



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



AIR FORCE GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY - P

Last Updated: 5 April 2016

ABBREVIATIONS

PA	public affairs
PACAF	Pacific Air Forces
PAO	public affairs officer
PAR	population at risk
PCA	Posse Comitatus Act
PCS	permanent change of station
PDA	physical damage assessment
PERSCO	Personnel Support for Contingency Operations
PIR	priority intelligence requirement
PIRR	participating individual ready reserve
PJ	pararescue jumper; pararescuemen
PMI	patient movement items
PMITS	Patient Movement Item Tracking System
PMRC	patient movement requirements center
PN	partner nation
PNAF	prime nuclear airlift force
PNT	positioning, navigation, and timing
POL	petroleum, oils, and lubricants
POTUS	President of the United States
POW	prisoner of war
PR	personnel recovery
PRCC	personnel recovery coordination cell personnel
PRDO	recovery duty officer
PRF	pulse repetition frequency
Prime BEEF	Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force
PRO	personnel recovery operations
PRP	Personnel Reliability Program
PRPO	personnel recovery plans officer
PSI	proliferation security initiative

PSYOP	psychological operation
PTDO	prepare to deploy order
Pu	plutonium

DEFINITIONS

parallel attack. Offensive military action that strikes a wide array of targets in a short period of time in order to cause maximum shock and dislocation effects across an entire enemy system. (Annex 3-0)

partner nation. A nation that the United States works with in a specific situation or operation. Also called **PN**. (JP 1)

passive air defense. All measures, other than active air defense, taken to minimize the effectiveness of hostile air and missile threats against friendly forces and assets. See also air defense. (JP 3-01)

passive defense. Measures taken to reduce the probability of and to minimize the effects of damage caused by hostile action without the intention of taking the initiative. (JP 3-60) [*Continuous measures taken to secure and protect AF and DOD cyberspace assets through hardening and other measures against cyberspace attack and exploitation; identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities and employing capabilities to detect adversary activity and provide continual defense.*] (Annex 3-12) {Definition in brackets applies only to the Air Force and is offered for clarity.}

peace enforcement. Application of military force, or the threat of its use, normally pursuant to international authorization, to compel compliance with resolutions or sanctions designed to maintain or restore peace and order. See also peace building; peacekeeping; peacemaking; peace operations. (JP 3-07.3)

peacekeeping. Military operations undertaken with the consent of all major parties to a dispute, designed to monitor and facilitate implementation of an agreement (cease fire, truce, or other such agreement) and support diplomatic efforts to reach a long-term political settlement. See also peace building; peace enforcement; peacemaking; peace operations. (JP 3-07.3)

peace operations. A broad term that encompasses multiagency and multinational crisis response and limited contingency operations involving all instruments of national power with military missions to contain conflict, redress the peace, and shape the environment to support reconciliation and rebuilding and facilitate the transition to legitimate governance. Also called **PO**. See also peace building; peace enforcement; peacekeeping; and peacemaking. (JP 3-07.3)

permissive combat airspace. A low risk exists for US and coalition aircraft operations within the airspace of interest. Operations can expect little to no use of adversary

electronic warfare, communications jamming, anti-aircraft systems, or aircraft. Air superiority or air supremacy has been achieved. (Annex 3-52)

permissive environment. Operational environment in which host country military and law enforcement agencies have control as well as the intent and capability to assist operations that a unit intends to conduct. (JP 3-0)

personnel recovery. The sum of military, diplomatic, and civil efforts to prepare for and execute the recovery and reintegration of isolated personnel. Also called **PR**. (JP 3-50)

personnel recovery coordination cell. The primary joint force component organization responsible for coordinating and controlling component personnel recovery missions. Also called **PRCC** (JP 3-50 and Annex 3-50)

PHOENIX RAVEN. Specially trained security forces teams that deploy with the air mobility aircraft to mitigate threats. These teams are comprised of individuals trained and equipped to provide protection of the aircraft and aircrews when transiting high-risk areas. (Annex 3-17)

physical effect. An effect that physically alters an object or system. (Annex 3-0)

physical security. 1. That part of security concerned with physical measures designed to safeguard personnel; to prevent unauthorized access to equipment, installations, material, and documents; and to safeguard them against espionage, sabotage, damage, and theft. (JP 3-0) 2. In communications security, the component that results from all physical measures necessary to safeguard classified equipment, material, and documents from access thereto or observation thereof by unauthorized persons. (JP 6-0)

planning and direction. In intelligence usage, the determination of intelligence requirements, development of appropriate intelligence architecture, preparation of a collection plan, and issuance of orders and requests to information collection agencies. See also intelligence process. (JP 2-01)

planning order. A planning directive that provides essential planning guidance and directs the initiation of execution planning before the directing authority approves a military course of action. Also called **PLANORD**. (JP 5-0)

policy. Guidance that is directive or instructive, stating what is to be accomplished. It reflects a conscious choice to pursue certain avenues, and not others. Policies may change due to changes in national leadership, political considerations, or for fiscal reasons. At the national level, policy may be expressed in such broad vehicles such as the National Security Strategy. Within military operations, policy may be expressed not only in terms of objectives, but also in rules of engagement—what we may or may not strike, or under what circumstances we may strike particular targets. (Vol 1)

positive control. A method of airspace control that relies on positive identification, tracking, and direction of aircraft within an airspace, conducted with electronic means by an agency having the authority and responsibility therein. (JP 3-52)

power projection. A broad spectrum of offensive military operations to destroy enemy forces or logistic support or to prevent enemy forces from approaching within enemy weapons range of friendly forces. (NDP-1)

precision-guided munition. A guided weapon intended to destroy a point target and minimize collateral damage. Also called **PGM**, smart weapon, smart munition. (JP 3-03)

procedural control. A method of airspace control which relies on a combination of previously agreed and promulgated orders and procedures. (JP 3-52)

processing and exploitation. In intelligence usage, the conversion of collected information into forms suitable to the production of intelligence. See also intelligence process. (JP 2-01)

propaganda. Propaganda is a carefully calculated and designed series of messages “that attempts to change the target’s perceptions, cognition, and behavior in ways that further the objective of the propagandist.” JFQ / issue 45, 2d quarter 2007 p.69¹

protection. 1. Preservation of the effectiveness and survivability of mission-related military and nonmilitary personnel, equipment, facilities, information, and infrastructure deployed or located within or outside the boundaries of a given operational area. (JP 3-0) 2. In space usage, active and passive defensive measures to ensure that United States and friendly space systems perform as designed by seeking to overcome an adversary’s attempts to negate them and to minimize damage if negation is attempted. See also mission-oriented protective posture; space control. (JP 3-14)

psychological effect. An effect on the emotions, motives, and reasoning of individuals, groups, organizations, and governments. They are commonly intermediate steps toward behavioral effects. (Annex 3-0)

public affairs. Those public information, command information, and community engagement activities directed toward both the external and internal publics with interest in the Department of Defense. Also called **PA**. (JP 3-61)

public information environment. All individuals, organizations or systems that collect, process and disseminate information for public consumption. (Annex 3-61)

¹ JFQ propaganda article quotes Thomas S. Bateman, Tomoaki Sakano, and Makoto Fujita, “Roger, Me, and My Attitude: Film Propaganda and Cynicism Toward Corporate Leadership,” *Journal of Applied Psychology* 77, no. 5 (October 1992), 768.