

List of U.S. government and military acronyms

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List of initialisms, acronyms ("words made from parts of other words, pronounceable"), and other abbreviations used by the government and the military of the United States :

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0–9

- **0K** - Zero Killed (pronounced OK, as the expression that everything is all right)
- **1LT** – First Lieutenant (U.S. Army) (USAF uses "1st Lt")
- **2LT** – Second Lieutenant (U.S. Army) (USAF uses "2d Lt")
- **2IC** – Second In Command

A

- **A** – analog
- **A1C** – Airman 1st Class (USAF E-3)
- **A2C2** – Army airspace command and control
- **A-3** – (Operations Directorate (COMAFFOR))
- **A-5** – (Plans Directorate (COMAFFOR))
- **AA** – Anti-aircraft
- **AA** – Armed Forces America
- **AA** – assembly area
- **AA** – assessment agent
- **AA** – avenue of approach
- **AAA** – antiaircraft artillery
- **AAA** – arrival and assembly area
- **AAA** – assign alternate area
- **AAAS** – amphibious aviation assault ship
- **AABB** – American Association of Blood Banks
- **AABWS** – amphibious assault bulk water system
- **AAC** – activity address code
- **AAC** – Army Air Corps (British)
- **AAC** – Australian Army Cadets (Australia)
- **AACG** – arrival airfield control group
- **AADC** – area air defense commander
- **AADP** – area air defense plan
- **AA&E** – arms, ammunition, and explosives
- **AAEC** – aeromedical evacuation control team
- **AAFC** – Australian Air Force Cadets (Australia)
- **AAFES** – Army and Air Force Exchange Service
- **AAFIF** – automated air facility information file
- **AAFS** – amphibious assault fuel system
- **AAFSF** – amphibious assault fuel supply facility
- **AAGS** – Army air-ground system
- **AAI** – air-to-air interface
- **AAM** – air-to-air missile
- **AAMDC** – US Army Air and Missile Defense Command

- **AAOE** – arrival and assembly operations element
- **AAOG** – arrival and assembly operations group
- **AAP** – Allied administrative publication
- **AAP** – assign alternate parent
- **AAR** – after action report
- **AAR** – after action review
- **AAS** – Army Apprentice School (Australia)
- **AAST** – aeromedical evacuation administrative support team
- **AAT** – automatic analog test
- **AAT** – aviation advisory team
- **AAU** – analog applique unit
- **AAV** – amphibious assault vehicle
- **AAW** – antiair warfare
- **AB** – airbase
- **AB** – Airman Basic (USAF E-1)
- **ABCA** – American, British, Canadian, Australian Armies Program
- **ABCS** – army battle command system
- **ABD** – airbase defense
- **ABV** - Assault Breacher Vehicle (U.S. Army)
- **ABFC** – advanced base functional component
- **ACF** – army cadet force (UK Military)
- **ADF** – Australian Defence Force (Australia)
- **ADFA** – Australian Defence Force Academy (Australia)
- **ADFC** – Australian Defence Force Cadets (Australia)
- **ADOS** – active duty, operational support
- **ADSW** – active duty, special work
- **AE** – Armed Forces Europe
- **AEW&C** - Airborne early warning and control
- **AFI** – awaiting further instruction/Air Force Instruction (requirement guide)
- **AFMC** – armed forces medical college
- **AFOQT** – air force officer qualifying test
- **AFOSI** – Air Force Office of Special Investigations
- **AFSC** - Air Force Specialty Code
- **AHA** – ammunition holding area
- **AIM** – airborne intercept missile (U.S. military)
- **AIPD** – Army Institute For Professional Development
- **AIRTC** – Air Training Corps (former name for the Australian Air Force Cadets)
- **AIT** – advanced individual training (U.S. Army)
- **Amn** – airman (USAF E-2)
- **ALCON** – All concerned (U.S. military)
- **AMU** – aircraft maintenance unit
- **AMXG** – aircraft maintenance group
- **AMXS** – aircraft maintenance squadron
- **An** – Antonov (Russian)
- **ANZAC** – Australian and New Zealand Army Corps
- **AOL** – absent over leave (U.S. Navy)
- **AO** – area of operations
- **A&P** – administrative and personnel
- **AP** – Armed Forces Pacific
- **AP** – armor-piercing
- **APC** – armored personnel carrier
- **APFSDS** – armour-piercing fin-stabilized discarding sabot

