing, footwear, etc.) designed to prevent the passage of water. I've got a waterproof sleeping-bag cover.

waterproof his boots.

water tank /ˈwɔtərtæŋk/ noun a large container for storing water.

watertight /ˈwɔtərtɜːt/ adjective (of compartments, doors, joints, etc.) designed to prevent the passage of water. All the compartments in the boat are watertight.

water trailer /ˈwɔtərˈtrēlə/ noun US a water tank on a wheeled frame, suitable for being towed behind a vehicle.

waterway /ˈwɔtərwェy/ noun a canal or navigable river.

wave /ˈweɪv/ noun 1. a moving ridge of water. A huge wave broke over the ship. 2. one of several tactical groupings which are advancing or attacking, one behind the other.

waves of bombers attacked the town.

way /weɪ/ noun 1. a road, path, track or any other natural or man-made feature which allows movement. We could not find a way through the marsh. 2. method. That's not the way to do it. 3. a direction. B Company HQ is that way. 4. a route. Do you know the way to the dressing station?

waypoint /ˈweɪpɔɪnt/ noun a place or feature on the ground which is used as a navigational reference point (especially with satellite navigation systems). Our next waypoint is the church at grid 637921.

W/Cdr abbreviation wing commander.

WCP /ˈwɛplɪdʒ, ˈwiː/ noun 1. (of people) not strong. He was very weak through loss of blood. 2. (of groupings) not at full strength. We have a weak brigade in front of us.

weapon /ˈweɪpən/ noun 1. any object which is designed to kill or injure (such as a bayonet, grenade, rifle, etc.). He has lost his weapon. 2. any object which is used to kill or injure (such as a broken bottle, knife, piece of wood, etc.). A wide variety of weapons were taken from the rioters. 3. any object which is designed to cause damage (such as a bomb, missile, rocket, etc.). The enemy are threatening to use nuclear weapons.

weapon collection point /ˈweɪpən kəˈlekʃən ˈpoʊnt/ noun full form of WCP.

weaponize, weaponise verb to process chemical, nuclear, or biological material so that it can be deployed as a
weapon of mass destruction 262
weapon, especially a weapon of mass destruction

weapon of mass destruction /ˈweɪpən əv ˈmæs dɪstrəkʃən/ noun a weapon, usually nuclear, biological, or chemical, which can cause huge devastation and loss of life

weapon pit /ˈweɪpən pɪt/ noun a pit dug as a fire-position for a large weapon, which offers concealment and protection from enemy fire

weaponry /ˈweɪpərni/ noun weapons in general

wepons-grade uranium /ˈweɪpən greɪd juˈrenim/ noun same as depleted uranium

weapon state /ˈweɪpən stɛt/ noun the condition in which a weapon is carried (i.e. unloaded, made safe or made ready)

weapon training /ˈweɪpən ˈtrænɪŋ/ noun training for soldiers in the use of their weapons

weapon system /ˈweɪpən ˈsɪstəm/ noun a weapon which utilizes sophisticated technology (such as a guided missile)

weapon systems officer /ˈweɪpən ˈsɪstəms əˈfɪʃər/ noun full form of WSO

weather /ˈweɪðər/ noun the daily changes in the condition of the earth’s atmosphere (such as rain, sunshine, wind, etc.)

webbing /ˈweɪbɪŋ/ noun 1. a strong fabric used to make belts, equipment pouches, rifle slings, etc. 2. a set of equipment pouches attached to a belt or harness ○ He has lost his webbing.

web gear /ˈweɪb dʒɛər/ noun same as webbing

wedge /ˈwedʒ/ noun a tactical formation in the shape of a triangle (e.g. one sub-unit leading as point, with the other two sub-units following abreast of each other)

weight /ˈwɛt/ noun the heaviness of an object

well /wel/ noun a man-made hole in the ground from which water is obtained

wellington boot /ˌwelɪnˈtən ˈbʌt/ noun 1. a waterproof rubber boot which reaches up to the knee. 2. an elegant leather boot, which reaches up to the knee but is worn covered by the trouser leg, as part of a ceremonial uniform or mess kit

Wessex /ˈwestiks/ noun a British-made utility helicopter

west /west/ noun 1. one of the four main points of the compass, corresponding to a bearing of 270 degrees or 4800 mils. 2. an area to the west of your location ○ The enemy are approaching from the west. 3. the West Europe and North America. 4. the western part of a country ○ adjective relating to the west ○ the West Gate ○ west wind ○ wind blowing from the west ○ adverb towards the west ○ The enemy is moving west.

westbound /ˈwestbɔːnd/ adjective moving or leading towards the west ○ a westbound convoy

westerly /ˈwɛstəli/ adjective 1. towards the west ○ They pushed forward in a westerly direction. 2. (of wind) from the west

western /ˈwestən/ adjective relating to the west ○ The western part of the country.

