

U.S. Army Military History Institute
Collections Division
950 Soldiers Drive
Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5021
29 May 2009

Terminology

TERMINOLOGY, ABBREVIATIONS, ETC.

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

CONTENTS

General Sources....p.1
Pre-20th Century....p.2
Early 20th Century....p.2
WW II Era....p.3
Cold War Era....p.4
Vietnam Era....p.4
Late 20th century....p.5

GENERAL SOURCES

- Ammer, Christine. Fighting Words: From War, Rebellion, and Other Combative Capers. NY: Paragon House, 1989. 266 p. U26A44.
750 terms explained.
- Craig, Hardin Jr., comp. "A Bibliography of Encyclopedias and Dictionaries With Military, Naval and Maritime Affairs, 1626-1959." Fondren Library, Rice, 1960. 46 p. Z6724D5C72.
Arranged chronologically.
- Donald, Graeme. Sticklers, Sidburns & Bikinis: The Military Origins of Everyday Words and Phrases. NY: Osprey, 2008. 280 p. U24D66.
- Elting, John R., et al. A Dictionary of Soldier Talk. NY: Scribner's, 1984. 383 p. U24E38.
- Meistrich, Ira. "The View Toward Armageddon." MHQ (Spring 1991): pp. 94-102. Per.
Analysis of the term itself through history.
- Priest, William L. Swear Like a Trooper: A Dictionary of Military Terms and Phrases. Charlottesville, VA: Rockbridge Pub, 2000. 232 p. U24P887.
- Shankle, George E. American Nicknames: Their Origin and Significance. NY: Wilson, 1955. 521 p. E179S52.
- Sieminski, Gregory. "The Art of Naming Operations." Parameters (Autumn 1995): pp. 81-98. Per.

Silkett, Wayne A. "Words of War." Military Affairs (Jan 1985): pp. 13-16. Per.
Etymology of frequently used military terms.

PRE-20TH CENTURY

Garrison, Webb. The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage: An Illustrated Compendium of the Everyday Language of Soldiers and Civilians. Nashville, TN: Cumberland House, 2001. 274 p.
E468.9G373.

_____. Webb Garrison's Civil War Dictionary: an Illustrated Guide to the Everyday Language of Soldiers and Civilians. Nashville, TN: Cumberland House, 2008. 350 p. E468.9G3732.

Quigley, Robert D. Civil War Spoken Here: A Dictionary of Mispronounced People, Places and Things of the 1860's. Collingswood, NJ: CW Hist. 198 p. E468Q84.

"A Word About Slang." United Service Magazine (May 1865): pp. 535-540. Per.
Civil War era.

Unruh, John D., Jr. The Plains Across: The Overland Emigrants and the Trans-Mississippi West. Urbana, IL: U IL, 1978. pp. 76 & 125. F593U67.
Illustrations on phrase "seeing the elephant"

Wright, John D. The Language of the Civil War. Westport, CT: Oryx, 2001. 377 p. E468.9W85.

EARLY 20TH CENTURY

Bridger, W.R.P. "Notes on the Origin and Derivation of Some Military Terms." Canadian Defence Quarterly (Apr 1935): pp. 334-46. Per.
Nice list of some very general terms.

Brophy, John, & Partridge, Eric. The Daily Telegraph Dictionary of Tommies' Song and Slang, 1914-18. London, England: Frontline Books, 2008. 238 p. D526.2B76.

Brown, Malcolm. "No-Man's Land." MHQ (Summer 1996): pp. 28-37. Per.
Traces origins of the term to 1915 and MG Ernest Swinton.

Fraser, Edward & Gibbons, John. Soldier and Sailor Words and Phrases. London: Routledge, 1925. 372 p. PE3727S7F72.
Chiefly Brit, especially WWI.

U.S. War Dept. Authorized Abbreviations: Special Regulations 56, dated May 1919. 16 p. MilPub-SR.

WORLD WAR II ERA

Chant, Christopher. The Encyclopedia of Codenames of World War II. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1986. 344 p. D740C52.

Fanning, William J. Jr. "The Origin of the Term 'Blitzkrieg': Another View." Journal of Military History (Apr 1997): pp. 283-302. Per.

Herbst, George A. Army-Navy Guide. NY: Crown, 1942. pp. 177-82. UA23A7.

Hines, Bill. "Operation Codename." Infantry Journal (Mar 1947): pp. 42-43. Per.
How US & Ger codenames were selected for WWII operations.