- **APO** – Army Post Office; See also FPO
- **APPN** – appropriation number (U.S. Military)
- **APRT** – Army Physical Readiness Test (U.S. Army)
- **ARA** – Australian Regular Army (Australia)
- **ARes** – Army Reserve (Australia)
- **ARM** – anti-radar missile
- **ARM** – anti-radiation missile
- **ARMS** – automated recruit management system (U.S. military)
- **ARMS** – aviation resource management system (USAF)
- **ART** – alarm response team (USAF)
- **ARVN** – Army of the Republic of (South) Viet Nam (U.S. Military)
- **ASAP** – army substance abuse program (U.S. military)
- **ASAP** – as soon as possible
- **ASEAN** – Association of South East Asian Nations
- **ASM** – air-to-surface missile
- **ASCM** – anti-ship C missile
- **ASV** – anti-surface vessel (airborne radar)
- **ASVAB** – armed services vocational aptitude battery
- **ASW** – Anti-submarine warfare
- **ATC** – air training corps
- **ATC** – air traffic control
- **ATO** – air tasking order
- **ATO** – antiterrorism officer
- **ATRRS** – army training requirements and resources system
- **AWACS** - Airborne Warning and Control System
- **AWOL** – absent without leave

B

- **BAMCIS** – Begin planning Arrange Recon Make the plan Complete the plan Issue the order Supervise (US Marine Corps)
- **BAH** – Basic Allowance for Housing
- **BAR** – Browning Automatic Rifle
- **BAU** – Behavioural Analysis Unit
- **BCD** - Bad Conduct Discharge (aka Big Chicken Dinner)
- **BCG** – Birth Control Glasses (U.S. Military Slang)
- **BCT** – Basic Combat Training (U.S. Army)
- **BDF** – Barbados Defence Force (Barbados)
- **BDU** – Battle Dress Uniform (U.S. Military)
- **Be** – Beriev (Russian)
- **BEA** – Budget Execution Authority (U.S. Navy)
- **BFT** – Blue Force Tracker (U.S. Military)
- **BG** – Bodyguard
- **BGHR** – By God He's Right (U.S. Military)
- **BLUF** – Bottom Line Up Front (US Military)
- **BMNT** – Begin Morning Nautical Twilight (U.S. Army)
- **BN** - Battalion (U.S. Army)
- **BDE** - Brigade (U.S. Army)
- **BOHICA** – Bend Over Here It Comes Again (US Military Slang)
- **BRAC** – Base Realignment And Closure
- **BRAT** (American)– Born Raised And Transferred (American usage, refers to dependent children of military personnel) Usually Pronounced "Military Brat" (Or "Air Force BRAT", or Army "Brat", Navy "Brat" etc.).^[1]

- **BRAT** (British)– British RegimentAttachedTraveler (British military usage, may have been the original usage, which was later adapted to the American military: Means "child that travels with a soldier") Usually pronounced "Military Brat" or "Base Brat".^{[2][3]}
- **BUB** – Battle Update Brief
- **BVR** – Beyond Visual Range (USAF)
- **BX** – Base Exchange (USAF)