Western Bloc /ˈwestən ˈblɒk/ noun a term sometimes applied to NATO

Western European Union /ˌwestən ˌjuːəroʊˈpiːən ˈjuːrəˌjuːn/ noun a group of European countries linked together for mutual protection; the Union is now seen as the European Union’s future defence arm, and it now includes several Eastern European countries as associate members. Abbr: WEU

West Point /ˈwest ˌpɔɪnt/ noun a US Army officer training establishment ○ He is a graduate of West Point.

westward /ˈwestwɔːd/ adjective towards the west ○ a westward direction ○ adverb US towards the west ○ They are moving westward.

westwards /ˈwestwɔːdz/ adverb towards the west ○ They are moving westwards.
military terms

WG CDR abbreviation wing commander
wheeled /wi:ld/ adjective (of vehicles) fitted with wheels • verb to swing round in line • The brigade wheeled left-handed and advanced towards Esslingen.
wheelbarrow /ˈwɪlˈbærəʊ/ noun 1. a small cart with one wheel, which is designed to be pushed by a person on foot (normally used by gardeners, builders and farmers) • We brought up the ammunition in an old wheelbarrow. 2. a small unmanned tracked vehicle, which is operated by remote control and which can be fitted with a CCTV camera and other instruments or tools for examining suspected improvised explosive devices (IED) • The wheelbarrow was destroyed in the explosion.
whiskey /ˈwɪskaɪ/ noun US spelling of Whisky
whisky /ˈwɪski/ noun the twenty-third letter of the phonetic alphabet (Ww)
whisper /ˈwɪspər/ verb to speak very quietly
whistle /ˈwɪstl(ə)/ noun 1. an instrument which is blown through to produce a clear shrill noise • He blew his whistle as a signal to advance. 2. the noise produced by a whistle or by blowing air through your lips • We heard a whistle, and then the noise of small-arms fire. • verb to produce the sound of a whistle • He whistled to show that the coast was clear.
White Ensign /ˈwɛt ˈɛnsaŋ/ noun a flag displayed by ships of the British Royal Navy (it is white, with a red cross and the Union Jack in one corner)
white phosphorus /ˈwɜːt fəsfaˈroʊs/ noun 1. a chemical substance which burns on contact with oxygen, producing dense clouds of white smoke 2. a smoke-producing projectile, or grenade containing white phosphorus • abbr WP
white phosphorus containing white phosphorus are usually painted light green, with red lettering and markings.
whisky /ˈwɪski/ noun an abbreviation wound in action
wilco /ˈwɪlkəʊ/ adverb I will carry out your instructions (radio terminology) • ‘Hello22, this is 2, move now, over.’ – ‘22, wilco, out.’ Full form will comply
Wildcat /ˈwɪldkæt/ noun a German-designed wheeled self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG)
wilderness /ˈwɪldənəs/ noun an uninhabited and uncultivated area or region
Wild Weasel /ˈwɜːl dˈwɛzl/ noun US an air-force role, involving the use of radar-detecting equipment and anti-radar missiles (ARM) to suppress enemy surface-to-air missile sites
wind /wɪnd/ noun 1. a strong movement of air • The high winds brought down two aerials. 2. an effect of wind on a projectile in flight • Two crew-members were winched down to the forward position.
windage /wɪndædʒ/ noun 1. an allowance made for wind when aiming a weapon
wind-chill /ˈwɪnd ˈtʃɪl/ noun an effect of cold wind on a person when the air temperature is low, making him even colder
wind-chill factor /ˈwɪnd ˈtʃɪl ˈfæktər/ noun a method of calculating the risk of hypothermia by adding the speed of the wind to the number of degrees tem-
windscreen

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perature below zero. The wind-chill factor is dangerously high at the moment.

