

# How to Speak Military

Including Acronyms,  
Definitions and Slang Terms

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provided by the United Methodist Endorsing Agency

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<b>1LT:</b>	<b>First Lieutenant</b>
<b>1stLt:</b>	<b>First Lieutenant</b>
<b>1st Sgt.:</b>	<b>First Sergeant</b>
<b>2LT:</b>	<b>Second Lieutenant</b>
<b>2ndLt:</b>	<b>Second Lieutenant</b>
<b>5-Ton:</b>	Refers to any tactical truck with a cargo capacity of 5 tons.
<b>AAFES:</b>	<b>Army, Air Force Exchange System</b>
<b>AAM:</b>	<b>Army Achievement Medal</b>
<b>AB:</b>	<b>Airman Basic</b>
<b>ABCMR:</b>	<b>Army Board for the Correction of Military Records</b> The final appeal authority for a member of the U.S. Army who disagrees with the findings or disposition determination of a Formal PEB that has been upheld by the USAPDA.
<b>ACAP:</b>	<b>Army Career and Alumni Program</b> ACAP is a world-class transition and job assistance services program for Soldiers and civilian employees and their family members.
<b>ACU:</b>	<b>Advanced Combat Uniform</b>
<b>ACU:</b>	<b>Army Combat Uniform</b>
<b>AD:</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>
<b>ADA:</b>	<b>Americans with Disabilities Act</b> Signed into law in 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act is a civil rights law that, in many cases, prohibits discrimination based on disability.
<b>ADAPT:</b>	<b>Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment</b>
<b>ADM:</b>	<b>Admiral</b>
<b>ADSC:</b>	<b>Active Duty Service Commitment</b>
<b>ADSEP:</b>	<b>Administrative Separation</b> Discharge or release from active duty upon or before expiration of enlistment, period of induction, or other required period of service, but specifically excluding punitive separation by the sentence of a general or special court-martial.

- ADSW:** **Active Duty for Special Work**
- AER:** **Army Emergency Relief**  
An aid organization that serves the Army.
- AFAUX:** **Air Force Auxiliary**
- AFBCMR:** **Air Force Board of Correction of Military Records**  
The final appeal authority for a member of the U.S. Air Force who disagrees with the findings or disposition determination of a Formal PEB that has been upheld by the SAFPC.
- AFN:** **Armed/American Forces Network**
- AFW2:** **Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) Program**  
The AFW2 Program provides personalized care and services to any airman ill or injured in support of OEF and OIF. Advocates for services on an airman's behalf, they ensure airmen have professional support and follow-up for no less than five years after separation or retirement
- AG:** **Adjutant General**
- AGR:** **Active Guard Reserve**
- Airman:** Any US Air Force member
- AJB:** **America's Job Bank**  
America's Job Bank is a service of the Department of Labor and the individual state employment services.
- AKO:** **Army Knowledge Online**  
AKO is the U.S. Army's main intranet. It serves registered users to include active duty and retired service personnel and their family members, and provides single sign-on access to over 300 applications and services.
- ALICE:** **All-Purpose Lightweight Individual Carrying Equipment**
- AMC:** **Air Mobility Command**
- AMMO:** **Ammunition**
- ... and a Wake-up:**  
The day you leave an ongoing duty assignment; usually in conjunction with leaving a combat zone or leaving the service. Used as a means of counting down to the transition. For example, if today is Monday and you leave the service on Friday, if someone were to ask when you get out, the answer would be "three days and a wake-up." (Tuesday to Thursday, with Friday being "the wake-up").

<b>ANG:</b>	<b>Air National Guard</b>
<b>AO:</b>	<b>Area of Operations</b>
<b>AOR:</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
<b>APC:</b>	<b>Armored Personnel Carrier</b>
<b>APDES:</b>	<b>Army Physical Disability Evaluation System</b>
<b>APFT:</b>	<b>Army Physical Fitness Test</b>
<b>APO:</b>	<b>Army Post Office</b>
<b>APOD:</b>	<b>Aerial Port of Debarkation</b>
<b>APOE:</b>	<b>Aerial Port of Embarkation</b>
<b>ARC:</b>	<b>Air Reserve Component</b>
<b>ARCAM:</b>	<b>Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal</b>
<b>ARCOM:</b>	<b>ARmy COMmendation medal</b>
<b>ARNG:</b>	<b>Army National Guard</b>
<b>ASOC:</b>	<b>Air Support Operations Center</b>
<b>ASVAB:</b>	<b>Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery</b>
<b>Ate up:</b>	Something that's messed up or not up to standards.
<b>AT/FP:</b>	<b>Antiterrorism/Force Protection</b>
<b>AVN:</b>	<b>Aviation</b>
<b>AW2:</b>	<b>Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)</b> The program's mission is to provide personalized support for severely injured Soldiers, no matter where they are located or how long their recovery takes.
<b>AWOL:</b>	<b>Absent With Out Leave</b>
<b>BAH:</b>	<b>Basic Allowance for Housing</b>
<b>BAMC:</b>	<b>Brooke Army Medical Center</b> (Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas)
<b>BAQ:</b>	<b>Basic Allowance for Quarters</b>

- BAS:**        **Basic Allowance for Subsistence**  
A payment to members for food. Members who are hospitalized continue receiving BAS during the hospitalization.
- Battle Rattle:** Full combat gear.
- Battle Rhythm:**  
A commander's pace, pattern, or systematic process used to plan and execute an engagement, battle, or campaign.
- Battlespace:**  
The environment, factors, and conditions which must be understood to successfully apply combat power, protect the force, or complete the mission.
- BCD:**        **Bad Conduct Discharge**  
(slang for Bad Conduct Discharge = Big Chicken Dinner)
- BCG:**        **Birth Control Glasses**  
Refers to the standard issue eyeglasses, generally not known for being exceptionally stylish.
- BCNR**        **Board for Correction of Naval Records**  
The final appeal authority for a member of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps who disagrees with the findings or disposition determination of a Formal PEB that has been upheld by the DIRSECNAVCORB.
- BCT:**        **Basic Combat Training**
- BDE:**        **Brigade**
- BDTD:**      **Been There Done That**
- BDU:**        **Battle Dress Uniform**
- BEQ:**        **Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (for NCOs)**
- BG:**         **Brigadier General**
- BgEN:**      **Brigadier General**
- Bird Colonel:**  
A full colonel, from the eagle insignia of grade, to distinguish from the one-grade-lower *Lieutenant Colonel*, whose insignia is a silver leaf. Also known as a "Full Bird" Colonel, or simply, a "Full Bull."

**Blast:** A parachute jump

**Blue Canoe:** A portable (chemical) toilet

**BN:** **Battalion**

**Boats:** Boatswain's Mate.

**BOQ:** **Bachelor Officers Quarters**

**Bos'n:** Boatswain's Mate.

**BRAC:** **Base Realignment and Closure**

**BSM:** **Bronze Star Medal**

**BUMED:** **Bureau of Medicine**

**Butter Bars:**  
The insignia for a Second Lieutenant; from the appearance of the individual yellow bars on each shoulder or lapel.

**BX:** **Base eXchange (AF)**

**CAB:** **Combat Action Badge**

**CAC:** **Casualty Assistance Center**

**CACO:** **Casualty Assistance Call Officer**

**CAO:** **Casualty Assistance Officer**

**CAP:** **Civil Air Patrol**

**CAP:** **Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program**  
CAP is the federal government's centrally funded accommodation program.

**CAPT:** **Captain**

**Casual Pay**  
Army term for an advance on a member's end of month paycheck. This payment will be automatically deducted during subsequent pay periods until paid back.

