### ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE



AIR LAND SEA APPLICATION CENTER

# **BREVITY**

## MULTI-SERVICE BREVITY CODES

FM 3-54.10(FM 3-97.18)
MCRP 3-25B
NTTP 6-02.1
AFTTP(I) 3-2.5

### **JUNE 2003**

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MULTI-SERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES

#### **FOREWORD**

This publication has been prepared under our direction for use by our respective commands and other commands as appropriate.

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#### **PREFACE**

#### 1. Purpose

This publication will ease coordination and improve understanding during multi-Service operations. A Brevity code is a code which provides no security but which has as its sole purpose the shortening of messages rather than the concealment of their content (Joint Publication 1-02).

#### 2. Scope

This publication standardizes air-to-air, air-to-surface, surface-to-air, and surface-to-surface brevity codes. The scope is limited to those [voice] brevity codes used in multi-Service operations and does not include words unique to single-service operations. While not authoritative in nature, all services agree to these brevity code meanings. The brevity codes have been forwarded for inclusion or modification of current North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) joint brevity words.

#### 3. Applicability

This publication is intended for air and ground operations personnel at the tactical level.

#### 4. Implementation Plan

Participating service command offices of primary responsibility (OPRs) will review this publication, validate the information, and reference and incorporate it in service and command manuals, regulations, and curricula as follows:

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#### 5. User Information

- a. TRADOC, MCCDC, NWDC, Headquarters AFDC, and the Air Land Sea Application (ALSA) Center developed this publication with the joint participation of the approving Service commands. ALSA will review and update this publication as necessary.
- b. This publication reflects current joint and Service doctrine, command and control organizations, facilities, personnel, responsibilities, and procedures. Changes in Service protocol, appropriately reflected in joint and Service publications, will likewise be incorporated in revisions to this document.

c. We encourage recommended changes for improving this publication. Key your comments to the specific page and paragraph and provide a rationale for each recommendation. Send comments and recommendations directly to—

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#### **BREVITY**

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$ This publication supercedes FM 3-97.18, MCRP 3-25B, NTTP 6-02.1 and AFTTP(I) 3-2.5, 1 Feb 2002.

### Chapter I SUMMARY OF CHANGES

#### 1. NEW TERMS

ANYFACE ASLEEP ATTACK COMPLETE AWAKE BAY BEARING BEANSTALK BLOTTER BUDDY LASE/GUIDE BULLRING **BUMP BUTTON** CAV-OKAY **CHANNEL** CHARLIE CHECKPRINT CINDER CLAM CLEARED TO ENGAGE

CRUISE
DANCE
DANGER CLOSE
DELTA
DIAMONDS
DIRTY
DOWN
DUFFER
FAKER
FAN TACK
FEELER
FERRET

FLARE

**CLOWN** 

FLAVOR
FREEZE BURN
FUEL STATE
GADABOUT
GINGERBREAD
GLOWWORM
GOODWILL
GOPHER
GRIDIRON
HEADBUTT

HOOK (descriptor)
HOUNDOG
HUFFDUFF
INTRUDER
KOBOLD
LAME DUCK
LEVEL
LINER
LONG RIFLE

LOOKING

MARKPOINT
MIKEDUFF
MOVE BURN
NEGATIVE LASER
(system) OKAY
OILFIELD
ORBIT
PACMAN
PANCAKE
PEDRO
PINNACLE

POINT POLAR BEAR POPCORN
PULSE
QUAIL
RACKET
RED LIGHT
REFERENCE

RENO RENT REPEAT RUMBA SAME SCAN SEARCHER

SET
SINGLE
SLIPPING
SNEAKER
SNOOPER
SPOOFER
STARE

STOP (abort code)
TACTICAL
TIME CHECK
TRACK NUMBER
TRACKING
TRAVEL

TROUT VECTOR WEAPONS WOOF

#### 2. DELETED TERMS

AJAX
BIRDDOG
SHORT SKATE
SORT TIDS/TADS
TARGET TIDS/TADS
VERY HIGH
(system) WELL
WINGS LEVEL

#### 3. CHANGED DEFINITIONS TO TERMS

ARM GENIE SHIFT ATTACKING **HEAVY** SHOTGUN AZIMUTH HIGH SIDE-SIDE HOSTILE (system) BENT SILENT BOX HOT SLOW **BULLSEYE** LADDER **SNAP** 

CEASE (activity) MARK SNAPLOCK (BRAA)

CEASE ENGAGEMENT MEDIUM SOUR STACK CHAMPAGNE MILLER TIME COLOR MONITOR(ING) **STINGER** CONTINUE DRY MUD STOP DATA **NAILS SWEET** DEADEYE **NEAR-FAR TARGET DEEP** PIGS AWAY TIMBER **DEFENSIVE PLAYTIME** VERY FAST

DUCKPOP UPVICECHELONPRESSWALLENGAGEDRANGEWEAPONSFASTRETROGRADEWEIGHTED2nd FOX THREESCRAMWHAT STATE

FOX 3 (X)-SHIP SCRUB WIDE

### Chapter II MULTI-SERVICE BREVITY CODES

#### Table II-1 KEY

*	Meaning may differ with NATO brevity word		
**	Not a NATO brevity word		
[NATO]	NATO brevity word not used by US forces but may be encountered in combined operations.		
<u>TERM</u>	New brevity code		
text of definition	Change to brevity code definition		
(A/A)	Brevity code definition applies to air-to-air (A/A) operations		
(A/S)	Brevity code definition applies to air-to- surface (A/S) operations		
(S/A)	Brevity code definition applies to surface-to- air (S/A) operations		
(S/S)	Brevity code definition applies to surface-to- surface (S/S) operations		
(EW)	Brevity code definition applies to electronic warfare (EW) operations		
(AIR-MAR)	Brevity code definition applies to maritime air (AIR-MAR) operations		

Note: All brevity codes pertain to general air operations unless indicated otherwise. NATO definitions derived from APP/MPP-7B, Change 0.

ABORT Directive call to cease action/attack/event/mission.

Directive call to initiate a briefed attack sequence or

maneuver.

(system)ACTIVE (location/ direction)

(EW) Referenced emitter is radiating at the stated location

or along the stated bearing.

ADD (system/ category)\*\*

**ACTION** 

(EW) Directive call to add a specific (system) or (EOB

category) to search responsibilities.

**ALARM** Directive/informative call indicating the termination of

EMCON procedures. Opposite of SNOOZE.

**ALFA CHECK** Request for/confirmation of bearing and range from

requesting aircraft to described point.

ALLIGATOR Link-11/ TADIL A.

ANCHOR(ED) (location)

1. Informative call to indicate a turning engagement at the

specified location.

2. Directive call to orbit about a specific point.

3. Refueling track flown by tanker.

**ANGELS** Height of friendly aircraft in thousands of feet from mean

sea level (MSL). (NOTE: NATO definition does not specify

MSL or AGL)

**ANYFACE\*** Friendly GCI/AEW command and control agency when

callsign is not known.

**ARIZONA** No anti-radiation missile (ARM) ordnance remaining.

**ARM\*\*** CONTACT(s) resulting from target maneuvers exceeding

GROUP criteria.

**ASLEEP \*\*** Enemy air defense system is not operating and is not

expected to engage friendly aircraft. Opposite of AWAKE.

**AS FRAGGED** Unit or element will be performing exactly as stated by the

air tasking order (ATO).

**ATTACK(ING)** (A/S) Directive/(informative) call indicating aircraft are

committed to air-to-surface delivery on a specific ground target. Direction/bearing from which the weapon will be

coming may be given.

**ATTACK COMPLETE**\*\* (A/S) Mandatory call from the attack aircraft to the Joint

Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) during Type III control indicating completion of ordnance release. (See also

**CLEARED TO ENGAGE)** 

**AUTHENTICATE** To request or provide a response to a coded challenge.

**AUTOCAT** Any communications relay using automatic

retransmissions.

(weapon) AWAY Release/launch of specified weapon (e.g. BIRDS AWAY,

PIGS AWAY, LONG RIFLE AWAY, etc.) NOTE: Include launch location in bullseye format and weapons track

direction for PIGS and LONG RIFLE.

**AWAKE**\*\* Enemy Air Defense system is operating and may engage

friendly aircraft. Opposite of ASLEEP.

**AZIMUTH\*** 1. (A/A) A picture label describing two GROUPs separated

laterally. \*GROUP names will be referenced by cardinal directions. (e.g. NORTH GROUP, SOUTH GROUP, or EAST GROUP, WEST GROUP) (NOTE: NATO definition

includes two or more GROUPS).

2\*. (S/A) Direction to the threat.

**BANDIT** An aircraft identified as an enemy in accordance with (IAW)

theater ID criteria. The term does not necessarily imply

direction or authority to engage.

**BANZAI** Informative/directive call to execute launch and decide

tactics.

**BASE** Reference number used to indicate such information as

(+/- number) headings, altitude, fuels, etc.

**BAY** [NATO] (EW) Carry out deception plan indicated or in

accordance with previous orders.

**BEAD WINDOW** Last transmission potentially disclosed unauthorized

information.

BEAM (w/cardinal

direction)\*

CONTACT stabilized within 70 to 110 degrees of aspect.

(NOTE: NATO = 60-120 degrees aspect)

**BEANSTALK** [NATO] Information call advising datalink users to check

equipment for spurious tracks.