windscreen /ˈwɪndskrɪn/ noun the glass window in the front of a vehicle (NOTE: The American English term is windshield.)

windshield /ˈwɪndʃiːld/ noun US same as windscreen

wing /ˈwɪŋ/ noun 1. a thin horizontal structure extending from either side of an aircraft, in order to support it in flight. 2. an air-force grouping of several squadrons

wing commander /ˈwɪŋ kəˈmændə/ noun a senior officer in the air force, above a squadron leader (usually in command of a wing). Abbr W/Cdr

wingman /ˈwɪŋmɛn/ noun the pilot of the other aircraft, when you are flying as a pair. My wingman was hit by a surface-to-air missile.

wipe out /ˈwɪp aʊt/ verb to kill all the members of a grouping. B Company has been almost wiped out. (NOTE: This verb is normally used in the passive.)

wire /ˈwaiər/ noun a cord-like material made of metal

wire-cutters /ˈwaiər kəˈtɛəz/ plural noun a special type of scissors used for cutting through barbed wire. He dropped his wire-cutters. Remember to bring a pair of wire-cutters. (NOTE: Wire-cutters, like scissors, are always plural and come in pairs or sets.)

wire-guided missile /ˈwaiər ˈgɛrdɪd ˈmɪsəl/ noun a missile, which remains connected to its firing post by a length of wire, through which signals are transmitted in order to control its flight onto the target

wireless /ˈwaiərəls/ noun an obsolete term for a radio

wiring party /ˈwaiərɪŋ ˈpɑrtɪ/ noun a detachment of soldiers sent out to construct or repair a barbed-wire obstacle

withdraw /ˈwɪdˌhɔrˌdʒ/ verb 1. to move away from the enemy. B Company is withdrawing. 2. to move back towards your own forces or territory. The enemy withdrew across the border.

withdraw (NOTE: withdrawing – withdrew – have withdrawn)

COMMENT: The word retreat is normally used when one is forced to move back (for example, because one has been defeated or your position has become untenable), whereas retire or withdraw imply rearward movement as part of a planned manoeuvre or in order to occupy a better position. Consequently, retire or withdraw are sometimes used instead of retreat because they sound more positive.

withdrawal /ˈwɪdˌhɔrləl/ noun an act of withdrawing

within visual range /ˈwɪnˌvɪʒuəl rənɡ/ adjective, adverb full form of WVR

without delay /ˈwɪtər dəˈliː/ adverb immediately

WMD abbreviation weapon(s) of mass destruction

WO1 abbreviation warrant officer first class

WO2 abbreviation warrant officer second class

wood /wʊd/ noun 1. an area of ground covered by trees. We spent the night in a wood. 2. a material obtained from trees. The handguard is made of wood. wooden /wʊd(ə)n/ adjective made of wood

woodland /ˈwʊdlænd/ noun terrain consisting mainly of woods or forest

working parts /ˈwɜːkɪŋ ˈpɑrts/ plural noun the internal mechanism (usually consisting of several different parts) of an automatic or semi-automatic weapon, which moves backwards and forwards to cock the weapon, feed a round into the breech, fire the round and extract the empty cartridge case.

World Food Programme /wɜːld ˈfɔːrd ˈprəʊgræm/ noun full form of WFP

World Health Organization /ˈwɜːld ˈhelθ ɔrɡənəˈziːʃən/ noun full form of WHO
wound  /wʌnd/ noun serious injury, usually involving a cut or other penetration of the skin and flesh. He has a shrapnel wound to his leg. He died of his wounds. verb to inflict a wound. He was wounded in the leg.

wounded  /wʌndɪd/ adjective suffering from a wound. Wounded soldiers were removed to the field hospital. noun the wounded people who have received a wound. The wounded were removed from the battlefield.

WP abbreviation white phosphorus

wreck  /rɛk/ noun 1. the accidental destruction of a ship (usually by running onto rocks). Here is the report on the wreck of HMS Ardent. 2. the remains of a ship which has been wrecked. Most of the cargo was removed from the wreck. 3. the remains of a destroyed or badly damaged aircraft or vehicle. We took cover behind a tank wreck.

wreckage  /rɛkˈdʒeɪ/ noun pieces of an aircraft, ship or vehicle which has been wrecked.