**CAT:** **Combat Aircrew Training**

**CAX:** **Combined Arms Exercise**

- CBHCO :**    **Community Based Health Care Organization**  
 If you are a member of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve and require only outpatient care, you may request transfer to a CBHCO. This program allows you live at home, receive outpatient care, and perform military duties at a local military organization such as an armory or recruiting station. You cannot work at a civilian job while you are attached to a CBHCO.
- CD:**       **Collateral Damage**
- CDC:**       **Center for Disease Control and Prevention**  
 The CDC is a government agency with the mission of promoting health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability. It is performing Vietnam veteran, Gulf War veteran, and Force Health Protections studies to evaluate the conditions of veterans as well as the care they receive.
- CDC:**       **Child Development Center**
- CDR:**       **Commander**
- CENTCOM:** **Central Command**
- CFC:**       **Combined Federal Campaign**
- CG:**        **Commanding General**
- CHAMPUS:** **Civilian Health and Medical Program for the Uniformed Services**
- Chaplain:** Provides spiritual guidance, personal counseling, and life issues counseling in a confidential setting. Chaplains are protected by the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which ensures confidentiality. Under military law, chaplains must keep conversations confidential when service members seek their spiritual guidance, either as a formal act of religion or a matter of conscience.
- CHC:**       **Chaplain Corps**
- CHCBP:**    **Continued Health Care Benefit Program**  
 The CHCBP is a premium-based health care program similar to TRICARE Standard. It offers temporary transitional health coverage (18-36 months) and must be purchased within 60 days after your TRICARE eligibility ends.
- CHENG:**    **Chief Engineer**
- Chow:**     Food, or "breakfast/lunch/dinner". Example: "Is it time for chow yet?"
- CIB:**       **Combat Infantry Badge**

**CID:** **Criminal Investigation Division (Army's FBI)**

**CINC:** **Commander In Chief**

**CINCHOME:**  
Spouse (*Commander In Chief* of the home...) Also **CINCHOUSE**.

**CIP:** **Combat Related Injury and Rehabilitation Pay**  
A monthly payment for members who were evacuated from a combat zone due to an injury. This payment was replaced by PAC, but some members who were wounded before PAC was established may be eligible for back payment of the allowance.

**CLT:** **Casualty Liaison Team**

**CMC:** **Commandant of the Marine Corps**

**CMC:** **Command Master Chief**

**CMSgt:** **Chief Master Sergeant**

**CNO:** **Casualty Notification Officer**

**CO:** **Commanding Officer**

**COA:** **Course of action**

**COAD:** **Continuation on Active Duty**

**Coalition Force:**  
A force composed of military elements of nations that have formed a temporary alliance for some specific purpose.

**COAR:** **Continuing on Active Reserve**

**Coast Guardsman:**  
Any U.S. Coast Guard member

**COB:** **Close Of Business -**  
The end of the day or duty shift. Meaning; by the end of the duty day. Usage: "Get that to me by COB today!!!"

**COC:** **Combat Operations Center**

**COC:** **Chain of Command**

**COCOM:** **Combatant command (command authority)**

**COD: Combat operations division**

**COE: Center of Excellence**

**COL: Colonel**

**COLA: Cost of Living Allowance**

**Combat Operational Stress Continuum:**

The Marine Corps views combat operational stress along a continuum. It is a representation of how you or others are functioning with deployment-related stress. It ranges from green (ready) to yellow (reacting) to orange (injured) and red (ill).

***Green (Ready)*** - In the green “ready” zone, you and your family are functioning well. You feel ready to handle the many challenges of deployment.

***Yellow (Reacting)*** - In the yellow “reacting” zone, you have mild, transient stress reactions, which are common.

***Orange (Injured)*** - The orange “injured” zone, includes more severe, persistent symptoms that are significant departures from your usual behavior and are not getting better, and suggest that there is more than just difficulty adjusting to deployment stress.

***Red (Ill)*** - The red “ill” zone is for those who have a severe disorder, such as major depression, anxiety, or Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

**Combat/Operational Stress Control (COSC):**

Policies, programs and actions designed to prevent, identify, and manage COSIs.

**Combat/Operational Stress Injury (COSI):**

Potentially irreversible changes in the brain and mind due to combat or operational stress that exceed in intensity or duration the ability of the individual to adapt. Symptoms of stress injury normally resolve over time as the injury heals, but intervention may be needed to promote healing in some cases. COSIs can be of three types, differing mostly in the cause of the injury: (1) traumatic stress injury, (2) fatigue stress injury, and (3) grief. Many COSIs include components of more than one type of stress injury, since trauma, fatigue, and grief are not mutually exclusive.

**Combat Stress:**

Changes in mental functioning or behavior due to the challenges of combat and its aftermath. These changes can be positive and adaptive (e.g., increased confidence in self and peers), or they can be indications of distress or loss of normal functioning that may be symptoms of a combat/operational stress injury.

**Combined Rating**

The total percentage of disability for a member with more than one disability. This is not determined by adding percentages of disability for each condition. The formula for determining a combined rating can be found in Section 4.25 (Table 1) of Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**CONOPS: Concept of operations**

**CONPLAN: Contingency plan**

**CONUS: Continental United States (OCONUS is Outside the Continental U.S.)**

**COOP: Continuity of operations**

**Corps Values:**

*Air Force* - Integrity first, Service before self, Excellence in all we do

*Army* - Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage

*Coast Guard* – Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty

*Marine Corps* - Navy – Honor, Courage and Commitment

*Navy* – Honor, Courage and Commitment

**COS: Combat Operational Stress**

**COSI: Combat/Operational Stress Injuries**

Changes in mental functioning or behavior due to the challenges of combat and its aftermath; or changes in mental functioning or behavior due to the challenges of military operations other than combat.

**COSR: Combat Operational Stress Reaction**

The term used to describe the physiological, behavioral and psychosocial reactions experienced before, during, or after combat or due to increased operational tempo during any phase of operations or deployment.

**COTS: Commercial off-the-Shelf**

**Cpl.: Corporal**

- CPO: Chief Petty Officer**
- CPT: Captain**
- CQ: Charge of Quarters** - An overnight desk duty.
- CRDP: Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments**  
A program that restores retired pay on a graduated 10-year schedule for retirees with a 50 to 90 percent VA-rated disability.
- CREDO: Chaplains Religious Enrichment and Development Program**  
CREDO is a retreat-based program started in 1971 by a Navy chaplain concerned about the military's drug problem. Since that time, CREDO has developed into a multi-faceted retreat program located worldwide. CREDO retreats are offered to enable Marines, Sailors and their families to develop personal and spiritual resources and grow toward increased functional ability, religious maturity, and accept responsibility.
- CRSC: Combat-Related Special Compensation**  
A monthly compensation that is intended to replace some or all of their retired pay that is withheld due to receipt of VA compensation.
- CSG: Carrier Strike Group**
- CSM: Command Sergeant Major**
- CSS: Combat Service Support**
- CWO: Chief Warrant Officer**
- CZTE: Combat Zone Tax Exclusion**  
A policy that exempts a member from paying federal taxes while serving in an area designated a combat zone.
- DA: Department of the Army**
- DAC: Department of the Army Civilian**
- DCU: Desert Camouflage Uniform** (not official)
- DD Form 214:**  
Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty The Report of Separation contains information normally needed to verify military service for benefits, retirement, employment, and membership in veterans' organizations.