Kendall, Park, & Viney, John. A Dictionary of Army and Navy Slang. NY: Mill, 1941. U26D52.
Divided into Army & Navy secretaries.

Raudzens, George. "Blitzkrieg Ambiguities: Doubtful Usage of a Famous Word." War & Society (Sep 1989): pp. 77-94. Per.

Rottman, Gordon L. FUBAR: Soldier Slang of World War II. NY: Osprey, 2009. 300 p. D740.R68.

Taylor, A. Marjorie, comp. The Language of World War II. NY: H.W. Wilson, 1948. 265 p.
PE3727S7T3.

U.S. Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics. Glossary of Definitions, Symbols and Abbreviations. Orlando, FL: AAF Tactical Center, AAF School of Applied Tactics, 1944. U26A5U5.
Used in courses of instruction.

U.S. Navy Dept. Office of Naval Hist. Glossary of U.S. Naval Code Words. Wash, DC: GPO, 1947.
D740U5.

_____. Office, CNO. Glossary of U.S. Naval Abbreviations. Wash, DC: GPO, 1949. V23U5.

U.S. War Dept. Authorized Abbreviations and Symbols: Army Regulations 850-150, dated Sep 1944.
19 p. MilPub-AR.
Earlier editions and changes, 1942-45.

_____. Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, and Abbreviations: Field Manual 21-30, dated 1941.
66 p. MilPub-FM.

_____. Dictionary of United States Army Terms: Technical Manual 20-205, dated Jan 1944. 312 p.
MilPub-TM.

Abbreviations appear alphabetically in main body. List of unauthorized [but used] abbreviations on pp. 305-12.

Terminology

p.4

- _____. Bureau of Public Relations. Glossary of Army Slang. Typescript, n.d. 21 p. U26G56.
- _____. Military Intelligence Service. British Military Terminology. Special Series No 13, May 1943. U15U635no13.

COLD WAR ERA

- Ruffner, Frederick G., Jr., & Thomas, Robert C., editors. Code Names Dictionary. Detroit: Gale, 1963. 554 p. PE1693R9.
- U.S. Dept of Army. AGO. Departmental Records Branch. Standing Operating Procedures. Section 10: Glossary of Archival and Records Administration Terms Applicable to the Work of the Departmental Records Branch. Wash, DC: TAGO, 1957. 495 p. UB173U54.
Useful on Army terms, too.
- U.S. Pacific Command. Abbreviation Dictionary. Pearl Harbor, 1954. U26W4.

VIETNAM ERA

- Clark, Gregory R. Words of the Vietnam War. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 1990. 604 p. DS552C52.
- Millen, Anthony, T.P. "Acronymia." Military Review (Aug 1974): pp. 49-52. Per.
- Olson, James S., ed. Dictionary of the Vietnam War. NY: Greenwood, 1988. pp. 503-23. DS552D53.
- Reinberg, Linda. In the Field: The Language of the Vietnam War. NY: Facts of File, 1991. 265 p. DS552R44.
A dictionary.
- Tresidder, Argus J. "On Gobbledygook." Military Review (Apr 1974): pp. 16-24. Per.
- _____. "The Military Vocabulary." Military Review (Dec 1972): pp. 8-13. Per.
DOD dictionary (JCS Pub 1).
- U.S. Dept of Army. Authorized Abbreviations and Brevity Codes: AR 310-50, dated Sep 1969. MilPub-AR.
See later editions, same number & AR 320-50 (1959-66).
- _____. Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, Abbreviations: FM 21-30, dated 1970. MilPub-FM.

Terminology

p.5

_____. Nicknames: DA Pam 525-20, dated, Apr 1971. 32 p. MilPub-Pams.
Lists authorized names in use for exercises, programs, etc.

U.S. Mil Asst Cmd, VN. Allocation and Use of Nicknames and Code Words. Directive 525-25,
19 Jan 1971. 10 p. MACV Command Historians Collection-Arch.

LATE 20TH CENTURY

Gutzman, Philip C. Dictionary of Military, Defense Contractor & Troop Slang Acronyms.
Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1990. 389 p. U26G88.

Miles, Donna & Swan, Patrick. "What's in a Name?" Soldiers (Feb 1992): pp. 48-49. Per.

Naquin, Doug. "Deconflicting the Humma-Humma." Parameters (Sep 1990): pp. 100-03. Per.
Civilian student at AWC notes "military speak".

Shafritz, Jay M., et al. The Facts on File Dictionary of Military Science. NY: Facts on File, 1989.
498 p. U24S52.