Wren  /ren/ noun a female member of the Royal Navy (informal)

WSO abbreviation weapon systems officer

WVR /ˌdɛbrəˈjuː/ vi: 'əː/ adjective, adverb close enough to an enemy aircraft to see it with the naked eye. We'll need WVR missiles. Full form within visual range. Compare BVR.
X-RAY - Xx

**XO** *abbreviation* US executive officer

**X-ray**¹ /ˈɛksˌreɪ/ *noun* the twenty-fourth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Xx)

**X-ray**² /ˈɛksˌreɪ/ *noun* 1. electromagnetic radiation of a very short wavelength, which is able to pass through the human body and can thus produce photographs of internal injuries 2. a X-ray photograph

**verb** to produce an X-ray photograph

*You will need a chest X-ray.*

*We will have to X-ray your leg.*
YANKEE - Yy

**YAK-38** /ˌjæk ˈθɛktʃər/ noun a Soviet-designed multirole fighter aircraft with a vertical take-off capability, designed to operate from aircraft carriers (NOTE: known to NATO as Forger)

**YAK-41** /ˌjæk ˈθɛktʃər/ noun a Soviet-designed multirole fighter aircraft with a vertical take-off capability, designed to operate from aircraft carriers (NOTE: known to NATO as Freestyle)

**Yank** /jæŋk/ noun an American soldier (informal)

**Yankee** /jæŋki/ noun the twenty-fifth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Yy)

**Yard** /jɔːd/ noun 1. a unit of linear measure corresponding to 3 feet or 0.9144 metres. 2. an area of enclosed ground attached to a building. The vehicles were parked in the yard next to HQ.

**Yd** abbreviation yard (NOTE: The plural form is yds.)

**Yeoman** /ˈjɔːmən/ noun 1. a petty officer in charge of signals. 2. US a petty officer responsible for clerical duties

**Yeomanry** /ˈjɔːmənri/ noun a unit of volunteer cavalry (historical)

**Y-junction** /ˈwaɪˌdʒɒŋkʃən/ noun a place where a single road divides into two. fork

**Yob** /jɒb/ noun an unsophisticated youth or young man, who behaves in a rude, inconsiderate and often aggressive manner (slang) The patrol was attacked by a crowd of yobs.

**Yomp** /ˈjɒmp/ (slang) noun a long march across country. The patrol was attacked by a crowd of youths. (NOTE: The plural form is youths /ˈjʌθz/.)
**ZEBRA - Zz**

**zap** /zæp/ verb US to shoot dead (slang)  He zapped three of the enemy.

**zariba** /zərˈɪba/ noun Arabic a defensive enclosure made from pieces of thorn bush  The guerrilla base was protected by a thick zariba.

**zed bag** /ˈzed bæg/ noun a sleeping bag

**zero** /ˈziərəʊ/ noun a figure 0 (nought or nil)  verb to ensure that a weapon is accurate, by firing a few rounds at a target and then adjusting the sights as required  3 Section are zeroing their weapons.

**Zeus-23** /ˈzuəs-23/ noun US an informal nickname for the Soviet-designed ZSU-23–4 self-propelled anti-aircraft gun

**zilch** /zɪltʃ/ noun US nothing (slang)  We observed the bridge for six hours but saw zilch.

**zone** /ˈzoʊn/ noun an area or region which has some specific importance or purpose

**ZSU** noun a Soviet-designed series of self-propelled anti-aircraft guns

**ZSU-23–4** noun a 1960s-era weapon, fitted with four radar-controlled 23mm cannon (NOTE: The Russian nickname for this is the Shilka.)

**Zulu** /ˈzuːluː/ noun the twenty-sixth letter of the phonetic alphabet (Zz)

**zulu muster** /ˈzuːluː mʌstə/ noun the location in the field where vehicles are kept when not in use

**Zulu time** /ˈzuːluː tʌm/ noun Greenwich Mean Time (GMT); that is, the local time on the meridian at Greenwich, London, which is used to calculate international time  H-Hour at 0600Z.