**DD Form 2586:**

Verification of Military Experience and Training The DD Form 2586 is created from a service member's automated records on file. It lists military job experience and training history, recommended college credit information, and civilian equivalent job titles. This document is designed to help the member apply for jobs, but it is not a resume.

**DD Form 2648:**

Pre-separation Counseling Checklist A form used by the DoD that helps transition assistance program employees assist members in transitioning out of the military and into civilian life.

**DeCA:** Defense Commissary Agency

**DEERS:** Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System

**DEPORD:** Deployment order

**DEPTEMPO:** Deployment Tempo

**DEROS:** Date of Estimated Return from Overseas

**DES:** Disability Evaluation System

A system or process of the U.S. Government for evaluating the nature and extent of disabilities affecting members of the Armed Forces. The DES includes medical/psychological evaluations, physical evaluations, counseling of members, and mechanisms for the final disposition of disability determinations.

**Deuce:** Common utility truck (2-1/2 ton truck from "deuce-and-a-half")

**DF:** Disposition Form (sometimes referred to as a "buck slip")

**DFAC:** Dining Facility (Mess Hall or Cafeteria)

**DFAS:** Defense Finance Accounting Service

**DI:** Drill Instructor

**Digitals:** The new ACU and MARPAT digital camouflage uniforms, which consists of a pattern of pixelated squares

**DIRSECNAVCORB:**

**Director, Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards**

The governing body for the U.S. Navy overseeing the DES process for the service. A Sailor or Marine may appeal a PEB finding with the DIRSECNAVCORB, which has the authority to uphold the PEB findings, issue revised findings, or send the case back to the PEB for another review.

**DITY (Ditty): Do It Yourself Move**

**DLA: Dislocation allowance**

**DOB: Date of birth**

**DoD: Department of Defense**

**DODDS: Department of Defense Dependents Schools**

**Domestic Abuse:**

(1) domestic violence or (2) a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional/psychological abuse, economic control, and/or interference with personal liberty that is directed toward a person of the opposite sex who is: (a) a current or former spouse; (b) a person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or (c) a current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

**Domestic Violence:**

An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or state law that involves the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex, who is: (a) a current or former spouse; (b) a person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or (c) a current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

**DOR: Date of Rank**

**DOS: Date of Separation**

**Down Range:** Physically in a combat zone

**DS: Drill Sergeant**

**DSN: Defense Switched Network**

**DTAP: Disabled Transition Assistance Program**

DTAP works with members who may be released because of a disability or who believe they have a disability qualifying them for VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program (VR&E). The goal of DTAP is to encourage and assist potentially eligible service members in making an informed decision about VA's VR&E program. It is also intended to quickly deliver vocational rehabilitation services to eligible service members by assisting them in filing an application for vocational rehabilitation benefits.

- DVA:** **Department of Veterans Affairs**  
The federal agency responsible for providing a broad range of programs and services to service members and veterans as required by Title 38 of the U.S. Code. Formerly called Veterans Administration, also frequently called “VA”.
- DVOP:** **Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists**  
A Department of Labor employee trained to help veterans make the important adjustment to the civilian job market.
- DZ:** **Drop zone**
- EAS:** **Expiration of Active Service**  
The day active service terminates, including voluntary extensions of enlistment, convenience of the Government legal (CofGL), or convenience of the Government medical (CofGM).
- EEO:** **Equal Employment Opportunity**
- Efficiency:** Efficiency is the measure of a member’s total health minus his/her disability. A member with a 60 percent disability has only 40 percent of his/her total health that is not impacted by the disability.
- EFM:** **Exceptional Family Member**  
An authorized family member (spouse, child, stepchild, adopted child, foster child, or a dependent parent) residing with the sponsor who may require special medical and/or educational services based upon a diagnosed physical, intellectual or emotional handicap such as Asthma, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Dyslexia, ADD, ADHD, Autism, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, or Depression. Disabilities may range from mild to severe.
- EFMP:** **Exceptional Family Member Program**  
A mandatory enrollment program for all active duty personnel and is designed to provide assistance to active duty personnel with family member(s) who have special needs before, during and after relocation due to Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Orders.
- EFMT:** **Emergency Family Member Travel**  
Military travel orders that allow a recovering service member’s family to travel and stay with him/her during treatment and recovery after suffering a wound, illness, or injury.
- EFV:** **Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle**
- EMI:** **Extra Military Instruction.**  
Duties assigned as punishment which are also intended to improve one's military knowledge.

**Emotional cycle of deployment:**

- Anticipation of Departure
- Detachment and Withdrawal
- Emotional Disorganization
- Recovery and Stabilization
- Anticipation of Return
- Return Adjustment and Re-negotiation
- Reintegration and Stabilization

**EN: Enlisted**

**Enlisted personnel [man] [woman]:**

Generic term for anyone who is not a *warrant officer* or *commissioned officer*.

**ENS: Ensign**

**EO: Equal Opportunity**

**EOC: Expeditionary operations center**

**EOD: Explosive ordnance disposal**

**EPTE: Existed Prior to Entry**

**EPW: Enemy prisoner of war**

**ESG: Expeditionary Strike Group**

**ESGR: Employer Support of Guard and Reserve**

**ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival**

**ETS: Estimated Time of Separation**

**ETS: Expiration of Term of Service**  
Scheduled date of separation from active duty

**EWC: Enlisted Wives Club**

**FAC: Family Assistance Center**

- FAP: Family Advocacy Program**  
DoD mandated program designed to address the prevention and treatment of domestic violence and child abuse, and to provide direct services that may include crisis intervention and safety planning, counseling and rehabilitation, risk assessment, and training in the field of domestic violence and child abuse. The program is designed to prevent abuse and/or to intervene in families where there is substantiated or suspected abuse, to protect and provide safety for victims, to hold offenders accountable, and to promote healthy family life. The program includes prevention and education services, clinical counseling, case management, and victim advocacy.
- FAST: Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team**
- FAST: Fleet Antiterrorism Support Team**
- Fatigue Stress Injury:**  
A stress injury caused by the wear-and-tear of unrelenting exposure to operational stress during long or repeated deployments, often compounded by concurrent stress from other sources such as family problems.
- Fatigues:** Archaic term for the work/combat uniform
- FATS: Fire Arms Training System**
- FCP: Family Care Plan:**  
A Family Care Plan is a working plan that provides caregivers guidance in the event of the active duty member's absence. Active duty personnel who are single parents and those who have Exceptional Family Members (EFM) should have ongoing Family Care Plan that is continually reviewed and revised as needed. The plan should provide detailed information such as legal authorizations, medications, emergency contacts, physicians, teachers, therapists and other points of contact
- FDP: Flight duty period**
- FFSC: Fleet and Family Support Center**
- Fit/Unfit** A finding of the PEB. Fitness or unfitness is solely determined by the ability of the member to perform the duties of his/her office, grade, rank or rating because of disease or injury.
- FLO: Family Liaison Officer**  
An Air Force employee appointed to every Airman with a combat-related injury to assist in providing support to the recovering Airman's family.
- FMF: Fleet Marine Force**

- FMLA:**       **Family and Medical Leave Act**  
The federal law that provides unpaid leave and job protection to those who have family members with medical conditions that require their presence. The Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the expansion of the FMLA to support families of recovering service members.
- FOB:**       **Forward Operating Base**
- FOBbit:**     A soldier who doesn't leave the Forward Operating Base (var. of "Hobbit")
- FPCON:**     **Force protection condition**
- FPEB:**     **Formal Physical Evaluation Board**  
If a member disagrees with the Informal PEB findings or disposition, he/she may request a Formal PEB, appear before the board in person, obtain military or civilian legal counsel to represent him/her, call witnesses, present evidence, and present testimony on his/her own behalf.
- FRAGO:**     **Fragmentary order**
- FRG:**       **Family Readiness Group**
- FRIES:**     **Fast rope insertion and extraction system**
- FRO:**       **Family Readiness Officer**
- Front-Leaning Rest:**  
The push-up position.
- FSA:**       **Family Separation Allowance**  
Pay a member receives if he/she has dependents and is away from his/her permanent duty station for more than 30 days for temporary duty or on a temporary change of station, to include a deployment.
- FSSG:**     **Force Service Support Group**
- FTX:**       **Field Training Exercise.**
- Garrison:**   A permanent base, also referred to as home station.
- GCM:**       **Good Conduct Medal**
- Gedunk:**    Dessert/junk food/candy, or a place to buy same.
- GEN:**       **General**
- GI:**         **Government Issue**

Originally used for government supplied equipment, often used by Soldiers to refer to themselves.