BEARING (w/sub-

cardinal direction)\*\*

Inner GROUP formation with the trailer displaced approximately 45 degrees behind the leader.

**(system) BENT** System indicated is inoperative. Cancelled by OKAY.

**BINGO** Fuel state needed for recovery.

**BIRD** Friendly surface-to-air missile (SAM).

BIRD(S) AFFIRM (S/A) Surface-to-Air informative call indicating a FRIENDLY

unit is able and prepared to engage a specified target with

SAMs. Opposite of BIRD(S) NEGAT.

**BIRD(S) NEGAT** (S/A) Surface-to-Air informative call indicating a FRIENDLY

unit is unable to engage a specified target with SAMs.

Opposite of BIRD(S) AFFIRM.

BITTERSWEET\*\* Notification of possible blue-on-blue (fratricide) or blue-on-

neutral situation relative to a designated track or

FRIENDLY aircraft.

**BLIND** No visual contact with FRIENDLY aircraft/ground position.

Opposite of VISUAL.

**BLOTTER** [NATO] (EW) ECM receiver.

**BLOW THROUGH** Directive/informative call that aircraft will continue straight

ahead at the merge and not become ANCHORED with

target(s).

**BOGEY** A radar or visual air CONTACT whose identity is unknown.

**BOGEY DOPE** Request for target information as requested or for closest

GROUP in BRAA (with appropriate fill ins)

**BOX** Picture label with GROUPs in a square or offset square

(See CHAMPAGNE and VIC for GROUP names).

**BRAA** 1. Following information is in a tactical control format

providing target bearing, range, altitude, and aspect,

relative to the specified friendly aircraft.

2.\* Request/directive call to switch to tactical BRAA control

format.

**BRACKET** (direction) Directive call to maneuver to a position on opposite sides,

either laterally or vertically from the target.

**BREAK** (direction) Directive call to perform an immediate maximum

performance 180-degree turn (or as directed) in the

indicated direction.

**BREAK AWAY** Tanker or receiver call indicating immediate vertical and

nose/tail separation between tanker and receiver is

required.

**BREVITY\*\*** Directive call indicating the radio frequency is becoming

saturated, degraded or jammed and briefer transmissions

must follow. (NOTE: See NATO term ZIPLIP)

**BROADCAST** Request/directive call to switch to broadcast control format.

**BROKE LOCK** Advisory call regarding loss of radar/IR lock-on.

**BRUISER** Friendly air launched anti-ship missile.

**BUDDY** (A/S) Request or informative communications to have (LASE/GUIDE)\*\*

guidance of a weapon from a source other than delivering

aircraft.

**BUDDY LOCK** Radar locked to a known friendly aircraft. Normally a

response to a SPIKED or BUDDY SPIKE calls.

**BUDDY SPIKE** 

(position /heading/alt)

Friendly aircraft radar lock-on indication on radar warning

receiver (RWR).

**BUGOUT** (direction) Separation from that particular engagement / attack /

operation with no intent to reengage/return.

**BULLDOG** (S/S) Friendly surface/submarine launched anti-ship

missile.

**BULLRING** (AIR-MAR) Maritime aircraft patrol zone.

**BULLSEYE** An established reference point from which the position of

an object can be referenced by bearing (Magnetic) and

range (NM) from this point.

**BUMP/BUMP-UP** (A/S) A climb to acquire line of sight (LOS) to the target or

laser designation.

**BURN\*\*** (A/S) Informative call that Gated Laser Illuminator (GLINT)

is being used to provide illumination. Typically employed

by AC-130 to illuminate surface points of interest.

**BUSTER** Directive call to fly at maximum continuous speed (military

power).

**BUTTON** Radio channel setting.

**BUZZER\*\*** Electronic communications jamming. (NOTE: same as

NATO term, CHATTER)

**CANDYGRAM\*\*** (EW) Informative call to aircraft that electronic warfare

targeting information is available on a briefed secure net.

CAP/CAPPING

(location)

1. Directive call to establish a combat air patrol (CAP) at a

specified location.

2. Descriptive term for aircraft in a CAP.

**CAPTURED** (A/S) Aircrew has acquired and is able to track a specified

surface target with an on-board sensor.

**CAV-OK** Cloud and Visibility Okay (pronounced kav-okay). ICAO

term meaning no significant clouds below 5,000 feet, visibility at least six miles, no precipitation or storms.

**CEASE (activity)** Directive to discontinue stated activity; e.g. CEASE

BUZZER, CEASE LASER, etc.

**CEASE ENGAGEMENT** (S/A) A fire control order used to direct air defense units to

stop tactical action against a specified target. Guided missiles already in flight will continue to intercept.

**CEASE FIRE** (S/A) Discontinue firing/do not open fire. Missiles in flight

are allowed to continue to intercept; continue to track.

**CHAMPAGNE** A picture label of three distinct GROUPs with two in front

and one behind. \*GROUP names should be NORTH LEAD

GROUP and SOUTH LEAD GROUP or WEST LEAD

GROUP and EAST LEAD GROUP and TRAIL GROUP.(MAJOR CHANGE-USN/USMC)

**CHANNEL\*\*** Stacked net within a Link 16 Network.

**CHARLIE** 1.\* (AIR-MAR) The expected landing time on the ship.

2. (AIR-MAR) Directive to land aircraft on ship.

3.\* (time in minutes) (AIR-MAR) An advisory call modifying/delaying the briefed recovery time (e.g.,

CHARLIE TEN).

**CHATTERMARK** Directive call to begin using briefed radio procedures to

counter communications jamming.

CHEAPSHOT\*\* AIM-120 missile data link terminated between high and

medium PRF active.

CHECK (number, LEFT/RIGHT)

Turn (number) degrees left or right and maintain new heading.

CHECK FIRING\*\*

(S/S) Directive call to cease firing immediately.

**CHECKPRINT** (track

#)\*\*

1. Request by an Air Defense Commander for unit(s) to provide amplifying information on a specified track.

2. Reply/informative to Air Defense Commander followed by positive track information using format specified in

applicable OPTASK document.

CHERUBS\*\* Height of a friendly aircraft in hundreds of feet AGL.

(NOTE: NATO definition, when adopted, will not specify

AGL or MSL)

**CHICKS** Friendly aircraft.

<u>CLAM</u> [NATO] (EW) Cease all or indicated electromagnetic

and/or acoustic emissions in accordance with national instructions and exercise orders. Potential intelligence collector(s) in area (estimated duration of CLAM hours).

**CLEAN** 1. No sensor information on non-friendly group of interest.

2. No visible battle damage.

3. Aircraft not carrying external stores.

**CLEARED** Response to requested action is authorized. No

engaged/support roles are assumed

**CLEARED HOT** Ordnance release is authorized.

<u>CLEARED TO</u>
(A/S) JTAC Type III control clearance. Attack aircraft flight leaders may initiate attacks within the parameters imposed

by the JTAC. Attack platform will provide ATTACK COMPLETE call to JTAC, indicating completion of

ordnance release.

**CLOAK** Directive/informative call to switch from normal/overt

external lighting to covert night vision device (NVD) only

compatible lighting.

**CLOSING\*\*** Decreasing in separation.

**CLOWN** [NATO] (EW) Deception jammer.

COLD

1. A descriptive/directive call to initiate a turn in the CAP

away from the anticipated threats.

2. Defined area is not expected to receive fire (enemy or

friendly).

3. Intercept geometry will result in a pass or roll out behind

the target.

COLOR (system/ position)\*\*

(EW) Request for information on a type (system) at stated location; implies a request for ambiguity resolution. May be

used with datalink data message- COLOR, DATA.

COMEBACK (direction)

Directive call to reverse course.

**COMEOFF (direction)** 1. (A/A) Directive call to maneuver as indicated to either

regain mutual support or to deconflict flight paths. Implies

both VISUAL and TALLY.

2.\* (A/S) Directive call to maneuver or execute a specific

instruction (e.g., COMEOFF DRY).

**COMMIT** Directive call to intercept a GROUP of interest.

**COMPOSITION\*\*** Request for number of contacts within a GROUP.

**CONFETTI** Chaff lane or corridor.

**CONS/CONNING** Descriptive term for nonfriendly aircraft leaving contrails.

**CONTACT** 1. Sensor contact at the stated position.

2. Acknowledges sighting of a specified reference point.

3.\* Individual radar return within a GROUP or ARM.

**CONTAINER\*\*** Inner GROUP formation with four CONTACTs oriented in a

square or offset square.

**CONTINUE** Continue present maneuver, does not imply a change in

clearance to engage or expend ordnance.

**CONTINUE DRY** Continue present maneuver, ordnance release not

authorized. Training use only.

**COVER\*** Directive/Informative call to assign S/A weapons or

establish an A/A posture that will allow engagement of a

specified track or threat if required.

**CRANK** (direction) F-Pole maneuver in the direction indicated; \*implies

illuminating target at/near radar GIMBAL limits.

**CROSSING\*\*** Descriptive term for when two GROUPs initially separated

in azimuth decrease azimuth separation to pass each

other.

**CRUISE** [NATO] Informative or directive call to return to cruise

speed (after BUSTER or GATE).

**CUTOFF** Requests for, or directive to, intercept using cutoff

geometry.

CYCLOPS Any UAV.

<u>DANCE</u> (column codeword/ designator)

[NATO] (EW) Shift all lines to COMPLAN (\_\_).