**Zuni** /ˈzuːni/ noun an American-designed unguided rocket, designed to be fired by an aircraft at a ground target
SUPPLEMENTS

The Phonetic Alphabet
Numbers
Timings
Military Rank Structure
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Example of Formal Orders
Military Grouping Symbols
### The Phonetic Alphabet

Certain letters of the alphabet sound very similar, especially when a person is talking on the telephone or radio. The phonetic alphabet is designed to prevent confusion, by using a distinctive word to represent each letter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aa</td>
<td>Alpha*</td>
<td>'ælfə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bb</td>
<td>Bravo</td>
<td>'bra:vəʊ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cc</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>'ʃæli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dd</td>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>'deltə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ec</td>
<td>Echo</td>
<td>'ɛkəʊ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ff</td>
<td>Foxtrot</td>
<td>fnkstrət</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gg</td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hh</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>həʊ'tel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>'ɪndiə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jj</td>
<td>Juliet</td>
<td>ˌdʒuəliˈɛt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kk</td>
<td>Kilo</td>
<td>ˈki/əʊ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ll</td>
<td>Lima</td>
<td>ˈliːmə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mm</td>
<td>Mike</td>
<td>maɪk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nn</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>ˈnəvəm/bo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oo</td>
<td>Oscar</td>
<td>'ɒskə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pp</td>
<td>Papa</td>
<td>ˈpaipa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qq</td>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>kwɪˈbek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rr</td>
<td>Romeo</td>
<td>ˈroʊmiəʊ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ss</td>
<td>Sierra</td>
<td>sɪˈɛrə</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tt</td>
<td>Tango</td>
<td>ˈtæŋɡəʊ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uu</td>
<td>Uniform</td>
<td>ˌjuɪnɪfɪm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vv</td>
<td>Victor</td>
<td>ˈvɪktər</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WW</td>
<td>Whisky**</td>
<td>'wiski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xx</td>
<td>X-Ray</td>
<td>ˈɛksˌreɪ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yy</td>
<td>Yankee</td>
<td>ˈjanki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zz</td>
<td>Zulu</td>
<td>ˈzuːluː</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Alfa in US English
** Whiskey in US English
### Numbers

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>zero</td>
<td>['ziərəʊ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>one</td>
<td>['wʌn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>two</td>
<td>['tuː]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>three</td>
<td>['θriː]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>four</td>
<td>['fɔː]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>five</td>
<td>['fɪv]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>six</td>
<td>['sɪks]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>seven</td>
<td>['sev(ə)n]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>eight</td>
<td>['eɪt]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>nine</td>
<td>['neɪn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>ten</td>
<td>['ten]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>eleven</td>
<td>['ɪlev(ə)n]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>twelve</td>
<td>['twɛlv]</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>thirteen</td>
<td>['θɜːtiːn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>fourteen</td>
<td>['fɔːtɪn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>fifteen</td>
<td>['fɪf(t)ɪn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>sixteen</td>
<td>['sɪk(st)iːn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>seventeen</td>
<td>['sev(ə)ntiːn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>eighteen</td>
<td>['eɪt(ə)ntiːn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>nineteen</td>
<td>['nain(t)iːn]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** when speaking on the radio, 9 is often pronounced ['nainə]

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>twenty</td>
<td>['twenti]</td>
</tr>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>thirty-two</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>forty</td>
</tr>
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<td>fifty</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>sixty</td>
</tr>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<table>
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<td>30</td>
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<td>['θɜːti]</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>thirty-two</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>forty</td>
<td>['faːrti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>fifty</td>
<td>['fɪfti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>sixty</td>
<td>['sɪkstɪ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>seventy</td>
<td>['sev(ə)nti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>eighty</td>
<td>['ɛttɪ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>ninety</td>
<td>['nainti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>one hundred</td>
<td>['wʌn 'hʌndrəd]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>one hundred and one</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>one hundred and ten</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>one hundred and fifteen</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td>one hundred and twenty-five</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>one thousand</td>
<td>['wʌn 'θaʊz(ə)nd]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>one thousand and one</td>
<td>10,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>one thousand and twenty-five</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>one thousand, one hundred</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>one thousand, one hundred and fifteen hundred</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>one thousand, five hundred</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>two thousand</td>
<td>255,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>ten thousand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>one million</td>
<td>['wʌn 'mɪljən]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Timings

To avoid confusion, the twenty-four-hour clock is used in military timings:

1am = 0100
2pm = 1400
8:15am = 0815
8:45pm = 2045

Verbal timings are given as follows:

1400 = fourteen hundred
1515 = fifteen fifteen
1435 = fourteen thirty-five
1528 = fifteen twenty-eight
1500 = fifteen hundred

A single 0 in the timing is normally pronounced as ‘zero’:

0800 = zero eight hundred
0805 = zero eight zero five

Note: This does not apply to a single 0 at the end:

1110 = eleven ten
1620 = sixteen twenty

Note: A single 0 at the beginning of a timing is sometimes pronounced like the letter O:

0500 = O five hundred
0830 = O eight thirty
0605 = O six zero five
0955 = O nine thirty-five

Midnight is usually avoided as a timing. When it is used, it may be given in several different ways:

2400 = twenty-four hundred
2359 = twenty-three fifty-nine
0001 = zero zero zero one

Note: Timings between midnight and 0100 are given as follows:

0005 = zero zero zero five
0015 = zero zero fifteen
0035 = zero zero thirty-five

In order to indicate timing, the word ‘hours’ is usually added to the end. In written timings, this is abbreviated to ‘hrs’:

0300hrs = zero three hundred hours
1210hrs = twelve ten hours

On Operations, NATO forces normally use Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which is also known as Zulu time, regardless of the time of the country in which they are operating:

1010Z = ten ten hours Zulu time

Note: Other time zones around the world are identified by different letters of the alphabet. The time of the country in which one is operating is also known as ‘local time’, for example: ‘The general will be arriving at 1430 hrs local time.’
**Military Ranks of the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Marines</th>
<th>Navy</th>
<th>Air Force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field Marshal</td>
<td>Admiral</td>
<td>Marshal of the Fleet</td>
<td>Royal Air Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Admiral</td>
<td>Air Chief Marshal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant-General</td>
<td>Lieutenant-General</td>
<td>Vice-Admiral</td>
<td>Air Marshal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major-General</td>
<td>Major-Admiral</td>
<td>Rear-Admiral</td>
<td>Air Vice Marshal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigadier</td>
<td>Brigadier</td>
<td>Commodore</td>
<td>Air Commodore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Group Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant-Colonel</td>
<td>Lieutenant-Colonel</td>
<td>Commander</td>
<td>Wing Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Lieutenant-Commander</td>
<td>Squadron Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Flight Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Sub-Lieutenant</td>
<td>Flying Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>Pilot Officer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Midshipman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrant Officer (1st, 2nd Class)</td>
<td>Warrant Officer (1st, 2nd Class)</td>
<td>Warrant Officer</td>
<td>Warrant Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour/Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Colour Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Petty Officer</td>
<td>Flight Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Petty Officer</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Leading Rate</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lance-Corporal</td>
<td>Lance-Corporal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Marine 1st Class</td>
<td>Able Rate</td>
<td>Junior Technician/Senior Aircraftman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marine 2nd Class</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leading Aircraftman/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates the end of officer rank

1 Marine Service is not applicable for Australia and New Zealand.
2 Leading Rate: also called ‘Leading Seaman’ in some forces.
3 Able Rate: also called ‘Able Seaman’ in some forces.
## Military Ranks of the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Marines</th>
<th>Navy</th>
<th>Air Force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General of the Army (wartime)</td>
<td>Fleet Admiral (wartime)</td>
<td>General of the Air Force (wartime)</td>
<td>General of the Air Force (wartime)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Admiral</td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant General</td>
<td>Lieutenant General</td>
<td>Vice Admiral</td>
<td>Lieutenant General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major General</td>
<td>Major General</td>
<td>Rear Admiral Upper Half</td>
<td>Major General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigadier General</td>
<td>Brigadier General</td>
<td>Rear Admiral Lower Half</td>
<td>Brigadier General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Colonel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>Commander</td>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Lieutenant Commander</td>
<td>Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Lieutenant</td>
<td>First Lieutenant</td>
<td>Lieutenant Junior Grade</td>
<td>First Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>Ensign</td>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
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<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>Chief Warrant Officer 2-5</td>
<td>Chief Warrant Officer 2-4</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Warrant Officer 1</td>
<td>Chief Warrant Officer 1</td>
<td>Chief Warrant Officer 1 (no</td>
<td>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Major of the Army</td>
<td>Sergeant Major of the</td>
<td>Master Chief Petty Officer of the</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command Sergeant Major &amp;</td>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant Major &amp; Master</td>
<td>Fleet Command Master Chief Petty</td>
<td>Command Chief Master Sergeant,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Sergeant &amp; Master</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Officer &amp; Master Chief Petty</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant &amp; First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant First Class</td>
<td>Gunnery Sergeant</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Petty Officer 1st Class</td>
<td>Technical Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Petty Officer 2nd Class</td>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporal &amp; Specialist</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Petty Officer 3rd Class</td>
<td>Senior Airman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private First Class</td>
<td>Lance Corporal</td>
<td>Seaman</td>
<td>Airman First Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private First Class</td>
<td>Seaman Apprentice</td>
<td>Airman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Seaman Recruit</td>
<td>Airman Basic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates the end of officer rank
## Military Ranks of Canada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army and Air Force</th>
<th>Navy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>Admiral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant General</td>
<td>Vice Admiral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major General</td>
<td>Rear Admiral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigadier General</td>
<td>Commodore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Lieutenant Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Sub Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>Acting Sub Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates the end of officer rank.
Formal Orders