- Gig line:** A straight line on some uniforms formed by the jacket (actually a shirt), the belt buckle, and the fly of the pants.
- GL-2005.261:**  
**Traumatic Injury Protection Payment**  
 The form used to request insurance payment for service-connected traumatic injury or loss from service in OIF/OEF.
- Goat Locker:**  
 Chief's Mess
- Goat Rope:** A situation which is not going well.
- Gore-Tex:** The camouflaged, hooded outer jacket which has largely replaced the traditional field jacket, so named because of the material used in construction
- GP:** **General Purpose**
- GQ:** **General Quarters**
- Grade:** Pay grade of a military member, currently E1-E9 for *enlisted personnel*, W1-W4 for *warrant officers*, O1-O10 for *commissioned officers*. Each grade may translate to several *ranks*; i.e., Grade E4 may be a *corporal* (command position) or *specialist* (non-command).
- Grunt:** An infantryman. Historically associated with the sound a Soldier makes when shouldering the field pack.
- GWOT:** **Global War on Terrorism**
- GySgt:** **Gunnery Sergeant**
- Hajji:** An Iraqi; literally means a Muslim that has gone on the Haj (a pilgrimage to Mecca) , but US Soldiers use it for all Iraqis in general.
- HAO:** **Home Awaiting Orders**
- HDP-L:** **Hardship Duty Pay Location**  
 Pay a member receives while serving in a location that the Secretary of Defense identifies as a hardship duty location
- HFP/IDP:** **Hostile Fire Pay/Imminent Danger Pay**  
 Pay a member receives while serving in an area the president identifies as placing him/her in imminent danger or that he/she may come under hostile fire
- HHG:** **Household Goods**

- HHS: Health and Human Services**  
HHS is the principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.
- High Speed:** A squared-away and highly motivated soldier. Often used sarcastically when a Soldier is motivated but doesn't really know what he's doing. As in "Slow down High Speed." Often used in conjunction with "Low Drag," essentially meaning the same thing.
- HMMWV: Humvee - High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle**
- Homeport:** Where a sailor's ship returns to between deployments
- Hooch:** Soldier's dwelling in-country, from hut to barracks (originated in Vietnam)
- HOR: Home of Record**
- Hospitalized:**  
For the purposes of some pay entitlements, members are considered hospitalized if they were admitted as an inpatient or were receiving extensive rehabilitation as an outpatient while living in quarters affiliated with the military health care system.
- HQ: Headquarters**
- HQMC: Headquarters, Marine Corps**
- HRSA: Health Resources and Service Administration**  
HRSA is the primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable.
- HS: Home Station**
- IA: Individual Augmentee**
- IED: Improvised Explosive Device**
- IG: Inspector General**
- IMA: Individual Mobilization Augmentee**
- In-Country:** Physically in a combat zone, see also "Down Range"

<b>IPEB:</b>	<b>Informal Physical Evaluation Board</b> The initial meeting of a PEB to determine a disposition of the member's medical case. The member will not be present at the Informal PEB. The Informal PEB will determine fit/unfit and the member's disposition based on the member's case file. The PEBLO counsels the member on the findings of the Informal PEB and provides options for appeal of those findings.
<b>IRR:</b>	<b>Individual Ready Reserve</b>
<b>ITA:</b>	<b>Invitational Travel Authorizations</b>
<b>ITO:</b>	<b>Invitational Travel Orders</b>
<b>ITP:</b>	<b>Individual Transition Plan</b> The ITP is a framework a member can use to fulfill realistic career goals based upon his/her unique skills, knowledge, experience, and abilities. The ITP identifies actions and activities associated with a member's transition
<b>ITT:</b>	<b>Information Tours and Travel</b>
<b>JAG:</b>	<b>Judge Advocate General</b>
<b>JAN:</b>	<b>Job Accommodation Network</b> A free service from the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy that provides personalized worksite accommodations, information regarding the ADA and other disability related information, and information about self-employment.
<b>JCS:</b>	<b>Joint Chiefs of Staff</b>
<b>JFC:</b>	<b>Joint force commander</b>
<b>JOC:</b>	<b>Joint operations center</b>
<b>John Wayne</b>	(1) the act of improperly wearing a helmet with the chinstrap unfastened, (2) a can opener
<b>JSOTF:</b>	<b>Joint special operations task force</b>
<b>JTF:</b>	<b>Joint task force</b>
<b>JTFEX:</b>	<b>Joint task force exercise</b>
<b>KEVLAR:</b>	Ground troops ballistic helmet, so named because it is made of Kevlar material
<b>KIA:</b>	<b>Killed in Action</b>

**Klicks:**        **Kilometers;** .6214 mi each

**KP:**            Periodic one-day duty assignment for lower grade soldiers to do mess hall work, ranging from helping to prepare food to cleaning out the grease traps (literally "Kitchen Patrol" or "Kitchen Police").

**LAV:**           **Light Armored Vehicle**

**LBV:**           **Load Bearing Vest**  
For carrying ammunition, water, and other tactical loads while in the field, or during an assault

**LCAC:**        **Landing Craft Air Cushion**

**LCDR:**        **Lieutenant Commander**

**LCpl:**         **Lance Corporal**

**Leatherneck:** US Marine

**LES:**           **Leave and Earnings Statement** (pay stub)

**LHA:**           **Amphibious Assault Ship- General Purpose**

**LHD:**           **Amphibious Assault Ship- Multipurpose**

**Lifer:**         Career military person.

**Light Colonel:** A Lieutenant Colonel

**LINKS:**        **Lifestyle Insights, Networking, Knowledge, and Skills**  
A volunteer-based, team-mentoring program designed by spouses, for spouses. The curriculum focus is for spouses new to the Marine Corps community, but any spouse is welcome to attend. The program offers an orientation to the Marine Corps lifestyle, helping new spouses adapt to the unique challenges military life often presents.

**LOD:**           **Line of Duty**

**LPCs:**         **Leather Personnel Carriers**, or combat boots.  
Generally used when describing a mode of travel (ie. "we'll be taking our LPCs over to the range")

**LPD:**           **Landing Platform Dock**  
Amphibious Transport [Ship]

**LRMC:**        **Landstuhl Regional Medical Center** (Landstuhl, Germany)

**LSD:**           **Landing Ship Dock**

**LT:**            **Lieutenant**

**LTC:**          **Lieutenant Colonel**

**LtCol:**        **Lieutenant Colonel**

**LTG:**          **Lieutenant General**

**LtGen:**        **Lieutenant General**

**LTJG:**        **Lieutenant Junior Grade**

**LVER:**        **Local Veterans Employment Representative**  
 A Department of Labor employee trained to help veterans make the important adjustment to the civilian job market.