**DANGER CLOSE**\*\* (A/S, S/S) Informative call that friendly troops are within

close proximity of the target (determined by the weapon/munition delivered/fired). NOTE: Specific

DANGER CLOSE distances, assumptions, and procedures

are contained in J-Fire guide.

**DASH (#)** Aircraft position within a flight. Use if specific callsign is

unknown.

**DATA (object,** Standby for data link message concerning object at stated

position)\*\* location.

**DEADEYE** Informative call by a laser designator indicating the laser

system is inoperative.

**DECLARE** Inquiry as to the identification of a specified track(s),

target(s), or correlated GROUP.

**DEEP\*\*** Descriptive term used to indicate separation between the

nearest and farthest GROUPs in range in a relative formation of three or more groups, used to describe a

LADDER, VIC, CHAMPAGNE, BOX.

**DEFENSIVE\*** Aircraft is under attack, maneuvering defensively, and

unable to ensure deconfliction or mutual support.

**DEFENDING** Aircraft is in a defensive position and maneuvering with

(direction) reference to a surface-to-air threat.

**DELOUSE\*\*** Directive call to detect, identify, and engage (if required)

unknown aircraft trailing friendly aircraft.

**<u>DELTA(</u>**)(\_) (AIR-MAR) Hold and conserve fuel at altitude and position

indicated during shipboard operations.

**DEPLOY** Directive call for the element to maneuver to briefed

positioning.

**DETAILS\*\*** Request for modified J-FIRE 9-Line Brief from Joint

Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (Joint STARS).

**DIAMONDS** An IR event location

(w/position)\*\* .

**DIRTY** Link is not encrypted.

**DIVERT** Proceed to alternate base/\*mission.

**DOLLY** Link-4A/TADIL C.

(system) DOWN (EW) Referenced emitter has stopped radiating at the stated location or along the stated bearing. (NOTE: (location/ direction) \*\* DOWN does not mean system destroyed) Contact aspect stabilized at 0-60 degrees angle from tail or DRAG (cardinal direction) 120-180 degrees angle from nose. DROP(PING) 1. Directive/informative call to stop monitoring a specified emitter/target and resume search responsibilities. 2. Informative call that fighter has discontinued tracking responsibility. 3. **(TRACK\_\_\_)** Remove the emitter/target from tactical picture/track stores. 4.\* (EW) Directive call to remove a specific system or EOB category from search responsibilities. **DUCK** [NATO] Informative/directive call to descend and increase speed. (EW) DF equipped unit. **DUFFER ECHELON** (sub-Fill-in to a picture label describing GROUPs aligned behind cardinal direction)\* and to the side of the closest GROUP. **ECHO** Positive System M/Mode X (or comparable system) reply. **EMPTY\*\*** (EW) No emitters of interest detected. (NOTE: equivalent to NATO term, BLANK) A fire control order used to direct or authorize units and/or **ENGAGE** weapon systems to fire on a designated target. **ENGAGED\*** Informative inter-flight call from a fighter maneuvering in the visual arena (NOTE: NATO definition is, "Descriptive call indicating maneuvering with intent to kill") **ESTIMATE** Estimate of the size, range, height, or other parameter of a specified contact; implies degradation. EXTEND(ING) Short-term maneuver to gain energy, distance, or (direction) separation, normally with the intent of reengaging. **EYEBALL** 1. Fighter with primary visual identification responsibility. 2. EO/IR acquisition of an aircraft. Normally followed by number of aircraft observed. **FADED** Radar contact is lost on nonfriendly air/surface contact and any positional information given is estimated. [NATO] A FRIENDLY track acting as a HOSTILE for **FAKER** exercise purposes. FAN \_\_ TACK [NATO] (EW) Left and right hand edges of jammed sector are and FAST\* Target speed is estimated to be 600 – 900 knots /Mach 1 –

1.5 (Note: NATO = 400 knots to 600 knots/Mach 1)

**FATHER** (AIR-MAR) Shipboard TACAN station.

**FEELER** [NATO] (EW) Shipborne fire control radar.

**FEET WET/DRY** Flying over water/land.

**FENCE (IN/OUT)** Set cockpit switches as appropriate before entering/exiting

the combat area.

**FERRET** [NATO] (EW) Airborne electronic reconnaissance activity

or aircraft.

**FLANK (direction)** CONTACT aspect stabilized at 120 to 150 degrees angle

from tail or 30 to 60 degrees angle from nose.

**FLARE(S)** Directive to deploy flares.

**FLASH (system)** Temporarily activate specified system for identification

purposes (IFF/afterburner/flare/chaff/etc.).

**FLASHLIGHT\*\*** Directive term for helicopter to turn on IR floodlight (pointed

at ground to aid visual acquisition by escort aircraft).

**FLAVOR** Visually identified nationality of a contact.

**FLOAT** Directive/informative call to expand the formation laterally

within visual limits to maintain radar contact or prepare for

a defensive response.

**FLOW (direction)\*\*** Directive call to fly stated heading.

FOX (number) Simulated/actual launch of A/A weapons. ONE -

Semiactive radar-guided missile. **TWO -** IR-guided missile.

**THREE** - Active radar-guided missile.

**2nd FOX THREE\*\*** Simulated or actual launch of multiple active radar-guided

missiles on the same target.

**FOX THREE (X) SHIP\*\*** Valid missile shot against (x) separate targets (assumes 1

missile per target).

**FOX MIKE** VHF/FM radio.

**FREEZE BURN**\*\* Directive call to AC-130 to freeze the GLINT position in the

present location.

**FRIENDLY** A positively identified friendly aircraft, \*ship, or \*ground

position.

**FUEL STATE (time)\*\*** (AIR-MAR) A helicopter's fuel quantity, expressed in hours

and minutes before having to make a controlled emergency

landing.

**FURBALL\*** Descriptive/informative call indicating known non-friendly

aircraft and friendly aircraft are in close proximity to each other. Can be response to a DECLARE request. (NOTE: NATO equivalent term is MIX-UP. NATO definition of FURBALL is,: "A turning fight involving multiple aircraft")

**GADABOUT (#)** [NATO] Informative call indicating the upper limit of height

sanctuary for fighters in the MEZ. ("GADABOUT 25" means

the upper limit of the height sanctuary is 25,000 feet; "Gadabout 16 to 24" means the height sanctuary is

between 16,000 to 24,000 feet).

**GADGET** Radar or emitter equipment.

**GATE** Directive/informative call to fly as quickly as possible, using

after-burner/max power.

**GENIE\*\*** (EW) Emitter is employing electronic protection measures.

GIMBAL Radar target is approaching azimuth or elevation tracking

limits.

**GINGERBREAD** Voice imitative deception is suspected on this net.

**GLOWWORM** [NATO] Flare dropping aircraft. **GO ACTIVE** Go to briefed frequency agile net.

GO CLEAR

Use unencrypted voice communications.

Activate encrypted voice communications.

GOGGLE/
DEGOGGLE\*\*

Directive call to put on/take off NVDs.

GOGGLES ON/OFF\*\* Informative call that NVDs are on/off.

**GOODWILL** Informative call indicating the boundary of an active friendly

MEZ.

**GOPHER**\*\* A BOGEY that has not conformed to safe passage routing,

airspeed, or altitude procedures. Will only be used when safe passage or minimum risk routing procedures are part

of an ID matrix.

**GORILLA** Large force of indeterminate numbers and formation.

**GRANDSLAM** All HOSTILE aircraft of a designated track (or against

which a mission was tasked) are shot down.

**GREEN (direction)** Direction determined to be clearest of enemy air-to-air

activity.

**GREYHOUND\*\*** Friendly ground attack cruise missile (e.g., TLAM).

**GRIDIRON** [NATO] (EW) Jamming signal appears on my PPI scope or

jamming signal prevents determination of range and

bearing % of time.

**GROUP\*** Any number of air contacts within 3 NM in azimuth and

range of each other. (NOTE: NATO definition includes an

altitude discrimination of within 20,000 feet)

**GUNS** Reference to A/A or A/S gun engagement.

HANDSHAKE\*\* Link 16 Air Control NPG initiation between air control unit

and controlled aircraft.

**HARD** (direction) High-G, energy sustaining 180-degree turn (or as directed)

in the indicated direction.

Directive term to fighters /interceptors to immediately divert **HEADBUTT**\*\*

a track of interest clear of a restricted or prohibited area.

**HEADS UP** Alert of an activity of interest.

**HEAVY\*** A GROUP known to contain three or more individual

entities. (NOTE: NATO definition: The largest GROUP of

factor BOGEYS/ BANDITS)

CONTACT is greater than 40,000 ft MSL. (NOTE: NATO is **HIGH\*** 

25,000 to 50,000 ft MSL)

1. Momentary radar return(s). HIT(S)

> 2. (altitude) (A/A) Indicates approximate target altitude (e.g., GROUP BULLSEYE 360/10, HITS 15 THOUSAND).

3. (A/S) Weapons impact within lethal distance.

**HOLD DOWN** Directive to key transmitter for DF steer.

**HOLD FIRE** (S/A) An emergency fire control order to stop firing on a

designated target, to include destruction of any missiles in-

flight.

Aircraft in visual formation. HOLDING HANDS

**HOLLOW\*\*** Any data link message not received.

**HOME PLATE** Home airfield or ship.

HOOK 1. (direction) Directive call to perform an in-place 180-

degree turn.