C

- **C1** – Command
- **C2** – Command And Control
- **C3** – Command Control And Communication
- **C4IR** – Command Control Communication Computers Intelligence And Recognition
- **CAC** – Common Access Card (U.S. DoD, pron. "cac")
- **CAG** – Commander, Air Group (U.S. Navy, pron. "cag")
- **CAGE** – Commercial and Government Entity
- **CAPT** – Captain (US Navy, USCG O-6)
- **Capt** – Captain (USMC, USAF O-3)
- **CAS** – Close Air Support
- **CASEX** – Coordinated Antil-Submarine EXercise
- **CAT** – Combat Application Tourniquets
- **CBRN** – Chemical Biological Nuclear Radiological
- **CBU** – Cluster Bomb Unit
- **CCIR** – Commanders Critical Information Requirements
- **CDAT** – Computerized Dumb Ass Tanker (M1 Abrams Crewmen)
- **CDIAC** – Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center
- **CDRUSPACOM** Commander United States Pacific Command
- **CENTCOM** – Central Command (U.S. Military)
- **CF** – Cluster Fuck (always pronounced phonetically "Charlie Foxtrot")
- **CH** – Cunt Hair (a unit of measurement)
- **CIA** – **Central Intelligence Agency**
- **CIC** – Command Intelligence Center (U.S. Navy)
- **CINCLANT** – Commander-in-chief, Atlantic Forces (U.S. Navy before 2002)
- **CINCLANTFLT** – Commander-in-chief, Atlantic Fleet (U.S. Navy before 2002)
- **CINCPAC** – Commander-in-chief, Pacific Forces (U.S. Navy before 2002)
- **CIWS** – Close-In Weapon System
- **CMSgt** – Chief Master Sergeant (USAF E-9; highest AF enlisted rank)
- **CMSAF** – Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force (USAF E-9 – Senior Enlisted Member)
- **CO** – Commanding Officer
- **COA** – Course of Action
- **COB** - Chief Of the Boat (Chief Petty Officer in charge of the Boat usually a Master Chief (USN Submariner Terminology))
- **COCOM** – Combatant Commander
- **CODELS** – Congressional Delegations
- **''' Col.** Colonel
- **COMINT** – Communications Intelligence
- **COMPACFLT** – Commander, Pacific Fleet (U.S. Navy)
- **COMSEC'** – **Communication Security**
- **CONUS** – Continental United States (U.S. military, pron. "cone-us")
- **CONUSA** – Continental United States Army (numbered Armies of U.S. military)
- **CORDS** – (U.S. military, Vietnam era)
- **COP** – Combat Out Post

- **CoS** – Chief of Staff
- **COT** – Commissioned Officer Training
- **CPL** – Corporal (U.S. Army and Marine Corps E-4)
- **CPO** – Chief Petty Officer (USCG/USN E-7)
- **CPT** – Captain (US Army O-3)
- **CPX** – Command Post Exercise
- **CQB** – Close Quarters Battle
- **CRC** – CONUS Replacement Center (a military processing center at Fort Benning, Georgia, US)
- **CSM** – Command Sergeant Major (U.S. Army E9 highest Army enlisted rank))
- **CT** – Counter-terrorism Team
- **CTR** – Close Target Reconnaissance
- **CUB** – Commander Update Brief
- **CVN** – Nuclear-powered Aircraft Carrier (NOTE: the V comes from the expression "heavier than air flying machine")
- **CZN** – Nuclear-powered Airship Carrier (NOTE: the Z comes from the use of the word Zeppelin although non-Zeppelin airships would also be transported on a CZN)

D

- **DA** – Defence Attaché
- **DAC** – Department of the Army Civilian
- **DAGR** – Defense Advanced GPS Receiver
- **DARPA** – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (U.S. Military)
- **DCAA** – Defense Contract Audit Agency
- **DCMA** – Defense Contract Management Agency
- **DME** - Depot Maintenance Enterprise (U.S. Military)
- **DFAC** – Dining Facility (U.S. Military)
- **DFAS** – Defense Finance and Accounting Service (U.S. Military) * **D.I.A** – Defensive Intelligence Agency
- **DINFAC** – Dining Facility (U.S. Military)
- **DISA** – Defense Information Systems Agency
- **DLB** – Dead Letter Box
- **DMEA** - Defense Microelectronics Activity
- **DMS** – Defense Message System (U.S. Military)
- **DMZ** – Demilitarized Zone
- **DoDAAC** – Department of Defense Activity Address Code (U.S. Military)
- **DoDAF** – Department of Defense Architectural Framework (U.S. Military)
- **DoDIC** – Department of Defense Identification Code (U.S. Military)
- **DOP** – Drop-Off Point
- **DPMs** – Disruptive Pattern Material
- **DRT** – Dead Right There; wounded in such a way as to indicate immediate and/or unavoidable death; often used as a sarcastic form of the civilian acronym DOA (Dead On Arrival)
- **DTO** – Daily Tasking Order
- **DTRA** - Defense Threat Reduction agency
- **DZ** – Drop Zone