**LZ:**           **Landing Zone**

**M4L:**          **Marine for Life**

**MA:**           **Master at Arms**

**Ma Deuce:**    The Browning .50 caliber machinegun, a staple of U.S. forces since WWII. Comes from the weapon's actual designation, the "M2."

**MAG:**          **Marine Aircraft Group**

**MAGTF:**       **Marine Air - Ground Task Force**

**MAJ:**          **Major**

**MajGen:**       **Major General**

**MARCENT:**    **Marine Forces Central Command**

**MARDIV:**     **Marine Division**

**MARFOR:**     **Marine Forces**

**Marine:**      Any U.S. Marine

**Mast:**        A non-judicial disciplinary hearing in which a commanding officer studies and disposes of cases involving those in his or her command (Navy)

**Master Sgt.:** **Master Sergeant**

**MAW: Marine Aircraft Wing**

**MCAS: Marine Corps Air Station**

**MCCS: Marine Corps Community Services**  
Enhances unit and family readiness by delivering programs such as Marine Corps Family Team Building (MCFTB), Military One Source Information and Referral Service, Counseling Services and New Parent Support. The programs are designed specifically for Marines and families to increase their awareness of relevant readiness issues, while offering creative ideas to build a healthy family.

**MCPO: Master Chief Petty Officer**

**MCPON: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy**

**MEB: Marine Expeditionary Brigade**

**MEB: Medical Evaluation Board**  
A board, generally comprising medical officers, that determines if a member meets medical retention standards for his/her service. The board may recommend a return to duty or send the member's case to a Physical Evaluation Board.

**MEDEVAC: Medical Evacuation**

**MedlinePlus**

Medline Plus is a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health that provides resources regarding all aspects of veterans' health including recent news, treatments, rehabilitation and recovery programs, condition-specific information, financial issues, as well as ongoing clinical trials and research.

**MEF: Marine Expeditionary Force**

**MEPS: Military Entrance Processing Station**

**MEU: Marine Expeditionary Unit**

**MEU (SOC): Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable)**

**MG: Major General**

**MGIB: Montgomery G.I. Bill**  
The MGIB provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans for college, technical or vocational courses, correspondence courses, apprenticeship/job training, flight training, high-tech training, licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training, certain entrance examinations.

- MGIB-SR: Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve**  
The MGIB-SR program may be available to you if you are a member of the Selected Reserve. The Selected Reserve includes the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve, and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. You may use this education assistance program for degree programs, certificate or correspondence courses, cooperative training, independent study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and vocational flight training programs.
- MGySgt: Master Gunnery Sergeant**
- MHO: Medical Hold Over**
- MI: Military Intelligence**
- MIA: Missing in Action**  
Missing in a battle situation, not known if alive or dead.
- MLO: Marine Liaison Office**
- MOOTW: Military operations other than war**
- MOPP: Mission Oriented Protective Posture**
- MOS: Military Occupational Specialty**  
Formal job classification, usually expressed as a number or number/letter combination--e.g., 11B Infantryman.
- MOU: Memorandum of Understanding**
- MOUT: Military Operations in Urban Terrain**
- MP: Military Police**
- MPO: Military Protective Order**  
A non-punitive order imposing conditions upon a service member to maintain the safety and protection of another person. An MPO does not preclude disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice nor does it preclude the issuance of a civilian protection order.
- MRE: Meal Ready to Eat**  
(*slang*: Meal Rejected by Ethiopians or Meal Rejected by the Enemy)
- MSC: Military Sealift Command**

- MSIC: Military Severely Injured Center**  
A DoD call-in support program that provides information regarding medical care and rehabilitation; education, training, and job placement; personal mobility and functioning; accommodations; counseling; and financial resources.
- MSM: Meritorious Service Medal**
- Mtbi: Mild Traumatic Brain Injury**  
Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (concussion) is caused by blunt trauma to the head or acceleration/deceleration forces joggling the brain within the skull, which may or may not produce a period of unconsciousness. Mild TBI is defined as an injury to the brain as a result of any period of observed or self-reported: Confusion, disorientation, or impaired consciousness; Dysfunction of memory around the time of injury (amnesia); Loss of consciousness lasting less than 30 minutes. No other obvious neurological deficits, no intracranial complications (e.g. hematoma / blood clot) and normal computed tomography (CT) findings should be present.
- MTF: Military Treatment Facility**
- Mustang:** An Officer who came from the Enlisted ranks
- MWR: Morale, Welfare and Recreation**
- NACCRRRA: National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies**  
NACCRRRA is an organization through which you can get assistance to find and pay for safe, licensed childcare services for a period of six months during the service member's recuperation.
- Navy Safe Harbor**  
The Navy Safe Harbor program provides personalized assistance to severely injured Sailors and their families.
- NBC: Nuclear, biological, chemical**
- NCO: Non-Commissioned Officer**  
An enlisted person with command responsibility over soldiers of lesser rank; a corporal (grade E4) or any grade of sergeant (grades E5 - E9)
- NCOIC: NCO in Charge**
- NCR: National Capital Region**  
Washington, D.C., and the surrounding areas.

- NDAA:** **National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008**  
Public Law 110-181 that authorizes expenditures and provides guidance for the federal government concerning national defense. In the Fiscal Year 2008 version, a large section was devoted to wounded warrior issues.
- NEO:** **Noncombatant Evacuation Operations**
- NG:** **National Guard**
- NGO:** **Nongovernmental organization**
- NIDCD:** **National Institute on Deafness and Other Communicative Disorders**  
The NIDCD studies the molecular mechanisms that cause the loss of hearing from exposure to loud noise.
- NIDCR:** **National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial Research**  
The NIDCR conducts ongoing research in tissue engineering and regeneration for wounds to the head and face.
- NIDDK:** **National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases**  
NIDDK supports 22 research projects related to veterans of military service.
- NIMH:** **National Institute of Mental Health**  
NIMH conducts projects on trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that involve veteran populations.
- NIPRNET:** **Nonsecure Internet Protocol Router Network**
- NJP:** **Non-Judicial Punishment**
- NLT:** **Not Later Than**
- NMCB/R:** **Naval Mobile Construction Battalion/Regiment**
- NMCI:** **Navy-Marine Corps Intranet**
- NMCRS:** **Navy Marine Corps Relief Society**  
An aid organization that serves the Navy and Marine Corps.
- NMCSD:** **Naval Medical Center San Diego**, commonly called “Balboa”  
(San Diego, California)
- NNMC:** **National Naval Medical Center**, commonly called “Bethesda”  
(Bethesda, Maryland)
- NOK:** **Next of Kin**
- NSI:** **Not Seriously Injured**

- NSSP: National Strategy for Suicide Prevention**  
The NSSP is a collaborative effort between SAMSHA, CDC, NIH, HRSA and HHS and provides facts about suicide, recent publications, and resources designed to spread knowledge of the seriousness of suicides.
- NSW: Naval Special Warfare**
- NVG: Night Vision Goggles**
- O: Officer**
- OCONUS: Outside the continental United States**
- OCS: Officer Candidate School**
- O Dark Thirty:**  
Way too early in the morning!
- OEF: Operation Enduring Freedom**  
OEF includes Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, Guantanamo Bay (Cuba), Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Yemen.
- OHA: Overseas Housing Allowance**
- OIF: Operation Iraqi Freedom**  
OIF includes missions on or after March 19, 2003, in the Arabian Sea, Bahrain, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Persian Gulf, Qatar, Red Sea, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates. Prior to March 19, 2003, missions in these countries were considered OEF.
- Ombudsman:**  
An ombudsman is assigned to or near a major military facility or VA medical facility to further assist in the transition by helping you connect with local agencies and community groups.
- ONE: Operation Noble Eagle**
- OPCON: Operational control**
- OPLAN: Operation Plan**
- OPNAV: Chief of Naval Operations**
- Operational Stress:**  
Changes in mental functioning or behavior due to the challenges of military operations other-than-combat.