2. (descriptor)\*\* Datalink directive call to cue sensors to described A/S point (point of interest, SAM, markpoint, TN,

etc.)

**HOSTILE\*** A contact identified as enemy upon which clearance to fire

is authorized in accordance with theater rules of

engagement.

NOTE: the above use of hostile is used as a brevity term for air-to-air, and air-to-surface engagements and should not be confused with the same term in TADIL and ROE.

NOTE: NATO "HOSTILE" brevity term does not necessarily constitute authorization to fire. Theater Commander should specify in ATO SPINS the exact definition of HOSTILE brevity term for combined operations.

HOT

1. A descriptive/directive call to initiate a turn in the CAP

toward the anticipated threats.

2. \*Defined area is expected to receive fire (enemy or

friendly).

3. (A/S) Ordnance employment intended or completed.

4. CONTACT aspect stabilized at 160-180 degrees angle

from tail or 0 - 20 degrees angle from nose.

5. Intercept geometry will result in passing in front of the

target.

**HOTDOG** (color)\*\*

Informative/directive call that a friendly aircraft is approaching or is at a specified standoff distance from the sovereign airspace of a nation (as defined by national boundaries or territorial sea and airspace). (Color may indicate additional standoff distance.) Follow briefed

procedures.

HF radio.

HOTEL FOX

**HOUNDOG** [NATO] (A/A) Call made by free fighter indicating that he is

in a position to employ weapons.

<u>HUFFDUFF</u> [NATO] (EW) HFDF equipment or unit fitted with HFDF

equipment.

**HUSKY** Informative call that the AIM-120 is at HPRF active range.

**ID** 1. Directive call to identify the target.

2. Informative call that identification is accomplished,

followed by type.

**IDLE\*\*** Joint STARS call indicating surface vehicles are stationary.

**IN (direction)** 1. Informative call indicating a turn toward a known threat.

Opposite of OUT.

2.\* (A/S) Entering terminal phase of an air-to-ground

attack. Opposite of OFF.

IN PLACE (direction)\*\*

Perform indicated maneuver simultaneously.

INDIA

Mode IV.

INTERROGATE

Interrogate the designated contact of the IFF mode

indicated.

INTRUDER An individual, unit or weapon system in or near an

operational or exercise area, which represents the threat of

intelligence gathering or disruptive activity.

JACKAL Surveillance network participating group (NPG) of Link

16/TADIL J.

**JINK** Directive call to perform an unpredictable maneuver to

negate a tracking solution.

JOKER Fuel state above BINGO at which separation/bugout/event

termination should begin.

**JUDY** (A/A) Aircrew has radar or visual contact on the correct

target, has taken control of the intercept and only requires situation awareness information; Controller will minimize

radio transmissions.

**KILL** 1.\* Directive call to fire on designated target. (NOTE:

NATO term is ENGAGE)

2. (A/A) In training, an informative call by a fighter to

indicate kill criteria has been fulfilled.

**KNOCK IT OFF** In training, a directive call to cease all air combat

maneuvers/attacks/ activities/exercises.

**KOBOLD** [NATO] Informative call indicating that a specific friendly

MEZ is not active. (Opposite of OILFIELD).

**LADDER** Picture label with three or more groups on the same

azimuth but separated by range. \*Group names should be

LEAD GROUP, MIDDLE GROUP, TRAIL GROUP

**LAME DUCK** An aircraft in a minor state of emergency.

**LASER ON** Directive/informative call to start/acknowledge laser

designation.

**LASING\*\*** Informative call indicating that the speaker is firing the

laser.

**LAST\*\*** Command and control (C2) term that provides the last

contact altitude from a high fidelity source (fighter radar,

etc.).

**LEAD-TRAIL\*** Inner GROUP formation of two contacts separated in

range.

**LEAKER(S)** Airborne threat has passed through a defensive layer. Call

should include amplifying information.

**LEAN (direction)\*\*** Directive/informative call to maneuver in a direction to

avoid the threat. (NOTE: equivalent NATO term is KICK)

**LEVEL** (A/A) Inter-flight informative call that contact is co-altitude.

**LIGHTS ON/OFF** Directive to turn on/off all exterior lights.

**LIGHTBULB\*\*** Directive call for flight to turn all position lights to bright.

LINE ABREAST Inner GROUP formation of two or more contacts separated

in azimuth.

**LINER** [NATO] Fly at speed giving maximum cruising range.

LOCKED 1. (w/GROUP label) Radar lock-on; SORT is not

assumed.

2. (w/position) Radar lock-on; correct targeting is not

assumed.

**LONG RIFLE**\*\* (A/S) Friendly, long range A/S missile launch (e.g. AGM-

130, SLAM- ER). See (weapon) AWAY.

**LOOKING** Aircrew does not have the ground object, reference point,

or target in sight (opposite of CONTACT).

**LOW\*** Contact altitude below 10,000 ft MSL. (NOTE: NATO = 500

to 5,000 feet AGL)

**LOWDOWN\*\*** A request to provide tactical ground information pertinent to

the mission in a digital bullseye format.

MADDOG Visual AIM-120 / AIM-54 launch.

MAGNUM (system/

location)

(A/S) Launch of friendly antiradiation missile.

MANEUVER (AZIMUTH /RANGE/ ALTITUDE)\*\*

Informative call that specified GROUP is maneuvering in

azimuth, range, and/or altitude.

**MAPPING** (A/S) Multifunction radar in an A/G mode.

MARK\*\*

1. Used when aircraft passes over pickup zone/landing

zone (PZ/LZ) team.

2. Directive term to record the location of a ground point of

interest.

<u>3</u>. (S/S) Spotting round (normally white phosphorus [WP] or illumination on the deck to indicate targets to aircraft,

ground troops, or fire support.

MARKING\*\* Informative call indicating friendly aircraft is leaving

contrails. (NOTE: NATO term is CONNING)

**MARKPOINT\*\*** Datalink non-designated geographic point of interest.

**MARSHAL(ING)** Establish(ed) at a specific point.

**MEDIUM\*** Contact altitude between 10,000 ft MSL and 40,000 ft MSL.

(NOTE: NATO: 5,000' AGL to 25,000' MSL)

**MERGE(D)** 1. Information that friendlies and targets have arrived in the

same visual arena.

2. Informative call indicating radar returns have come

together.

MICKEY HAVE QUICK time-of-day (TOD) signal.

MIDNIGHT Informative call advising that C2 radar functions are

unavailable due to degradation. Advisory information is still

available. Opposite of SUNRISE.

<u>MIKEDUFF</u> [NATO] (EW) MFDF equipment or unit fitted with MFDF

equipment.

MILLER TIME\*\* (A/S) Informative call indicating completion of air-to-ground

ordnance delivery. Generally used by the last striker in

conjunction with a pre-coordinated egress plan.

**MONITOR(ING)** 1. Maintain(ing) sensor awareness on specified GROUP.

2.\* (AIR-MAR) Directive call to an aircraft to maintain contact/targeting information on a maritime surface contact.

**MOTHER** (AIR-MAR) Parent ship.

MOVE BURN (A/S) Directive call to AC-130 to move GLINT in specified direction. NOTE: Do not use LEFT/RIGHT for moving a

BURN.

**MOVER(S)\*\*** Unidentified surface vehicles(s) in motion.

MUD (type w/direction/

range if able)

Informative call Indicating RWR ground threat displayed

with no launch indication.

**MUSIC** Radar electronic deceptive jamming.

NAILS (direction) 1. RWR indication of AI radar in search. (NOTE: NATO

term is SPOTTED).

2.\* (A/S) 2.75-inch flechette rockets.

**NAKED** No RWR indications.

**NEAR-FAR\*\*** Fighter term depicting a radar-apparent description of two

or more contacts within a GROUP separated in range.

**NEGATIVE** Sensor information on a friendly aircraft is lost.

**CONTACT\*\*** Termination of CONTACT, track plotting is not warranted.

**NEGATIVE LASER**\*\* (A/S) Aircraft has not acquired Laser energy.

**NEW PICTURE**Used by controller or aircrew when tactical picture has

changed. Supersedes all previous calls and re-establishes

picture for all players.

NO FACTOR Not a threat.

**NO JOY** Aircrew does not have visual contact with the

target/bandit/landmark. Opposite of TALLY.

**NOTCH(ING)**Directive/informative call that an aircraft is in a defensive position and maneuvering with reference to an air-to-air

the section and manouvoining with released to an air to t

threat.

**OCCUPIED\*\*** Ground equipment present at tasked target location.

Opposite of VACANT.

**OFF (direction)** Informative call indicating attack is terminated and

maneuvering to the indicated direction.

**OFFSET (direction)** Directive/informative call indicating maneuver in a specified

direction with reference to the target.

**OILFIELD** [NATO] Activated friendly MEZ (Opposite of KOBOLD)

(system) OKAY System indicated is fully operative (cancels BENT).

ON STATION Informative call that unit/aircraft has reached assigned

station.

**OPENING** Increasing in separation.

**ORBIT(ING)** Directive(descriptive) call to hold on current or indicated

position.

**OUT (direction)** Informative call indicating a turn to a cold aspect relative to

a known threat.

**OUTLAW\*\*** Informative call that a BOGEY has met point of origin

criteria for ROE.