E

- **E&E** – Escape and Evade
- **EA** - Electronic Attack
- **ECP** – Entry Control Point
- **EI** – Engineering and Installation
- **EIS** – Engineering and Installation Squadron, Environmental Impact Statement

- **EI SIT** – Engineering and Installation Site Implementaion Team
- **ELINT** – Electronic Intelligence
- **EMI** - Extra Military Instruction
- **ENS** – Ensign (US Navy junior officer rank, O-1)
- **EOD** – Explosive Ordnance Disposal
- **EOS** - End of Service
- **EP** - Electronic Protection
- **EPW** – Enemy Prisoner of War
- **ERV** – Emergency Rendezvous
- **ETA** – Estimated time of arrival
- **ETS** – Estimated Termination of Service
- **EUCOM** – European Command (U.S. Military)
- **EW** - Electronic Warfare (comprises EA, EP)
- **Exfil** – Exfiltration (Opposite of infiltration; exiting undetected)

F

- **FA** – Field Artillery
- **FABS** – Fetus Aborted By Squad
- **FAK** – First Aid Kit
- **FAR** – Federal Acquisition Regulation
- **FBCB2** – Force XXI Battlefield Command Brigade and Below
- **FBI** – Federal Bureau of Investigation
- **FEBA** – Forward Edge of the Battle Area
- **FIDO** – FIre Direction Officer
- **FIST** – FIre Support Team
- **FISTer** – Member of a FIre Support Team
- **FIST-V** – FIre Support Team Vehicle
- **FISINT** – Foreign Instrumentation Signals Intelligence
- **FISHDO** – Fuck It, Shit Happens, Drive On
- **FitRep** – Fitness Report
- **FLOT** – Forward Line of Troops
- **FLOTUS** – First Lady of the United States (U.S. – see POTUS)
- **FM** – Field Marshal
- **FMC** – Fully Mission Capable
- **FO** – Forward Observer
- **FO** – Foxtrot Oscar (i.e. F**k Off) (US/UK Forces)
- **FOB** – Forward Operating Base
- **FOD** – Foreign Object Damage (U.S.)
- **FOD** – Foreign Object Debris (U.S.)
- **FPO** – Fleet Post Office; See also APO
- **FSA** – Force Structure Allowance
- **FSTE** – Foreign Service Tour Extension
- **FTUS** – Full Time Unit Specialist
- **FUBAR** – Fucked Up Beyond All Recognition

G

- **G1** – General Staff Level office for Personnel and Manpower (Division and Above)
- **G2** – General Staff Level office for Military Intelligence (Division and Above)
- **G3** – General Staff Level office for Operations and Plans (Division and Above)

- **G4** – General Staff Level office for Logistics (Division and Above)
- **G5** – General Staff Level office for Military/Civil Affairs (Division and Above)
- **G6** – General Staff Level office for Signal and Communication (Division and Above)
- **G7** – General Staff Level office for Training and Exercises (Division and Above)
- **G8** – General Staff Level office for Force Development and Analysis (Division and Above)
- **G9** – General Staff Level office for Civil Operations (Division and Above)
- **GBU** – Guided Bomb Unit
- **GEN** – General
- **GI** – Government Issue
- **GIGO** – Garbage In Garbage Out
- **GM** – Gone Mersault
- **GO** – General Officer
- **GOCO** – Government owned, contractor operated
- **GPMG** – General Purpose Machine Gun
- **GPS** – Global Positioning System
- **GROM** – Polish Special Operations Team (Polish Grupa Reagowania Operacyjno-Manewrowego)
- **Gulag** – The Chief Administration of Collective Labor Camps (Russian Главное Управление Лагере́й, "Glavnoye Upravleniye Lagerey")