- OPORD:**     **Operation order**
- OPSEC:**     **Operational Security**
- OPTEMPO:** **Operational Tempo**
- ORM:**       **Operational risk management**
- OWC:**       **Officers' Wives Club**
- PAC:**       **Personal Administration Center**
- PAC:**       **Pay and Allowance Continuation**  
A new policy allowing members evacuated from a combat zone to continue receiving all combat pay and allowances they received prior to the injury for the first year they are hospitalized.
- PAD:**       **Patient Administration Division**
- PAO:**       **Public Affairs Office / Officer**
- Partial Pay:**  
Air Force term for an advance on a member's end of month paycheck. This payment will be automatically deducted during subsequent pay periods until paid back.
- PAT:**       **Patient Administration Team**  
A non-medical care organization that assists members of the military in issues related to their hospitalization and recovery.
- PCM:**       **Primary care management**
- PCS:**       **Permanent Change of Station**  
Reassignment, usually to a different duty station
- PDA:**       **Physical Disability Agency**
- PDHRA:**     **Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment**
- PDRL:**     **Permanent Disabled Retirement List**  
The PEB disposition finding for a member who has one or more service unfitting condition(s) with a combined rating of 30 percent or higher, was incurred in the line of duty, and is considered stable. This disposition also covers members who have served 20 or more years, has one or more service unfitting condition(s) with a combined rating of 20 percent or less, was incurred in the line of duty, and is considered stable.

- PEB:** **Physical Evaluation Board**  
A board, generally comprising a senior line officer, senior personnel officer, and senior medical officer that determines if a member is fit or unfit for continued service. This board may recommend a return to duty, separation with or without benefits, or medical retirement (temporary or permanent).
- PEBD:** **Physical Evaluation Board Disposition**  
The findings of a PEB on a member's medical case. Member can be found fit and returned to duty, found unfit and separated with or without benefits, or medically retired on either the permanent or temporary disability retirement list.
- PEBLO:** **Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer**  
The person assigned to assist the service member through the DES process. Duties include counseling the member on the process as well as building the case file used by the PEB to determine fitness for duty.
- Per Diem:** A daily allowance paid to a person on military travel orders to cover food, lodging, and incidentals. In cases where lodging or food is provided by the government, this payment will only be for the \$3.50 incidental rate.
- PERSCOM:** **PERSonnel COMmand**  
Short for United States Army Personnel Command. Now known as HRC, or the Human Resources Command
- PFA:** **Physical Fitness Assessment**
- Pfc.:** **Private First Class**
- PHA:** **Periodic Health Assessment**
- PLD:** **Permanent Limited Duty**
- PMOS:** **Primary Military Occupational Specialty**
- PNOK:** **Primary Next of Kin**
- PO:** **Petty Officer**
- POA:** **Power of Attorney**
- POC:** **Point of Contact**
- Poge:** Pronounced with a long "o". Derogatory term - A Soldier who spends all his time back at camp and never on maneuvers. Variation: POG - Permanently On the Ground, used esp. by aviation personnel for those who do not fly
- Pogey Bait:** Snack food

**Post- 9/11 GI Bill**

Post- 9/11 GI Bill is a new benefit providing educational assistance to individuals who have served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. It provides additional monetary benefits for members, including a housing and book allowance, and is limited by the cost of the highest public school tuition costs in the state the member resides, rather than a set cap like the Montgomery G.I. Bill. It also allows for transfer of benefits to family members in certain instances.

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD):**

A traumatic stress injury that fails to heal such that the symptoms and behaviors it causes remain significantly troubling or disabling beyond 30 days after their onset. PTSD is not the only stress disorder that can result from unhealed stress injuries; others include clinical depression and anxiety, and substance abuse or dependence.

**POTUS: President of the United States**

**POV: Privately-Owned Vehicle**  
A military member's personal automobile

**POW: Prisoner of War**

**PRT: Physical Readiness Test**

**PSD: Personnel Service Detachment**  
A military personnel office that will assist members and their families with pay and personnel problems.

**PT: Physical Training**

**PTSD: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder**  
A traumatic stress injury that fails to heal such that the symptoms and behaviors it causes remain significantly troubling or disabling beyond 30 days after their onset.

**Pvt: Private**

**PX: Post eXchange**  
A multipurpose store which usually includes a barber shop and a convenience store.

**QUAL: Qualification**

**Quarters:** (a) military family housing, or (b) doctor's direction to stay home from work, i.e. "he went to sick call and got quarters."

**QM: Quartermaster**

**RAC: Riverine Assault Craft**

**RADM: Rear Admiral (upper half)**

**RC: Reserve Component**

**RDC: Rear Detachment Commander**

**RDML: Rear Admiral (lower half)**

**Rear D: Rear Detachment**

**REALifelines:**

A Department of Labor program to help injured veterans return to fulfilling, productive civilian lives using federal, state, and local level efforts to create a network of resources that focus on veteran well-being and job-placement assistance.

**Real World:** Return to civilian life; or: return to USA from overseas

**REGT: Regiment**

**Restricted Reporting:**

Restricted reporting allows a sexual assault victim to confidentially disclose the details of his or her assault to specified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling, without triggering the official investigative process.

**Return to Duty:**

The PEB disposition finding for a member who does not have a service unfitting condition.

**RFO: Request For Orders**

**RIF (riff): Reduction in Force**

**RLTW: Rangers Lead The Way**

**ROAD: Retired On Active Duty** (ie. "ROAD warrior)

**ROE: Rules of engagement**

**ROTC: Reserve Officer Training Corps**

**RPG: Rocket propelled grenade**

**R&R: Rest and Relaxation/Recreation**

**SA: Seaman Apprentice**

- SAFE:** **Sexual Assault Forensic Examination**  
The medical examination of a sexual assault victim under circumstances and controlled procedures to ensure the physical examination process, and the collection, handling, analysis, testing, and safekeeping of any bodily specimens, meet the requirements necessary for use as evidence in criminal proceedings.
- SAFPC:** **Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council**  
Organization that can uphold a PEB finding, revise the findings of a PEB, or return the case to the PEB for further review. Airmen may present a written rebuttal to the SAFPC if they disagree with the PEB findings.
- Sailor:** Any U.S. Navy member
- SAM:** **Surface-to-air-missile**
- SAMHSA:** **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**  
SAMHSA is an agency within the DHHS that focuses on building resilience and facilitating recovery for people with or at risk for mental or substance use disorders.
- Sand Box:** Iraq, particularly the southern part
- SAPR:** **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response**
- SAR:** **Search and Rescue**
- SARC:** **Sexual Assault Response Coordinator**  
Military personnel, DoD civilian employees, or DoD contractors under the senior commander's supervision, who:
1. Serve as the central point of contact at an installation or within a geographic area to oversee sexual assault awareness, prevention, and response training
  2. Ensure appropriate care is coordinated and provided to victims of sexual assault; and track the services provided to a victim of sexual assault from the initial report through final disposition and resolution.
- SAVE:** **Suicide Awareness Voices of Education**  
SAVE is a non-profit organization with the goal of preventing suicide through public awareness and education, reducing stigma and serving as a resource to those touched by suicide.
- SBA:** **Small Business Administration Loans**  
Business loans are available to veterans through programs of the SBA. In addition, SBA offers loans specifically to Vietnam-era and disabled veterans.