The British Army and the US Army both use the same standard format for issuing orders. This can be applied to any type of operation or task and is designed to ensure that no important points are omitted. The following sequence is always used:

1. GROUND:
A detailed description of the terrain over which the operation or task will be carried out.

2. SITUATION:
   a. Enemy Forces: i.e. locations, strengths, organization, current activity and future intentions
   b. Friendly Forces: i.e. overall plan of the higher formation and locations and tasks of neighbouring groupings
   c. Attachments and Detachments: i.e. any sub-units which are attached to the grouping for this operation, and any of the grouping’s own sub-units which have been detached for other tasks.

3. MISSION:
A simple and concise statement, which explains exactly what the grouping is trying to achieve, for example: ‘our mission is to capture the bridge at grid 324599’.

4. EXECUTION:
   a. Concept of Operations: i.e. a general outline of how the operation is intended to proceed
   b. Detailed Tasks: i.e. specific tasks allocated to each sub-unit of the grouping
   c. Coordinating Instructions: e.g. timings, orders for opening fire, indirect-fire support, actions to be carried out in the event of something going wrong etc.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:
General administrative details such as: ammunition, equipment, food and water, medical facilities etc.

6. COMMAND AND SIGNAL:
   a. Command: i.e. command structure of the grouping and nomination of alternative commanders in the event of casualties
   b. Signal: e.g. radio frequencies, codes and codewords, report lines, passwords etc.
Example of Formal Orders

6 Platoon, which is part of B Company, is about to take part in a battalion attack. The platoon commander has prepared the following orders:

1. GROUND:
The feature we are attacking is Ladna Hill, which runs from north to south along the 44 easting, from the 07 northing to the 04 northing. The company objective is the northern end of the feature. The northern slope is quite steep and consists of grass, with scattered gorse bushes. 500 metres to the north of Ladna Hill is a road, which will form our line of departure. To the north of the road is an area of dead ground, which will be used as our FUP.

2. SITUATION:
   a. Enemy Forces:
      Ladna Hill is occupied by a company of the 7th Infantry Regiment. They are well dug in and are expected to stand and fight. There is a platoon position on the southern end of the feature, facing south-west, and a second platoon on the centre of the hill facing west. The third platoon is on the northern end facing north and their position is our company objective. The platoon has two sections forward and one in reserve. The forward right section (as we look at it) is in the area of grid 433064. The reserve section is in the area of grid 437063. The forward left section (as we look at it) is in the area of grid 437067. There are four trenches in this position, two of which are on the forward edge of a patch of gorse, while the other two are on a grass slope approximately 50 metres to the rear. The forward left section is our platoon objective.

   b. Friendly Forces:
      The battalion has been ordered to capture Ladna Hill by 1200hrs tomorrow. The attack will be in two phases. In phase 1, B Company will capture the platoon position on the northern end of the hill. This must be accomplished by first light. In phase 2, A and C Companies will assault the other two enemy platoons in the centre and south, while B Company provides fire support from the northern end. B Company’s attack will be carried out in darkness. 5 Platoon will assault the forward right section, while we assault the forward left. Once both section positions have been captured, 7 platoon will move through us, in order to assault the rear section. There are no friendly units to our left. When the entire position is secure, 5 and 7 Platoons will prepare to provide fire support for phase 2 of the battalion attack, while we remain on the northern slope in order to cover the rear.

   c. Attachments and Detachments:
      41 Field Battery will be on call to B Company during phase 1 and an FOO will be attached to Company HQ. We will have L/Cpl. Smedhurst from the Mortar Platoon to act as MFC.

