

GLOSSARY

ABN	airborne
acclimatization	the physiological changes that allow the body to adapt or get used to the effects of a new environment, especially low oxygen saturation at higher elevations
ACE	armored combat earthmover
acetazolamide	a pharmaceutical drug used to accelerate acclimatization
ADA	air defense artillery
ADAM	area denial artillery munitions
AH-64	attack helicopter also called the Apache
aid	in mountaineering, a climbing device, such as pitons, bolts, chocks, and stirrups, used for body support and upward progress; also used for artificial height in the absence of handholds and footholds
ALOC	air lines of communications
AM	amplitude modulation
ambient temperature	encompassing atmosphere
AMS	acute mountain sickness
anchor	a secure point (natural or artificial) to which a person or rope can be safely attached
aneroid	using no liquid
ANZAC	Australia and New Zealand Corps
AO	area of operations
apnea	temporary suspension of respiration
ARSOF	Army special operations forces
ART	Army tactical task
ARTEP	Army training and evaluation program
assault climber	military mountaineer possessing advanced (Level 2) skills, capable of leading small teams over class 4 and 5 terrain and supervising rigging/operation of all basic rope systems
AT4	a man-portable, lightweight, self-contained, antiarmor weapon
ATGM	anti-tank guided missile
basic mountaineer	a military mountaineer trained in fundamental (Level 1) travel/climbing skills necessary to move safely and efficiently in mountainous terrain

belay	a rope management technique used to ensure that a fall taken by a climber can be quickly arrested; belay techniques are also used for additional safety/control in rappelling, raising and lowering systems, and for mountain stream crossings
BFV	Bradley fighting vehicle
BSFV	Bradley Stinger fighting vehicle
BN	battalion
C²	command and control
CAFAD	combined arms for air defense
CFV	cavalry fighting vehicle
CHS	combat health support
CNR	combat net radio
continental climate	bitterly cold winters, extremely hot summers; annual rain and snowfall is minimal and often quite scarce for long periods
cordillera	principal mountain ranges of the world, named after the Spanish word for rope
crampons	climbing irons, attached to the bottom of boots, used on ice or snow in mountaineering
crevice	a narrow opening resulting from a split or crack as in a cliff
CS	combat support
CSS	combat service support
DA	Department of the Army
defile	a narrow passage or gorge
DPICM	dual-purpose improved conventional munition
DZ	drop zone
ECWCS	extended cold weather clothing system
edema	a local or general condition in which the body tissues contain an excessive amount of tissue fluid
evacuation team	a team trained to move casualties over steep slopes, cliffs, and other obstacles that would significantly impede the mobility of standard litter bearers
EW	electronic warfare
F	Fahrenheit
FARP	forward arming and refueling point
FASCAM	family of scatterable mines
FEBA	forward edge of the battle area

fixed alpine path	a mountain path created by any combination of aids, to include steps, stanchions, standoff ladders, suspended walkways, cableways, or other improvements made of materials available; normally an engineering task.
fixed rope	a rope, or series of ropes, anchored to the mountain at one or more points to aid soldiers over steep, exposed terrain; usually installed by lead climbing teams (normally Level 2 qualification)
flash defilade	to arrange fortifications to protect from fire
FM	field manual; frequency modulation
FSMC	forward support medical company
FOX system	a lightly-armored, wheeled laboratory that takes air, water, and ground samples and immediately analyzes them for signs of weapons of mass destruction
gabion	a wicker basket filled with earth and stones often use in building fortifications; can also be created out of similar materials, such as wire mesh/fence, lumber, plywood, or any suitable material that forms a stackable container for rocks, gravel, and soil
giardiasis	parasitical illness
glaciated	covered with glacial ice
GPS	global positioning system
GTA	graphic training aid
guide	a soldier experienced in all aspects of mountaineering who has the skills and knowledge to identify obstacles and ways to overcome them; commander's advisor on technical mountaineering matters that could affect the tactical scheme of maneuver; primary function of mountain leaders (Level 3 qualification)
HACE	high altitude cerebral edema
HAPE	high altitude pulmonary edema
HE	high explosives
Hellfire	tank-killing missile carried by the Apache attack helicopter
high mountains	mountains that have a local relief usually exceeding 900 meters (3,000 feet)
HUMINT	human intelligence
HWY	highway
hygrometer	an instrument used to measure humidity or moisture content in the air
hypoxia	a deficiency of oxygen reaching the tissues of the body
ice fog trails	steam/smoke trails created by firing weapons
ID	infantry division