**SBP:**           **Survivor Benefits Program**

**SCI:**           **Spinal Cord Injury**

**SCPO:**       **Senior Chief Petty Officer**

**Scuttlebutt:** Drinking fountain or rumor

**SDO:**           **Staff Duty Officer**

**SDP:**           **Savings Deposit Program**

Members deployed to combat zones may put up to \$10,000 of their pay in this program and earn 10 percent interest on the money deposited.

**Seabees:**     Naval Construction Battalions

**SEAL:**       **Sea Air Land Teams**

**Sea Lawyer:** An argumentative, cantankerous or know-it-all sailor.

**SecDef:**      **Secretary of Defense**

**Sexual Assault:**

The intentional sexual contact characterized by the use of force, physical threat, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Consent shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. This can occur without regard to gender or spousal relationship and includes, but is not limited to, rape, nonconsensual sodomy, and indecent assaults or attempts to commit these acts.

**Sexual Harassment:**

A form of sex discrimination that involves unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a person's job, pay, or career.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person is used as a basis for career or employment decisions affecting that person.
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. Workplace conduct, to be actionable as "abusive work environment" harassment, need not result in concrete psychological harm to the victim, but rather need only be so severe or pervasive that a reasonable person would perceive, and the victim does perceive, the work environment as hostile or abusive.

- Any person in a supervisory or command position who uses or condones any form of sexual behavior to control, influence, or affect the career, pay, or job of a military member or civilian employee is engaging in sexual harassment. Similarly, any military member or civilian employee who makes deliberate or repeated unwelcome verbal comments, gestures, or physical contact of a sexual nature in the workplace is also engaging in sexual harassment.

**S-DVI: Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance**

**SGLI: Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance**

SGLI is a program of low cost group life insurance for service members on active duty, ready reservists, members of the National Guard, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies, and members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

**SGL 8714: Veterans Group Life Insurance**

The form used to convert SGLI to VGLI.

**SGLV 8715: SGLI Disability Extension**

The form used to request an extension of the SGLI coverage for two years from date of discharge from the military for those who are totally disabled.

**Sgt.: Sergeant**

**Sgt. Maj.: Sergeant Major**

**Short:** Soon to be released from service; usually 90 days or less (ie a 'two-digit midget')

**SI: Seriously Injured**

**Side-Straddle Hop:**

Jumping jacks

**SIQ: Sick In Quarters**

**Sky Pilot:** Chaplain; also Chaps, Padre (gender inclusive)

**SMSgt: Senior Master Sergeant**

**SN: Seaman**

**SNOK: Secondary Next of Kin**

**SOC: Special Operations Capable**

**SOFA: Status of forces agreement**

- SOI:** **School of Infantry**
- Soldier:** Any U.S. Army member
- SOP:** **Standard Operating Procedure**
- SPARRC:** **Department of Defense Suicide Prevention and Risk Reduction Committee's Preventing Suicide Network**  
The DoD SPARRC Preventing Suicide Network is a resource center aimed at providing authoritative and problem-specific information about suicide prevention.
- Spc.:** **Specialist**
- SPECAT:** **Special Category (of injury)**
- Special pay** Navy/Marine Corps term for an advance on a member's end of month paycheck. This payment will be automatically deducted during subsequent pay periods until paid back.
- SPMAGTF:** **Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force**
- SR:** **Seaman Recruit**
- SrA:** **Senior Airman**
- SRB:** **Selective Reenlistment Bonus**
- SSA:** **Social Security Administration**  
The SSA is the government agency that is charged with ensuring the economic security of Americans. While you work, you pay taxes into the Social Security system, and when you retire or become disabled you, your spouse and your dependent children receive monthly benefits that are based on your reported earnings. Also, your survivors can collect benefits if you die.
- SSDI:** **Social Security Disability Insurance Program**  
SSDI pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.
- SSgt:** **Staff Sergeant**
- SSI:** **Supplemental Security Income**  
SSI is a Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (not Social Security taxes). It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income, and provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

**SSN:**           **Social Security Number**

**Stress Adaptation:**

The normal, reversible process of coping with a stressor, usually by either changing oneself physically and mentally to be better suited for that particular stressor, or by becoming numb to the mental and physical effects of that stressor. Stress adaptation is always temporary, and it always fades after the stressor is no longer experienced.

**Stressor:**      Any particular mental or physical challenge or set of challenges.

**STRAC:**       **STRategic Army Command**

STRAC units were those designated to be on high alert to move anywhere in 72 hours or less; as slang, tight, together, by the book

**STRATCOM:** **Strategic Command**

**STX:**           **Situational Training Exercise**

**TAD:**           **Temporary Additional Duty**

**TAP:**           **Transition Assistance Program**

TAP is a program designed to ease the transition from military service to the civilian workforce and community.

**TAPS:**         **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors**

**TBI:**           **Traumatic Brain Injury**

Traumatic brain injury is a neurological injury with possible physical, cognitive, behavioral, and emotional symptoms. Like all injuries, TBI is most appropriately and accurately diagnosed as soon as possible after the injury. TBI is not a mental health condition. The range of TBI includes mild, moderate, severe, and penetrating. Well after the injury event, Soldiers may have residual symptoms from a TBI and new or emerging PTSD symptoms. If the TBI has not been previously identified or documented, an accurate description of the traumatic events in theater usually allows a well-trained clinician to make a distinction between TBI and PTSD or other mental health conditions.

**TDP:**           **TRICARE Dental Program**

The TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) is a voluntary dental insurance program. TDP is available to family members of all active duty service members of any of the seven uniformed services and to National Guard/Reserve members and/or their families.

- TDRL: Temporary Disability Retirement List**  
The PEB disposition finding for a member who has one or more service unfitting condition(s) with a combined rating of 30 percent or higher, was incurred in the line of duty, and is not considered stable.
- TDY: Temporary Duty**
- TECOM: Training and Education Command**
- TIG: Time In Grade**
- Time:** 0001 – 2400 hours; example: oh six hundred = 6 AM, 18 hundred = 6 PM  
0 may also be called zero, as in zero nine thirty
- TLA: Temporary Living Allowance**
- TLE: Temporary Lodging Entitlement**
- Top:** First Sergeant
- TOW: Tube-Launched Optically-Tracked Wire-Guided Missile**

#### **Traumatic Event**

A Qualifying Traumatic Injury is an injury or loss caused by application of external force or violence (a traumatic event) OR a condition whose cause can be directly linked to a traumatic event.

#### **Traumatic Injury**

Traumatic injury is derived by external force or violence or a condition that can be linked to a traumatic event.

#### **Traumatic Stress Injury:**

A stress injury caused by the impact of specific events involving serious or sustained threat to one's own life, or a loss of life or serious injury witnessed in another.

#### **TRICARE**

TRICARE is the health care program serving eligible active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, retirees, their families, survivors, and certain former spouses worldwide.

#### **TRICARE Online**

*www.TRICARE.mil* is the entry point that offers beneficiaries access to TRICARE information about eligibility, plans, and medical, dental, vision and prescription coverage.