3. MISSION:
   6 Platoon’s mission is to capture the enemy section position at grid 437067.
Example of Formal Orders continued

4. EXECUTION:

a. General Outline:
The company will leave this location at 2000hrs and move to the FUP at grid 433074. Once there, the platoon will deploy into assault formation, with 1 Section forward left, 3 Section forward right and 2 Section in reserve. Platoon HQ will be between 1 and 3 Sections. 5 Platoon will be on our right and 7 Platoon to the rear.

At 2130hrs, the company will move forward to the road which forms our line of departure. H-Hour is at 2200hrs. We will then advance directly towards our objective. Once we come under effective enemy fire, the platoon will skirmish by sections up to the forward edge of the enemy position.

Then the sections will break down into fireteams in order to assault the individual trenches. As soon as the rear trenches have been taken, the platoon will go firm. Once both our objective and 5 Platoon’s objective are secure, 7 Platoon will move forward to assault the depth enemy section. When the entire company objective is secure, the platoon will reorganize and occupy the enemy trenches in order to cover the northern approaches to the hill. Meanwhile, 5 and 7 Platoons will move forward to take up their fire positions for phase 2.

b. Detailed Tasks:
1 Section will be forward left in the assault. Your objectives are the two left-hand trenches. On reorganization, you will occupy all the trenches on our objective.

3 Section will be forward right in the assault. Your objectives are the two right-hand trenches. You are also to keep the platoon commander informed of 5 Platoon’s progress. On reorganization, you will occupy the trenches on 5 Platoon’s objective.

2 Section will be in reserve. You will move to the rear of 1 Section and will also cover our left flank. Remember, there are no friendly units to our left. You must be prepared to support either of the two forward sections as required. On reorganization, you will occupy the trenches on 7 Platoon’s objective. L/Cpl. Smedhurst will move with platoon headquarters.

c. Coordinating Instructions:
(1) Timings:  
1700 - meal  
1800 - last light  
1930 - ready to move  
2000 - move to FUP  
2130 - move to line of departure  
2200 - H-Hour  
0615 - first light (company objective must be taken by then)

(2) Indirect Fire Support: sections may request mortar fire on the platoon net. We have also been allocated twenty illuminating rounds.
Example of Formal Orders continued

5. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:
   a. Ammunition: in addition to his magazines, each man will carry 2 bandoliers, 4 anti-personnel grenades and 2 WP grenades.
   b. Equipment: bergens are to be left at this location.
   c. Rations: a hot meal will be provided at 1700hrs. Each man will carry two ration packs. Water will be resupplied at 1700hrs.
   d. Medical: the RAP will be at grid 401079

6. COMMAND AND SIGNAL:
   b. Frequencies: as shown in the company signals instructions.
   c. Call signs: L/Cpl. Smedhurst’s call sign is 42D
   d. Codewords: Peter Ross – 5 Platoon’s objective secure
                   Jock Scott – 6 Platoon’s objective secure
                   Willy Gunn – 7 platoon’s objective secure
   e. Password: Brick – Church
Military Grouping Symbols

Grouping Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grouping Size</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Example</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section/Squad</td>
<td>•</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platoon</td>
<td>⚪⚪⚪</td>
<td>Infantry platoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company</td>
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<td>Infantry company</td>
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<td>Battalion</td>
<td>— —</td>
<td>Infantry battalion</td>
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<td>Regiment</td>
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<td>xxxx</td>
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Arms

- Armour (i.e. tanks)
- Armoured reconnaissance
- Armoured or mechanized infantry
- Infantry
- Artillery
- Air defence
- Engineer
- Signals
- Vehicle repair and recovery
- Medical
- Ordnance
- Transport

Examples

- Infantry section
- Infantry platoon
- Infantry company
- Infantry battalion

Notes:

1. In the British Army:
   a. A platoon-sized grouping of tanks and certain supporting arms is known as a troop
   b. A company-sized grouping of tanks and certain supporting arms is known as a squadron
   c. A battalion-sized grouping of tanks and certain supporting arms is known as a regiment

2. In the US Army:
   a. A company-sized armoured cavalry grouping is known as a troop
   b. A battalion-sized armoured cavalry grouping is known as a squadron

3. In most armies, a company-sized grouping of artillery is known as a battery