IFV	infantry fighting vehicle
IHFR	improved high frequency radio
IMINT	imagery intelligence
installation team	a team organized to construct and maintain rope installations used to facilitate unit movement; usually comprised of Level 1 and 2 mountaineers
interdiction	to stop or hamper
ionospheric	a part of the earth's atmosphere of which ionization of atmospheric gases affects the propagation of radio waves; starts at about 30 miles above ground
IPB	intelligence preparation of the battlefield
IV	intravenous
JSTARS	joint surveillance, target attack radar system
km	kilometer
lead climbing team	a roped climbing team (usually Level 2 qualification) trained to lead on class 4 and 5 terrain; establishes/prepares the entire route for the remainder of the unit
leeward	the side sheltered from the wind
lenticular	having the shape of a double-convex lens
LOC	line of communication
local relief	the difference in elevation between valley floors and the surrounding summits
look-down angles	the angle from the aircraft to the target
low mountains	mountains that have a local relief of 300 to 900 meters (1,000 to 3,000 feet)
LPT	logistics preparation of the theater
LRS	long-range surveillance
LRSU	long-range surveillance unit
LSDIS	light and special division interim sensor
LTC	lieutenant colonel
LZ	landing zone
MANPADS	man-portable air defense system
maritime climate	mild temperatures with large amounts of rain or snow
MBA	main battle area
METT-TC	mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available, time available, civil considerations
MK-19	40-mm grenade machine gun, MOD 3

MOPP	mission-oriented protective posture
motti	Finnish word meaning “a pile of logs ready to be sawed into lumber”; used in military terms to describe setting the conditions so a larger force can be defeated in detail
mountain leader	a military mountaineer possessing the highest level (Level 3) of mountaineering skills with extensive experience in a variety of mountain environments in both winter and summer months
MSE	mobile subscriber equipment
MSRT	mobile subscriber radio terminal
MTF	manual terrain following
NBC	nuclear, biological, and chemical
OCOKA	observation and fields of fire, cover and concealment, obstacles, key terrain, and avenues of approach
OH-58D	a scout and attack helicopter known as the Kiowa Warrior
OP	observation post
OPORD	operation order
OPSEC	operations security
OR	operational readiness
orographic	pertaining to the physical geography of mountains and mountain ranges
PADS	Position Azimuth Determining System
POL	petroleum, oils, and lubricants
protection	in mountaineering, special anchor points established during a roped party climb to limit potential fall distances, protecting climbers from severe fall/ground-fall consequences
PSYOP	psychological operations
RAAMS	remote antiarmor mine system
rappel	method of controlled frictional descent down a rope
RCW	ration, cold weather
rockfall	rockfall occurs on all steep slopes. It is caused by other climbers or by the continual erosion of the rock on a mountainside resulting from freezing, thawing, and heavy rain; grazing animals; or enemy action.
SATCOM	satellite communications
scree	small unconsolidated rocks or gravel, fist-size or smaller, located mostly below rock ridges and cliffs
screening crest	a hill or ridge located in front of a radar set to mask it from unwanted returns (clutter) at close range, and to provide security

	against electronic detection or jamming; screening crest also prevents visual observation and attack by direct fires
SEE	small emplacement excavator
SHELREP	shelling report
SHORAD	short-range air defense
SINCGARS	Single-channel Ground and Airborne Radio System
SOF	special operations forces
squall	a sudden, violent wind
SR	special reconnaissance
talus	accumulated rock debris that is much larger than scree, usually basketball-size or larger
TBP	to be published
TC	training circular
TCF	tactical combat force
TCP	traffic control point
temperature inversion	when the temperature is warmer at higher elevations than lower elevations
TM	technical manual
TOC	tactical operations center
TOW	tube-launched, optically tracked, wire-guided, heavy antitank missile system
TRADOC	United States Army Training and Doctrine Command
tundra	treeless, black, mucky soil with permanently frozen subsoil; located in mountainous regions above the timberline
tussocks	grassy clumps
UAV	unmanned aerial vehicle
UGR	unitized group ration
UHF	ultrahigh frequency
Venturi effect	as a fluid (such as air) flows through a constriction (like a mountain pass), the speed increases and the pressure drops
VFR	visual flight rules
VT	variable time
wind chill	the rate at which a man or object cools to the ambient temperature; wind increases the rate of cooling and adds to the risk of frostbite, hypothermia, and other cold-weather injuries
windward	being in or facing the direction from which the wind is blowing
WP	white phosphorous