- TRDP: TRICARE Retiree Dental Program**  
The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) is a voluntary dental insurance program for uniformed services retirees and their eligible family members.
- Trooper(s):** Used in lieu of "Soldier" when referring to Airborne Soldiers
- TRS: TRICARE Reserve Select**  
TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) is a premium-based plan that qualified National Guard and Reserve members may purchase. TRS, which requires a monthly premium, offers coverage similar to TRICARE Standard and Extra. For information or assistance with qualifying for and purchasing TRS, check the TRICARE Web site.
- TSGLI: Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance**  
An insurance program related to the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance that pays a member who has suffered a severe loss, such as a leg or arm amputation.
- TSgt: Technical Sergeant**
- TSOC: Theater Special Operations Commands**
- TSP: Thrift Savings Plan**
- TTAD: Temporary Tour Active Duty**
- TTT: Troops to Teachers**  
The TTT program is funded and overseen by the Department of Education and operated by the DoD. The TTT program helps recruit quality teachers for schools that serve students from low-income families throughout America.
- UA: Unauthorized Absence**
- UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle**
- UCMJ: Uniform Code of Military Justice**
- Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Service Members**  
Service members separating from active duty may qualify for unemployment compensation if they are unable to find a new job.
- Unrestricted Reporting:**  
A process a Service member uses to disclose, without requesting confidentiality or restricted reporting, that he or she is the victim of a sexual assault. Under these circumstances, the victim's report and any details provided to healthcare personnel, the SARC, a VA, command authorities, or

other persons are reportable to law enforcement and may be used to initiate the official investigative process.

**USAFPDD: U.S. Air Force Physical Disability Division**

Processing agency for all Formal and Informal PEB cases in the U.S. Air Force. This organization reviews all PEB findings and dispositions, referring those it feels need further review to the Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council.

**USAPDA: U.S. Army Physical Disability Agency**

The governing body for the U.S. Army overseeing the DES process for the service. All PEB findings are sent to the USAPDA, and 20 percent of the cases are randomly reviewed for quality assurance purposes. Any case with a minority opinion will be automatically reviewed. Soldiers may appeal a PEB finding with the USAPDA, which has the authority to uphold the PEB findings, issue revised findings, or send the case back to the PEB for another review.

**USAR: United States Army Reserve**

**USGLI: United States Government Life Insurance**

**USO: United Service Organization**

**USPHS: U.S. Public Health Service**

“Healthier Vets,” the Surgeon General’s joint DHHS / VA initiative, is designed to help veterans and their families remain physically active after they have separated from the military.

**UXO: Unexploded Ordnance**

**VA: Department of Veterans Affairs (formerly called Veterans Administration)**

**VA: Victim Advocate**

Military personnel, DoD civilian employees, DoD contractors, or volunteers who facilitate care for victims of sexual assault under the SAPR Program, and who, on behalf of the sexual assault victim, provide liaison assistance with other organizations and agencies on victim care matters, and report directly to the SARC when performing victim advocacy duties.

**VADM: Vice Admiral**

**VA Form 10-8678 - Clothing Allowance:**

The form used to apply for a clothing allowance if a service-connected disability requiring a prosthetic device or orthopedic appliance (such as a wheelchair) leads to damage to a veteran’s clothes.

**VA Form 21-4502 - Vehicle Purchase and Adaptation:**

The form used to apply for a one-time grant toward the purchase of a vehicle with adaptive equipment approved by VA for a veteran or service member with certain disabilities.

**VA Form 21-526 – Compensation and Pension:**

The form used to request VA provide service-related disability compensation, or a pension for those who are wartime veterans with non-service-connected disabilities.

**VA Form 21-8940 - Increased Compensation based on unemployability:**

The form used to request compensation based on an inability to work due to total disability from service-connected disability(s).

**VA Form 22-1990 - VA Education Benefits:**

The form used to apply for multiple education benefits, including the Montgomery GI Bill Educational Assistance Program; Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve Educational Assistance Program; Reserve Educational Assistance Program; Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program; National Call to Serve Program; and the Transfer of Entitlement Program.

**VA Form 22-5490 - Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance:**

The form used to apply for educational assistance to a spouse or child if the member is permanently and totally disabled as a result of a service-connected disability; dies of a service connected disability; or while rated permanently and totally disabled; or is missing in action or a prisoner of war.

**VA Form 26-4555 - Housing Adaptation:**

The form used to apply for grants for constructing an adapted home or modifying an existing home to meet a disabled veteran/service member's needs.

**VA Form 28-1900 – Disabled Veterans Application for Vocational Rehabilitation:**

The form used to apply for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment benefits

**VA Form 28-8832 - Application for Counseling:**

The form used to apply for vocational and educational counseling

**VA Form 29-0188 - Application for Supplemental Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance:**

The form used to apply for Supplemental Service Disabled Veterans Insurance.

**VA Form 29-357, Claim for Disability Insurance Benefits:**

The form used to apply for waiver of premiums on a Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance policy.

**VA Form 29-4364: Application for Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance:**  
The form used to apply for Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI).

**VA Form 29-8636: Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance Statement:**  
The form used to apply for Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI).

**VASRD: VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities:**  
The document used to determine the severity of a member's disability expressed as a percentage of disability.

**VBA: Veterans Benefit Administration**

**VEAP: Veterans Educational Assistance Program**  
VEAP is available if you elected to make contributions from your military pay to participate in this education benefit program. You may use these benefits for degree, certificate, correspondence, apprenticeship/on-the-job training programs, and vocational flight training programs. In certain circumstances, remedial, deficiency, and refresher training may also be available. Benefit entitlement is one to 36 months depending on the number of monthly contributions. You have 10 years from your release from active duty to use VEAP benefits. If there is entitlement not used after the 10-year period, your portion remaining in the fund will be automatically refunded.

**Vet Center Program:**  
Vet Centers, run by VA, provide free individual, group and family counseling to all veterans who served in any combat zone.

**Veterans' Preference (federal hiring):**  
Veterans who are disabled, and served on active duty in the military during certain specified time periods, or in military campaigns, are entitled to preference over others in hiring for virtually all federal government jobs.

**Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) program:**  
The VUB program is a free Department of Education program designed to help eligible U.S. military veterans refresh their academic skills so that they can successfully complete the post-secondary school of their choosing.

**VGLI: Veterans Group Life Insurance**

**VMLI: Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance**

**V/R: Very Respectfully**  
The standard closure line on official mail/e-mail

- VR&E: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment**  
VR&E delivers timely and effective vocational rehabilitation services to veterans with service-connected disabilities and to certain service members awaiting discharge due to a medical condition.
- VSI: Very Seriously Injured**
- VSO: Veterans' Service Organization**  
Organizations that are chartered by Congress and/or recognized by VA for claims representation for today's returning service members, veterans and their families.
- VTC: Video TeleConference**
- WIA: Wounded in Action**
- WMD: Weapons of mass destruction**
- WRAMC: Walter Reed Army Medical Center (Washington, D.C.)**
- WWP: Wounded Warrior Project**  
A project offering programs and services to severely injured members during the time of active duty through transition to civilian life.
- WWPMT: Wounded Warrior Pay Management Team**  
Highly trained finance experts who the Defense Finance and Accounting Service have prepared to deal with the complex issues surrounding pay and allowances for recovering service members.
- WWR: Wounded Warrior Regiment / Marine for Life Injured Support**  
The program is to "provide information, advocacy and assistance to injured Marines, Sailors injured while serving with Marines, and their families, in order to minimize the difficulties and worries they face as they navigate the stressful and confusing process."
- XO: Executive Officer**  
Officer second-in-command to the CO