H

- **HALO** – High Altitude Low Opening (Airborne)
- **HBL** - Holiday Block Leave (U.S. Army)
- **HE** – High Explosive
- **HEAT** – High Explosive Anti-Tank warhead
- **HMAS** – Her Majesty's Australian Ship (Australia)
- **HMCS** – Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (Canada)
- **HMFIC** – Head Motherf*cker In Charge – colloquialism for the highest-ranking person present; more commonly used by NCO's than by officers (U.S. Military)
- **HMMWV** – High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (U.S. Military)
- **HMNZS** – Her Majesty's New Zealand Ship (New Zealand)
- **HMS** – Hans Majestäts Skepp (His Majesty's ship, Sweden)
- **HMS** – Her Majesty's Ship (Royal Navies such as Royal British Navy) (His Majesty's Ship if King)
- **Hr.Ms** - His/Her Dutch Majesty's Ship (Dutch Royal Navy ship)
- **HOMSEC** – Homeland Security
- **HRAP** - Hometown Recruiter Assistance Program
- **HQ** – Headquarters
- **HHB** - Headquarters and Headquarters Battery
- **HHC** - Headquarters and Headquarters Company
- **HHT** - Headquarters and Headquarters Troop
- **HUMINT** – Human Intelligence
- **HYT** – High Year Tenure

I

- **IAF** – Indian Air Force
- **IAF** – Israeli Air Force
- **ICBM** – Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
- **ICE** – Individual Carrying Equipment
- **ID** – IDentification
- **IED** – Improvised Explosive Device

- **IFAK** – Individual First Aid Kit
- **IFF** – Identification Friend or Foe
- **IFF** – Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (USAF)
- **IG** – Inspector General (US Military)
- **IFV** – Infantry Fighting Vehicle
- **INSCOM** – United States Army Intelligence and Security Command
- **Il** – Ilyushin
- **Interpol** – International Criminal Police Organization
- **ISO** – Inter School Course
- **ISR** – Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance
- **IYAAYAS** – If You Aint AMMO, You Ain't Shit

J

- **JA** – Judge Advocate [General]
- **JAG** – Judge Advocate General
- **J.S.F** – Joint Strike Fighter
- **JATO** – Jet-fuel Assisted Take Off
- **JETDS** – Joint Electronics Type Designation System
- **JSAM** – Joint Service Achievement Medal
- **JSTAR** – Joint Surveillance Target Acquisition Radar
- **JSOC** – Joint Special Operations Command
- **JDAM** – Joint Direct Attack Munition
- **JEEP** - Just Enough Essential Parts

K

- **KATUSA** – Korean Augmentation Troops to the United States Army
- **KIA** – Killed In Action
- **KISS** – Keep It Simple, Stupid – USAF
- **KP** – Kitchen Police or Kitchen Patrol
- **KBO** – Keep Buggering On

L

- **LAAD** – Low Altitude Air Defense
- **LCDR** – Lieutenant Commander (US Navy)
- **LCPL** – Lance Corporal (US Marines)
- **LES** – Leave and Earnings Statement
- **LP** – Listening Post
- **LP/OP** – Listening Post Observation Post
- **LGOP** – Little Group Of Paratroopers
- **LT** – Lieutenant
- **LTC** or **Lt Col** – Lieutenant Colonel
- **LTG** or **Lt Gen** – Lieutenant General
- **LTJG** – **Lieutenant, Junior Grade (US Navy)**
- **LUP** – Lying-Up Point
- **LZ** – Landing Zone