**PACKAGE** Geographically isolated collection of GROUPs.

**PACMAN** [NATO] Informative call that the fighters have found the end

of the threat formation and are converting; given in range

and bearing from the BULLSEYE (e.g. "BLUE 4 is

PACMAN 290/5").

PADLOCKED Informative call indicating aircrew cannot take eyes off an

aircraft, ground target, or surface position without risk of

losing TALLY/VISUAL.

**PAINT(S)** An interrogated group/radar contact that is responding with

any of the specified IFF/SIF modes and correct codes

established for the ID criteria.

**PANCAKE** [NATO] Land or I wish to land (reason may be specified,

e.g. PANCAKE AMMO, PANCAKE FUEL).

**PARROT** IFF/SIF transponder.

**PASSING\*\*** Descriptive term for when two GROUPs initially separated

in range, decrease range separation and pass each other.

**PEDRO** [NATO] Rescue helicopter.

**PICTURE** A request to provide air information pertinent to the mission

in a digital bullseye format.

**PIG(S)\*\*** (A/S) Friendly glide weapon(s) (e.g. JSOW). See (weapon)

AWAY.

**PIGEONS** Magnetic bearing and range to HOMEPLATE.

**PINCE** Threat maneuvering for a bracket attack.

**PINNACLE** [NATO] (EW) An emission believed to originate from a

platform assumed to be FRIENDLY.

PITBULL 1. Informative call that the AIM-120 is at MPRF active

range.

2. Informative call that the AIM-54 is at active range.

PITCH/ PITCHBACK

LEFT/RIGHT

Directive call for fighter or flight to execute a nose-high

heading reversal.

**PLAYMATE** Cooperating aircraft.

**PLAYTIME** Amount of time aircraft can remain on station, given in

hours plus minutes (e.g. ONE PLUS THIRTY equals one

hour and thirty minutes).

(freq) POGO (freq) Switch to communication channel number preceding

POGO. If unable to establish communications, switch to channel number following POGO. If no channel number

follows POGO, return to this channel.

**POINT**\*\* Datalink sensor point/track of interest.

**POLAR BEAR** [NATO] Friendly aircraft has VISUAL/contact on the

(direction) FRIENDLY PACKAGE and is joining.

**POP** 1. (A/S) Starting climb for A/S attack.

 $2. \ Max\ performance\ climb\ out\ of\ low-altitude\ structure.$ 

**POPCORN\*\*** CSAR aircraft departing the landing zone (LZ). Usually

followed by number of recovered personnel, (e.g. "STING

1, POPCORN PLUS 2")

**POPEYE** Flying in clouds or area of reduced visibility.

**POP-UP** 1. (A/A) Informative call of a GROUP that has suddenly

appeared inside of briefed range.

2. (S/A)\* Criteria used as a self-defense method, within the

ROE, to protect friendly air defense elements from

HOSTILE aircraft.

**POSIT** Request for friendly position; response in terms of a

geographic landmark or from a common reference point.

**POST HOLE** Rapid descending spiral.

**PRESS** Directive call that a requested action is approved and

mutual support will be maintained.

**PRINT (type)** Active NCTR reply.

PULSE\*\* Informative/Directive call used to illuminate an enemy

position with flashing IR energy.

**PUMP** A briefed maneuver to minimize closure on the threat or

geographical boundary with the intent to re-engage. Used

to initiate a Grinder tactic.

**PURE** Informative call indicating pure pursuit is being used or

directive to go pure pursuit.

**PUSH (channel)** Directive to switch to designated frequency; no

acknowledgment required.

**PUSHING** Departing designated point.

**QUAIL**\*\* Enemy air-/surface-launched cruise missile.

**RACKET** (EW) Intercepted electronic emission that has been

assigned to a number of the trackblock.

**RANGE\*\*** A picture label describing two GROUPs separated in

distance along the same line of bearing. Groups names will

be LEAD GROUP / TRAIL GROUP.

RAYGUN (position/ heading/ altitude) Indicating a radar lock-on to unknown aircraft. A request for a BUDDY SPIKE reply from friendly aircraft meeting

these parameters.

**RED LIGHT**\*\*

Time when search and rescue (SAR) aircraft is no longer

SAR capable.

REFERENCE (direction)

Directive to assume stated heading.

**RENO** [NATO] (A/A) Indicates that more than one radar contact is

observed and the pilot is able to distinguish his assigned

target.

**RENT** (EW) Report of characteristics of an intercepted signal.

**REPEAT**\*\* 1. (S/S) Directive call (during adjustment) to fire again

using the same firing data.

2. (S/S) Directive call (during fire for effect) to fire the same number of rounds using the same method of fire for effect.

REPORTED (information)\*\*

Information provided is derived from an off-board source.

**RESET** Proceed to a pre-briefed position or area of operations.

**RESTAKE\*\*** Request for Joint STARS to drive a new STAKE at the

target centroid reported with direction of travel and

elevation. Initiated by aircrew.

**RESUME** Resume last formation/route/mission ordered.

**RETROGRADE** Directive/informative call to withdraw in response to a

threat, continue mission as able, may RESET/RESUME if

threat is negated.

**RIDER** A BOGEY that is conforming to safe passage routing,

airspeed, or altitude procedures.

**RIFLE** (A/S) Friendly air-to-surface missile launch.

**RIPPLE** (A/S) Two or more munitions released or fired in close

succession.

**ROGER** Indicates the receipt of radio transmission; does not

indicate compliance or reaction.

**ROLEX (+/- time)** Time line adjustment in minutes always referenced from

original preplanned mission execution time. PLUS means

later; MINUS means earlier.

**ROPE** Circling an IR pointer around an aircraft to help the aircraft

identify the friendly ground position.

**ROTATOR\*\***Joint STARS MTI returns that signifies a high probability of

a rotating antenna.

**RUMBA** 1. \*Radar has detected jamming/mutual interference but

has not resolved the type.

2. [NATO] Own ship maneuvering for ranging.

SADDLED Informative call from wingman or element indicating the

return to briefed formation position.

**SAM (direction)** Visual acquisition of a SAM in flight or a SAM launch,

should include position.

**SAME** Informative reply indicating that the aircrew has the

identical information as was just stated.

**SANDWICHED** Aircraft or element is between opposing aircraft or

elements.

**SAUNTER** Fly at best endurance.

**SCAN** [NATO] Search sector indicated and report any contacts.

**SCHLEM\*\*** (A/A) Training term for simulated high off boresight IR

missile launch. Not assessable for simulated kill/kill

removal.

**SCRAM (direction)** 1. Directive/informative call to egress for defensive or

survival reasons; no further HVAA mission support is

expected.

<u>2</u>. [NATO] Directive call to cease the intercept and take immediate evasive action. Implies that the target aircraft is

being engaged by SAMs or other air defense fighters.

**SCRAMBLE** Takeoff as quickly as possible.

SCRUB\*\* Joint STARS Moving Target Indicator (MTI) return that

signifies a low slow airborne target

**SCUD** Any threat theater ballistic missile (TBM).

**SEARCHER** (EW) Unit having intercept equipment without DF

capability. All references to DUFFERs are applicable to

searchers within their capabilities.

**SEPARATE(ING)** Leaving a specific engagement; may or may not reenter.

**SEPARATION\*\*** Reguest for separation between two GROUPS. Response

will include the follow-on GROUP's separation, altitude, and

fill-ins.

**SET** \_\_\_\_ A command to set (or have set) a particular speed. May be

in knots/indicated or in Mach.

**SHACKLE** One weave, a single crossing of flight paths; maneuver to

adjust or regain formation parameters.

**SHADOW** Follow indicated target.

**SHIFT (direction)** Directive call to shift laser/IR/radar/device energy.

**SHOOTER** Aircraft/unit designated to employ ordnance.

**SHOPPING\*\*** An aircraft request to Joint STARS for a target.

SHOT\*\* (S/S) Informative call indicating round(s) has(ve) been

fired.

**SHOTGUN** 1. Pre-briefed weapons state.

2. [NATO] Pre-briefed weapons state at which

separation/bugout should begin.

(system) SICK\*\* System indicated is degraded/partially operative. (NOTE:

NATO term is SOUR)

SIDE-SIDE\*\* Fighter term depicting a radar-apparent description of two

or more CONTACTs within a GROUP separated in

azimuth.

(system) SILENT 1. (time) System will be unavailable for time indicated.

2. \*Directive/informative call to indicate datalink is, or

should be placed, in receive only.

3. [NATO] (EW) Broadcast station is not transmitting. May also be used as an order and must be followed by a frequency or station designator. If possible it should be

followed by an estimated time of return to the air.

Informative call of RWR indication of SAM launch.

SINGER

(type/direction)

**SINGLE** Descriptive call indicating one GROUP, CONTACT, etc.

**SKATE** (A/A) Informative or directive call to execute launch-and-

leave tactics.

**SKINNY\*\*** Current survivor coordinates.

**SKIP IT** Veto of fighter COMMIT, usually followed with further

directions.

**SKOSH** (A/A) Aircraft is out of/or unable to employ active radar

missiles.

**SKUNK** A maritime surface contact that has not yet been identified.

**SLAPSHOT**Directive call for an aircraft to immediately employ a best (type/bearing)
available HARM against a specified threat at the specified

bearing.

SLICE/ SLICEBACK

(LEFT/RIGHT)

Directive calls to perform a high-G descending turn in the stated direction, usually 180-degree turn.

stated direction, distally roo-degree turn.

SLIDE\*\* Directive/informative call to/from HVAA to continue present

mission while flowing from station in response to perceived

threat, implies intent to RESET.

**SLIP(PING)** (A/S) Directive (or informative) call indicating the attacker

will attack the target at the alternate TOT.

**SLOW\*** Contact with ground speed of less than 200 knots. (NOTE:

NATO = 200 to 400 knots)

**SMASH (ON/OFF)** Directive call to turn on/off anti-collision lights.

**SMOKE** (A/S) Smoke marker used to mark a position.

**SNAKE** (A/S) Directive call to oscillate an IR pointer about a target.

**SNAP** 1.\* Fighter request for immediate BRAA call (with

appropriate fill-ins) to the group described. Indicates fighter

intent to intercept/join.

2. (heading) Urgent directive call to turn to a heading.

**SNAPLOCK (BRAA)\*\*** Informative call indicating fighter has obtained a radar

contact inside briefed range, aspect, or radar mode.

**SNEAKER** [NATO] (EW) An intelligence-gathering vessel.

**SNIFF (type)** (EW) Passive sensor indication of a radar emitter.

SNIPER (type, location

[range, bearing])

Directive call for an aircraft to employ a range-known HARM against a specified threat at the specified location.

**SNOOPER** [NATO] An aircraft employed in the detection and reporting

of opposing forces while avoiding detection by those

forces.

**SNOOZE** Directive or informative call indicating initiation of EMCON

procedures. Opposite of ALARM.

**SORT** Directive call to assign responsibility within a GROUP;

criteria can be met visually, electronically (radar), or both.

**SORTED** Sort responsibility within a GROUP has been met.

**SOUR** (Opposite of SWEET).

1. (mode/type) Invalid/no response to an administrative

IFF/SIF check.

2. (link name)\* (e.g. "TIMBER SOUR") Indicates there

are potential problems with net entry and initiates pre-

mission link troubleshooting.

3. [NATO] Equipment indicated is not operating efficiently

**SPADES** An interrogated group/radar contact that lacks all of the

ATO (or equivalent) IFF/SIF modes and codes required for

the ID criteria.

**SPARKLE** 1. (A/S) Target marking by IR pointer.

2. (A/S) Target marking by gunship/ FAC-A using

incendiary rounds.

**SPIKE(D) (direction)** RWR indication of an AI threat in track or launch.

**SPIN** Directive or informative call to execute a timing/spacing

maneuver.

**SPITTER (direction)** An aircraft that has departed from the engagement or is

departing the engaged fighter's targeting responsibility.

**SPLASH(ED)** 1. (A/A) Target destroyed.

2. (A/S) Weapons impact.

3.\* (S/S) Informative call to observer or spotter five

seconds prior to estimated time of impact.

SPLIT Informative/directive call that flight member is leaving

formation to pursue a separate attack; VISUAL may not be

maintained.

**SPOOFER** (EW) An entity employing electronic or tactical deception

measures.

**SPOOFING** Informative call that voice deception is being employed.

**SPOT** (A/S) Acquisition of laser designation.

**SQUAWK** (mode/code) Operate IFF/SIF as indicated or IFF/SIF is operating as

indicated.

**SQUAWKING (mode #)** An informative/descriptive call denoting a BOGEY is

responding with an IFF/SIF mode or code other than that

prescribed by the ATO/identification criteria.

**STACK** Two or more CONTACTs within GROUP criteria with an

altitude separation in relation to each other.

**STAKE\*\*** Joint STARS reference point for A/S targeting operations.

STARE (w/ laser code and reference point)\*\*

Directive call to cue the laser spot search/tracker function on the specified laser code in relation to the specified reference point. Reference point may include the following: INS steerpoint, GEOREF, bearing and range or datalink

point.

**STATUS** 1. Request for an individual's tactical situation.

2. **(GROUP)** Request for a full positional update in digital

bullseve format on the specified group.

**STEADY** (A/S) Directive call to stop oscillation of IR pointer.

STERN Requests for, or directive to, intercept using STERN

geometry.

**STINGER** 1. (A/A) Three-ship inner GROUP formation with two lead

CONTACTs line abreast and the SINGLE in trail.

2.\* (S/A) An IR man portable air defense system

(MANPADS).

**STOP** 1. (A/S) Stop IR illumination of a target.

2.\* (BURN) (A/S) Directive call to AC-130 to stop GLINT.

3. (abort code) [NATO] (A/S) JTAC directs aircrew to

abort the attack. This is a mandatory instruction.

**STRANGER** Unidentified traffic that is not a participant with the action in

progress.

**STRANGLE ()** Turn off equipment indicated.

**STRIPPED** Informative call that aircraft is out of prebriefed formation.

**STROBE(S) (bearing)** Radar indication(s) of noise jamming.

**SUNRISE** Informative call that C2 radar functions are available.

Opposite of MIDNIGHT.

**SUNSHINE\*\*** (A/S) Directive or informative call indicating illumination of

target is being conducted with artificial illumination.

**SWEET** (Opposite of SOUR.)

1. (mode/type)\* Valid response to an administrative

IFF/SIF check request.

2. (link name)\*. (e.g. TIMBER SWEET) Confirms receipt

of datalink information.

<u>3</u>. [NATO] Equipment indicated is operating efficiently

**SWITCHED** Indicates an attacker is changing from one aircraft to

another.

**TACTICAL** (A/A) Request/directive to switch to tactical control.

TAG (system, location)\*\*

(EW) Response to an emitter ambiguity resolution request

(COLOR).

**TALLY** Sighting of a target, non-friendly aircraft, landmark, or

enemy position. Opposite of NO JOY.

**TARGET ()** Directive call assigning targeting responsibilities.

**TARGETED** Informative call that GROUP responsibility has been met.

**TEN SECONDS** (A/S) Directive to terminal controller to standby for LASER

ON call in approximately 10 seconds.

**TERMINATE** 1. (A/S) Stop laser illumination of a target.

2. In training, cease local engagement without affecting the

overall exercise.

**THREAT (direction)** Untargeted HOSTILE/BANDIT/ BOGEY is within a briefed

range of a friendly aircraft.

**THROTTLES** Reminder to set throttles appropriately considering the IR

threat and desired energy state.

**THUNDER\*\*** (A/S) Informative call one minute prior to A/S weapons

impact.

**TIED** Positive radar contact with element or aircraft.

**TIGER** Enough fuel and ordnance to accept a commitment.

TIMBER The Link 16 network

**TIMECHECK** Informative call to check/change IFF code.

**TOGGLE\*\*** Execute a briefed change of an avionics setting.

TOY\*\* HARM targeting system (HTS) pod.

**TRACK (direction)** GROUP/CONTACT's direction of flight/movement.

**TRACK NUMBER** (#)\*\* Datalink information file.

(system) TRACKING\*\* Enemy air defense system is maintaining situational

awareness on friendly.

**TRAVEL** [NATO] (EW) Change radar frequency.

**TRASHED** Informative call that missile has been defeated.

TRESPASS (system,

position)

The addressed flight is entering the threat SAM ring of a

specific (system) at the stated location.

**TROUT** [NATO] (EW) Take a DF bearing on transmission

indicated.

**TUMBLEWEED** Indicates limited situational awareness, (i.e., NO JOY,

BLIND) and is a request for information.

**UNABLE** Cannot comply as requested or directed.

**UNIFORM** UHF/AM radio.

**VACANT\*\*** Ground equipment not present at tasked target location.

Opposite of OCCUPIED.

**VAMPIRE** Hostile anti-ship missile.

**VECTOR** Alter heading to magnetic heading indicated. (Use of true

headings to be established before operation commences).

**VERY FAST\*\*** Target speed greater than 900 knots / 1.5 Mach

**VIC** Picture label with three groups with the single closest in

range and two groups, azimuth split, in trail. \*Group names should be LEAD GROUP and NORTH TRAIL GROUP and SOUTH TRAIL GROUP or EAST TRAIL GROUP and

WEST TRAIL GROUP.

VICTOR VHF/AM radio.

VISUAL Sighting of a friendly aircraft or ground position. Opposite

of BLIND.

**WALL** Picture label with three or more groups primarily split in

azimuth. \*Group names should be NORTH GROUP, MIDDLE GROUP, SOUTH GROUP or WEST GROUP,

MIDDLE GROUP, EAST GROUP.

WARNING (color) Hostile attack is:

(RED) Imminent or in progress.

(YELLOW) Probable.

(WHITE) Improbable (all clear).

**WEAPONS ()** (S/A) Fire only:

1. (FREE) - at targets not identified as FRIENDLY IAW

current ROE.

2. (TIGHT) - at targets positively identified as HOSTILE

IAW current ROE.

3. (HOLD/SAFE) - in self-defense or in response to a

formal order.

**WEDGE\*\*** Three-ship inner GROUP formation with a single

CONTACT closest in range and two trail CONTACTs line

abreast.

**WEEDS** Indicates that aircraft are operating close to the surface.

**WEIGHTED** (cardinal

direction)\*\*

Descriptive term used for a multiple GROUP formation

(WALL, LADDER, VIC, CHAMPAGNE) that is offset in one

direction.

**WHAT LUCK** Request for results of missions or tasks.

#### WHAT STATE

Request for amount of fuel and missiles remaining.