M

Maj.- major

- **MARCORSYSCOM** – MARine CORps SYStems COMmand (U.S. Military)
- **MARFORRES** – MARine FORces REServe (U.S. Marine Corps)
- **MAW** – Maximum Allowable Weight
- **MBT** – Main Battle Tank
- **MCCS** – Marine Corps Community Services (also known by the humorous backronym Marine Corps Crime Syndicate)
- **MCEN** – Marine Corps Enterprise Network (U.S. Military)
- **MCEITS** – Marine Corps Enterprise Information Technology Service (U.S. Military)
- **MCPO** – Master Chief Petty Officer (USCG/USN E-9)
- **MFA** – Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **MG** – Machine Gun
- **MG** – Major General
- **MI** – Military Intelligence
- **Mi** – Mil Moscow Helicopter Plant (Russian)
- **MIA** – Missing In Action
- **MedEvac** – Medical Evacuation
- **MICV** – Mechanized Infantry Combat Vehicle
- **MiG** – Mikoyan-Gurevich (Russian)
- **MK** – Mark
- **MK** – Machinery Technician (U.S. Coast Guard)
- **MLRS** – Multiple Launch Rocket System
- **MMFD** – Miles and Miles of F...ing Desert (unofficial report in Gulf War)
- **MOA** – Military Operating Area (USAF Airspace)
- **MOAB** – Massive Ordnance Air Blast bomb, also known as "Mother Of All Bombs". (U.S. military)
- **MOAC** - Mother of All Coffee (Green Bean Coffee)
- **MOB** – Main Operating Base
- **MOBCOM** – MOBILE COMmand
- **MOPP** – Mission Oriented Protective Posture
- **MPDS** – Military Planning Data Allowance
- **MRAP** – Mine Resistant Ambush Protected
- **MRE** – Meal Ready to Eat (U.S. Military)
- **MRX** – Mission Rehearsal Exercise
- **MSgt** – Master Sergeant (USAF E-7)
- **MTOE** – Modified Table Of Organizational Equipment
- **MTS+** – Movement Tracking System Plus
- **MSDC+** – Marine Science Diving Club (Diving Club Of Hasanudin University)

N

- **NAFTA** – North American Free Trade Agreement
- **NAS** – Naval Air Station
- **NATO** – North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- **NCIS** – Naval Criminal Investigative Service (U.S. Navy)
- **NAVAIR** – Naval Air Systems Command
- **NCI** - National Cancer Institute
- **NCO** – Non-Commissioned Officer
- **NCOES** - Non-Commissioned Officer Education System
- **ND** – Negligent Discharge
- **NIBC** National Interagency Biodefense Campus
- **NICBR** - National Interagency Confederation for Biological Research

- **NMC** – Not Mission Capable
- **NMCI** – Naval Marine Corps Intranet (U.S. Navy)
- **NNMSA** – Non-Nuclear Munitions Storage Area
- **NS** – Network Services
- **NSA** – National Security Agency

O

- **OBE** – Overcome by Events (DoD)
- **OCONUS** – Outside Continental United States
- **OCS** – Officer Candidate School
- **OM** – On the Move (Normally just spelled out Oscar Mike)
- **O&M, MC** – Operations & Maintenance, Marine Corps (U.S. Navy)
- **O&M, N** – Operations & Maintenance, Navy (U.S. Navy)
- **OODA** – Observe, Orient, Decide, And Act
- **OP** – Observation Post
- **ORM** – Operational Risk Management
- **OSM** – Oh Shit Moment (U.S. Marine Corps)
- **OSP** – On Site Procurement
- **OPORD** – Operations Order
- **OPSEC** – Operations Security
- **OTF** – Out There Flapping (Airborne)
- **OTS** – Officer Training School
- **OTV** – Outer Tactical Vest