Response to WHAT STATE is--

1. (US response)\*

(1st number) number of active radar missiles remaining. (2nd number) number of semi-active radar missiles remaining.

(3rd number) number of IR missiles remaining. BY

(4th number) thousands of pounds of fuel (given to one decimal point), or time remaining. Example response to WHAT STATE: "BLUE TWO IS 3-1-2 BY 7 POINT 5" is equivalent to 3 AIM-120s, 1 AIM-7, 2 AIM-9s and 7,500 lbs of fuel remaining.

2. (item) Ammunition and oxygen are reported only when specifically requested or critical.

3. [NATO response]

**WEAPONS\_\_\_-\_\_(-\_\_\_)** I have semi-active plus IR missiles. Remaining and gun ammunition is (PLUS, MINUS, ZERO).

(PLUS) - Gun(s) fitted and sufficient ammunition for a gun attack.

(MINUS) - Gun(s) fitted but not sufficient ammunition for a gun attack.

(**ZERO**) -No gun(s) fitted. A fourth character can be given to indicate the number of front hemisphere capable missiles available (e.g. an aircraft with a serviceable radar, loaded with 2 Sparrows, 2 Phoenix, 2 Sidewinder AIM-9L, and fully loaded gun would report its state as "WEAPONS 4-2-PLUS-6").

Descriptive term used to indicate the separation between the farthest GROUPs in azimuth in a relative formation of three or more groups, used to describe a WALL, VIC, CHAMPAGNE, or BOX.

Will comply with received instructions.

No ordnance remaining.

[NATO] (EW) Off board active radar decoy.

Directive or interrogative call regarding further information or directives pertinent to the mission.

1. (system w/location) Platform gathering EOB on a designated emitter.

2. Platform executing EID on a specific aircraft/group to obtain identification necessary for BVR employment.

Directive to use A/A TACAN for ranging.

Request for data link information.

Directive call to minimize radio transmissions.

WIDE\*\*

**WILCO** 

WINCHESTER

WOOFER

WORDS

WORKING

YARDSTICK

ZAP\*\*

**ZIPLIP** 

# Chapter III CATAGORY SYNOPSIS

#### 1. GENERAL AIR OPERATIONS

**CLEAN** 

COLD

CLEARED

COMEBACK

CONFETTI

Note:(General operating terms for aircrew and units that operate with aircraft) [N] = NATO brevity word

**ABORT** CONS/CONNING IN PLACE ACTION CONTACT **INDIA CONTINUE INTRUDER** ALFA CHECK ALARM CRUISE [N] JINK **CYCLOPS** ANCHOR(ED) **JOKER** ANGELS DASH **KILL DEPLOY** KNOCK IT OFF ANYFACE AS FRAGGED DIVERT KOBOLD [N] LAME DUCK AUTHENTICATE **ECHO AUTOCAT ESTIMATE** LAST BASE **FADED LEAN** BANDIT FEET WET/DRY LINER /N/ **BEAD WINDOW** FENCE MARKING **BENT** FLARE(S) MARSHAL(ING) **BINGO FLASH MICKEY** BITTERSWEET FLAVOR **MIDNIGHT** BLIND **FLOAT MOTHER** BOGEY FOX MIKE MUSIC **BRAA FRIENDLY** NEGATIVE CONTACT NO FACTOR **BREAK** GADABOUT [N] **BREAKAWAY GADGET** NO JOY **BREVITY GATE** (system) OKAY BROADCAST GINGERBREAD ON STATION BUGOUT GLOWWORM /N/ ORBIT(ING) BULLSEYE GO ACTIVE **OUTLAW** BUSTER GO CLEAR **PADLOCKED** BUTTON GO SECURE PAINT(S) BUZZER GOODWILL PANCAKE [N] CAP/CAPPING GREEN **PARROT GREYHOUND** CAV-OK **PIGEONS** PITCH / PITCHBACK CEASE ENGAGEMENT HARD CEASE FIRE **HEADS UP PLAYMATE CHATTERMARK PLAYTIME** HIT(S) HOLDING HANDS CHECK POGO **CHERUBS** HOLD FIRE POLAR BEAR /N/ **CHICKS** HOME PLATE POP

HOOK

ID

HOSTILE

**HOTDOG** 

HOTEL FOX

**POPEYE** 

POSIT

**PRESS** 

**PUSH** 

**PUSHING** 

REFERENCE REPORTED RESET

RESUME RETROGRADE RIDER ROGER SADDLED SAM

SAME SANDWICHED SAUNTER SCAN [N] SCRAM **SCRAMBLE SCRUB** SCUD SET

SHACKLE SHADOW **SHOTGUN**  SICK SILENT

SLICE/SLICEBACK

SKUNK **SNOOZE** SOUR SPIN **SPADES** SPOOFING **SQUAWK SQUAWKING STATUS** STRANGER STRIPPED **STROBES** SUNRISE **SWEET** 

**TERMINATE** TIED TIGER TIMECHECK

**TALLY** 

TRACKING TRESPASS **TUMBLEWEED** 

**UNABLE** VAMPIRE **VECTOR** VISUAL WARNING RED YELLOW

WHITE WEEDS WELL

WHAT LUCK WHAT STATE

WILCO

WINCHESTER

WORDS YARDSTICK **ZIPLIP** 

#### 2. AIR-TO-AIR

Note: (General air-to-air employment terms for fighters and controllers

ACTION CONS/CONNING HARD ABORT CONTACT **HEADS UP HEADBUTT** ACTION CONTAINER ALARM CONTINUE HEAVY ALPHA CHECK HIGH COVER **CRANK** ANCHOR(ED) HIT(S)

ANGELS CROSSING HOLDING HANDS
ARM CRUISE HOLD FIRE
AZIMUTH CUTOFF HOOK
BASE CYCLOPS HOSTILE
BANDIT DASH HOT

BANZAI DECLARE HOUNDOG [NATO]

BEAM DEEP HUSKY
BEARING DELOUSE ID
BITTERSWEET DEFENSIVE IN

BLIND DEPLOY IN PLACE BLOW THROUGH DRAG INDIA

BOGEY DROP(PING) INTERROGATE

BOGEY DOPE DUCK [NATÓ] JINK
BOX ECHELON JUDY
BRAA ECHO KILL

BRACKET ENGAGED KNOCK IT OFF
BREAK ESTIMATE LADDER
BROADCAST EXTEND(ING) LAST

BROKE LOCK EYEBALL LEAD-TRAIL
BUDDY LOCK FADED LEAKER(S)
BUDDY SPIKE FAST LEAN
BUGOUT FLANK LEVEL

BULLSEYEFLARELINE ABREASTBUSTERFLASHLINER [NATO]CAP/CAPPINGFLASHLIGHTLOCKED

CEASE FLOAT LOW
ENGAGEMENT FLOW MADDOG
CEASE FIRE FOX THREE MANEUVER
CHAMPAGNE 2ND FOX THREE MARKING
CHEAPSHOT FOX 3 (X)-SHIP MARSHAL(ING)

CHECK FRIENDLY MEDIUM
CHERUBS FURBALL MERGE(D)
CHICKS GADGET MIDNIGHT
CLEAN GATE MONITOR(ING)

CLEARED GIMBALL **MUSIC** CLOSING **GOPHER NAILS** COLD GORILLA NAKED COMEBACK **GRAND SLAM NEAR-FAR** COMMIT GREEN NEGATIVE **COMPOSITION** GROUP CONTACT CONFETTI GUNS **NEW PICTURE**  NO FACTOR NO JOY NOTCH(ING) OFF

ON STATION
OPENING
OUT
OUTLAW
PACKAGE

PACKAGE
PACMAN [NATO]
PADLOCKED
PAINT(S)
PARROT
PASSING
PICTURE
PITBULL
PITCH /
PITCHBACK

PINCE

POSIT

**PITBULL** 

PLAYMATE POLAR BEAR POP POP-UP POPEYE

POST HOLE
PRESS
PRINT (type)
PUMP
PURE
PUSH
PUSHING

QUAIL RAYGUN

**RANGE** 

RENO REPORTED RESET RESUME RETROGRADE

RIDER RUMBA SADDLED SANDWICHED SAUNTER SCHLEM

SCRAM SCRAMBLE SCRUB SEPARATE(ING) SEPARATION SHACKLE SHADOW

SHOOTER SHOTGUN SIDE-SIDE SILENT SINGLE SKATE SKIP IT SKOSH

SLICE/SLICEBACK SLIDE SLOW SNAP SNAPLOCK

SNIFF SNOOZE SORT SORTED SOUR SPADES SPIKE(D) SPIN

SPIN SPITTER SPLASH(ED) SPLIT SPOOFER SQUAWK SQUAWKING

STACK
STATUS
STERN
STINGER
STRANGER
STRANGLE
STRIPPED
STROBES
SUNRISE
SWEET
SWITCHED
TACTICAL
TALLY

TARGETED
TERMINATE
THREAT
THROTTLES
TIED
TIGER
TRACK
TRASHED
TUMBLEWEED

**TARGET** 

VERY FAST
VIC
VISUAL
WALL
WEEDS
WEDGE
WEIGHTED
WHAT LUCK
WHAT STATE

WIDE WINCHESTER WORKING

**YARDSTICK** 

#### 3. AIR-TO-SURFACE

Note: (Terms for general air-to-surface employment for attack aircraft and controllers)

ABORT
ATTACK(ING)
(weapon) AWAY
BRACKET
BRUISER
BUMP/BUMP-UP
CAPTURED
CLEARED HOT
COLD
COMEOFF
CONTACT
CONTINUE
CONTINUE

GREYHOUND
GUNS
HIT(S)
HOT
IN
KILL
LONG RIFLE
LOOKING
LOW DOWN
LEAN
MAGNUM
MAPPING
MARK

MILLER TIME

NO JOY

MONITOR(ING)

OFF
PIG(S) AWAY
POP
RIFLE
RIPPLE
ROLEX
SCAN
SCUD
SKUNK
SLIPPING
SPLASH(ED)
TALLY
THUNDER
VACANT
VISUAL

**OCCUPIED** 

#### 4. CLOSE AIR SUPPORT (CAS)

ATTACK(ING) THUNDER

ATTACK COMPLETE (weapon) AWAY BUMP/BUMP-UP

DANGER CLOSE

DIVERT

ENGAGE

CAPTURED

CLEARED HOT

CLEARED TO

**ENGAGE** 

COLD

COME OFF

CONTACT

CONTINUE

CONTINUE DRY

DANGER CLOSE

**ENGAGE** 

**GUNS** 

HIT(S)

HOT

IN

LONG RIFLE

LOOKING

**OFF** 

OFFSET

**RIFLE** 

SMOKE

**SPARKLE** 

STOP (ABORT

CODE) [NATO]

5. COMBAT SEARCH AND RESCUE (CSAR/SAR)

FLASHLIGHT MILLER TIME RED LIGHT HOLD DOWN PEDRO [NATO] SKINNY

MARK POPCORN

6. LASERS

BUDDY LASE/GUIDE DIAMONDS SPARKLE BUMP/BUMP-UP LASER ON SPLASH(ED)

CAPTURED LASING SPOT CEASE (activity) NEGATIVE LASER STARE

CONTACT PULSE TEN SECONDS
DEADEYE SHIFT (direction) TERMINATE

7. BASIC NVD/IR/ILLUMINATION

BURN GOGGLE/DEGOGGLE SMASH
CLOAK GOGGLES ON/OFF SNAKE
DEADEYE LIGHTBULB SPARKLE
DIAMONDS LIGHTS ON/OFF STEADY
EYEBALL MOVE BURN (bearing) STOP

FLASH (system) NEGATIVE LASER STOP BURN FLASHLIGHT ROPE SUNSHINE

FREEZE BURN SHIFT (direction)

#### 8. DATA LINKS

Note: (Terms for surveillance, air control, and tactical aircraft data links)

**DOLLY** SOUR (link name) ALLIGATOR SWEET (link BEANSTALK HANDSHAKE **HOLLOW** name) BLOTTER HOOK (descriptor) **CHANNEL TAG** CHECKPRINT **JACKAL TARGET** (track#) MARKPOINT TIMBER

COLOR POINT TRACK NUMBER (#)

DATA SILENT ZAP

DIRTY SORT

#### 9. JSTARS

DETAILS RESTAKE SILENT IDLE ROTATOR STAKE

LOWDOWN SCRUB MOVERS SHOPPING

#### **10. MARITIME AIR OPERATIONS**

BULLRING FAKER MONITOR(ING)
CHARLIE FATHER PANCAKE
DELTA()() FUEL STATE SKUNK

### 11. BASIC SEAD/SIGINT/EW INTEGRATION

(system) ACTIVE FEELER [NATO] FERRET [NATO] ADD

(system/category) **GENIE** 

SNIFF ALLIGATOR GRIDIRON [NATO] SNIPER

ARIZONA SNOOPER[NATO] HOLLOW **ASLEEP** HUFFDUFF [NATO] SPLASH(ED)

**AWAKE** LOWDOWN SPOOFER BAY [NATO] MAGNUM TAG

SINGER

SNEAKER [NATO]

MIKEDUFF [NATO] **CANDYGRAM** THUNDER

**CAPTURED** TOY MUD

CLAM [NATO] PINNACLE [NATO] (system) CLOWN [NATO] **RACKET** TRACKING **COLOR RENT** TRAVEL [NATO]

DANCE [NATO] RETROGRADE TROUT [NATO] DATA **ROTATOR TRESPASS** 

(system) DOWN WOOFER [NATO] SAM DROP (PING) SCRAM WORKING

**DUFFER SEARCHER** ZAP **EMPTY SLAPSHOT** 

FAN\_TACK\_ [NATO] SLIDE

#### 12. SURFACE-TO-AIR

Note: Terms for surface-to-air units for coordination and deconfliction

**ABORT GRANDSLAM** SQUAWKING **BIRD GREYHOUND STRANGLE SWEET** BIRD(S) AFFIRM GUNS BIRD(S) NEGAT HIGH TRACKING BITTERSWEET **HOLD FIRE UNABLE VAMPIRE** KILL CEASE ENGAGEMENT CEASE FIRE LEAKER(S) VERY FAST **WARNING** CHERUBS LOW COMPOSITION MEDIUM RED CONTACT RESET **YELLOW** CONTINUE RIDER WHITE COVER SCRAM **WEAPONS ENGAGE** SCRUB **FREE** FADED SLOW **TIGHT FAST** SOUR HOLD/SAFE FEET WET/DRY **SPADES** (system) WELL FRIENDLY SPLASH(ED) WILCO **GADGET** SPOOFING **WINCHESTER** 

13. SURFACE-TO-SURFACE

BULLDOG GO ACTIVE LASING
CEASE GO CLEAR MARK
ENGAGEMENT GO SECURE REPEAT
CEASE FIRE GREYHOUND SHOT
CEASE LASER HOLD FIRE SPLASH(ED)

CHECK FIRING KILL

DANGER CLOSE LASER ON

14. NATO-SPECIFIC TERMS

BAY (EW) KOBOLD (AIR-GEN)
BEANSTALK (Datalink) LINER (AIR-GEN)
BLOTTER (EW) MIKEDUFF (EW)

CLAM (EW) OILFIELD(AIR-GEN)

CLOWN (EW) PACMAN (A/S, A/A)
CRUISE (AIR-GEN) PANCAKE (AIR-GEN /AIR-MAR)

DANCE (EW) PEDRO (CSAR/SAR)
DUCK (AIR-GEN) PINNACLE (EW)
FAKER (AIR-MAR) POLAR BEAR (AIR-GEN)

FAN TACK (EW) RENO (A/A)

FEELER (EW) SCAN (AIR-GEN /AIR-MAR)

TRAVEL (EW)

FERRET (EW) SNEAKER (EW)
GADABOUT (AIR-GEN) SNOOPER (EW)
GLOWWORM (AIR-GEN) STOP (abort code) (CAS)

GRIDIRON (EW)

HOUNDOG (A/A) TROUT (EW)

HUFFDUFF (EW) WOOFER (EW)

## **Glossary**

A/A air-to-air AAA anti-aircraft artillery AGL above ground level AGM air-to-ground missile  $\mathbf{AI}$ air interdiction/air intercept AIC air intercept control AIM air intercept missile  $\mathbf{AM}$ amplitude modulation AO area of operations ARM anti-radiation missiles A/S air-to-surface ASCM anti-ship cruise missiles ASM anti-ship missile ATM air tasking message ATO air tasking order AWACS airborne warning and control system В **BRAA** bearing, range, altitude, and aspect BVR beyond visual range C C2command and control **CAP** combat air patrol **CSAR** combat search and rescue D DF direction finding DR decision range Ε **ECM** electronic countermeasures EID electronic identification **EMCON** emission control EO electro optical EOBelectronic order of battle  $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{W}$ electronic warfare F F-POLE distance between shooter and target at impact forward air controller-airborne FAC-A  $\mathbf{FT}$  $\mathbf{FM}$ frequency modulation G GCI ground control intercept **GEOREF** geographical reference

Α

**GLINT** gated laser intensifier

Н

**HARM** high-speed anti-radiation missile

HF high frequency HIGH-G high gravity

**HPRF** high pulse repetition frequency

HTS HARM targeting system HVAA high value airborne assets

I

IAW in accordance with

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization

**ID** identification

IDM improved data modemIFF identification, friend or foeINS inertial navigation system

IR infrared

J

**JTAC** joint terminal attack controller

**JSOW** joint stand-off weapon

L

LOS line of sight LZ landing zone

M

MALDminiature air launch decoyMARminimum abort rangeMEZmissile engagement zone

MFDF medium frequency direction finding MPRF medium pulse repetition frequency

MSL mean sea level

MTI moving target indicator

Ν

NCTR noncooperative target recognition

NM nautical mile

NPG network participation group

**NVD** night vision device

0

**OPTASK** operational tasking

Ρ

PPI plan position indicator PRF pulse repetition frequency

PZ pickup zone

R

**ROE** rules of engagement

RWR radar warning receiver

S

S/A surface-to-air

**SAM** surface-to-air missile

SEAD suppression of enemy air defenses SIF selective identification feature

S/S surface-to surface

T

TACAN tactical air navigation tactical air direction

TADIL tactical digital information link
TALD tactical air-launched decoy
TBM tactical/theater ballistic missile

TIDS tactical imagery dissemination system

TLAM Tomahawk land-attack missile

TN track number
TOD time of day
TOT time on target

U

UAV unmanned aerial vehicle UHF ultra high frequency

V

VHF very high frequency

W

WP white phosphorus

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