P

- **PACOM** – Pacific Command
- **PCS** – Permanent Change of Station
- **PDS** – Permanent Duty Station (U.S. Military)
- **PDT** – Pre-Deployment Training
- **PE** – Plastic Explosive
- **PFC** – Private First Class (U.S. Military)
- **PFM** – Pure Fuckin Magic (U.S. Military)
- **PFT** – Physical Fitness Test
- **PII** - Personally Identifiable Information or Personal Identity Information
- **PL** – Platoon Leader (U.S. Army)
- **PLT** – Platoon (U.S. Army)
- **PMC** – Partially Mission Capable
- **PME** – Professional Military Education
- **PMS** – Planned Maintenance Schedule (U.S. Navy)
- **PNG** – Passive Night Goggles
- **PO** – Post Office
- **PO1** – Petty Officer 1st Class (USCG/USN E-6)
- **PO2** – Petty Officer 2nd Class (USCG/USN E-5)
- **PO3** – Petty Officer 3rd Class (USCG/USN E-4)
- **POBCKA** – Problem Occurs Between Chair And Keyboard
- **POL** – Petroleum Oil & Lubricants (U.S. Air Force)
- **POC** – Point Of Contact
- **POTUS** – President of the United States

- **POG** – Person Other than Grunt (All non-combat arms job fields i.e. any MOS or CMF other than infantry, cavalry, armor, and artillery; among infantrymen, refers to anyone other than infantry or Special Forces)
- **POW** – Prisoner Of War
- **POV** – Privately Owned Vehicle
- **PPG** – PT Parade Games
- **PRP** – Personnel Reliability Program
- **PRP** – Pretty Retarded Program
- **PRT** – Provincial Reconstruction Team
- **PRT** – Physical Readiness Training (U.S. Army)
- **PT** – Physical Training
- **PTB** - Powers That Be
- **PV2** – Private 2nd class (U.S. Army E-2)
- **PVT** – Private (U.S. Army and Marine Corps E-1)
- **PX** – Post Exchange (U.S. Army)

R

- **RAAF** – Royal Australian Air Force (Australia)
- **RAF** – Royal Air Force (UK)
- **RAN** – Royal Australian Navy (Australia)
- **RATO** – Rocket Assisted Take Off
- **RCSC** – Royal Canadian Sea Cadets (Canada)
- **REMF** – Rear Echelon Mother Fucker
- **RFL** – Response Force Leader
- **RMC** – Royal Military College of Canada (Canada) in Kingston, Ontario
- **RN** – Royal Navy (UK)
- **ROE** – Rules Of Engagement
- **ROMA Data**, Right Out of My Ass Data. Unverifiable created data (different from SWAG)
- **ROWPU** – Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit
- **RNZAF** – Royal New Zealand Air Force (New Zealand)
- **RPG** – Rocket-Propelled Grenade
- **RPM** – Rounds per minute
- **RS** – RatShit (Australia – related to US – Unserviceable)
- **RSS** – Regional Security System (Caribbean)
- **RTB** – Return To Base
- **RV** – Rendez-Vous
- **RTO** - Radio Telephone Operator

S

- **SA** – Seaman Apprentice (USCG/USN E-2)
- **SAS** – Special Air Service (British special forces)
- **SBS** – Special Boat Service (British special forces)
- **SAAS** – Standard Army Ammunition System (U.S. Army)
- **SAM** – Surface-to-air Missile
- **SARSS** – Standard Army Retail Supply System (U.S. Army)
- **SCOTUS** – Supreme Court of the United States
- **SCPO** – Senior Chief Petty Officer (USCG/USN E-8)
- **SEAC** - Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- **SEAL** – Sea, Air and Land (US Navy SEALs)
- **SERE** – Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape

- **SFC** – Sergeant First Class (U.S. Army E7)
- **SGM** – Sergeant Major (U.S. Army E9 – Sometimes referred to as Staff Sergeant Major)
- **SGT** – Sergeant (U.S. Army E5)(U.S. Marines uses Sgt)
- **SITREP** – Situation Report
- **SJA** – Staff Judge Advocate
- **SLAM** – Standoff Land Attack Missile
- **SMA** – Sergeant Major of the Army (U.S. Army E9 – Senior Enlisted Member)
- **SMEAC** - Situation Mission Execution Admin/logistics Command/signal (US Marine Corps basic knowledge)
- **SMSgt** – Senior Master Sergeant (USAF E-8)
- **SN** – Seaman (USCG/USN E-3)
- **SNAFU** – Situation Normal: All Fucked Up
- **SOCOM** – United States Special Operations Command
- **SOFA** – Status of Forces Agreement
- **SOP** – Standard Operating Procedures
- **SOS** – Shit On a Shingle, or creamed chipped beef on toast.
- **SPC** – Specialist (U.S. Army E-4)
- **SR** – Seaman Recruit (USCG/USN E-1)
- **SrA** – Senior Airman (USAF E-4)
- **SRR** – Special Reconnaissance Regiment (British special Forces)
- **SSDD** – Same Shit Different Day
- **SSDDBS** – Same Shit Different Day Bigger Shovel
- **SSG** – Staff Sergeant (US Army E-6)
- **SSgt** – Staff Sergeant (US Air Force E-5)(U.S. Marines E-6)
- **SOL** – Shit Out of Luck (US Army)
- **SOLJWF** – Shit Out of Luck and Jolly Well Fucked (U.S. Marines)
- **STOVL** – Short Takeoff, Vertical Landing
- **SUSFU** – Situation Unchanged, Still Fucked Up
- **SWAG** – Scientific Wild Ass Guess

T

- **TACP** – Tactical Air Control Party (USAF)
- **TAD** – Temporary Additional Duty (U.S. Military)
- **TBD** – To Be Determined
- **TDY** – Temporary Duty (U.S. Military)
- **TF** – Task Force
- **TFOA** – Things Falling Off Aircraft
- **TG6** – Task Group 6 (group designation for NZ SAS – NZ Army)
- **TIC** – Troops In Contact
- **TSgt** – Technical Sergeant (USAF E-6)
- **TU** – Tits Up (Dead, Inoperable), a.k.a. "tango uniform"
- **TARFU** – Things Are Really Fucked Up, or Totally And Royally Fucked Up

U

- **UA** – Unauthorized Absence
- **UAS** – Unmanned Aerial System
- **UAV** – Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- **UCAV** – Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle
- **ULLS** – Unit Level Logistics System (U.S. Army)
- **UMA** – Unit Mobilization Assistor

- **UN** – United Nations
- **US** – Unserviceable
- **USSS** – United States Secret Service
- **USAF** – United States Air Force
- **USAFE** – United States Air Forces in Europe
- **USAMRICD** - United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense
- **USAMRIID** - United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Disease
- **USAMRMC** - United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
- **USAMRAA** - United States Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity
- **USA PATRIOT Act** – Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act
- **USAREC** – US Army REcruiting Command
- **USAREUR** – US Army European Command
- **USMC** – United States Marine Corps
- **USN** – United States Navy
- **USO** – United Service Organizations (U.S. Military)
- **USR** – Unit Status Report
- **UUV** – Unmanned Underwater Vehicle
- **UXB** – Unexploded Bomb (bomb disposal; British)
- **UXO** – Unexploded Ordnance

V

- **VBIED** – Vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device
- **VDM** – Visual Distinguishing Mark
- **VFD** – Volunteer Fire Department
- **VFR** – Volunteer Fire and Rescue

W

- **WIA** – Wounded In Action
- **WO1** – Warrant Officer 1
- **WSA** – Weapons Storage Area
- **WMD** – Weapons of Mass Destruction
- **WILCO** – Will Comply

X

- **XO** – Executive Officer

See also

- military slang
- List of acronyms
- List of government and military acronyms
- List of U.S. Air Force acronyms and expressions
- List of U.S. Marine Corps acronyms and expressions
- List of U.S. Navy acronyms

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External links

- AcronymFinder – Military and Government (<http://milgov.acronymfinder.com/>)
- Abbreviation.com – Military Abbreviations (<http://www.abbreviations.com/acronyms/MILITARY>)
- All Acronyms – Military Acronyms (<http://www.all-acronyms.com/?g=2>)
- Acronyms List – US Military Acronyms (<http://www.acronymslist.com/cat/us-military-acronyms.html>)

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