

Acronyms

10/.22: A semi-automatic .22 rimfire rifle made by Ruger

100LL: See Avgas.

11B or "Eleven Bravo": The U.S. Army's MOS for Infantryman.

1911: See M1911.

2A: The Second Amendment

2 Meter: The 144-to-148 MHz Amateur radio band is approximately 2 meters in wavelength so it is called the 2 Meter band.

4GW: Fourth Generation War(fare)

2WD: Two Wheel Drive

4WD: Four Wheel Drive

6 Meter: A VHF amateur radio band from 50 to 54 MHz--approximately 6 meters in wavelength, so it is called the 6 Meter band.

90% Silver: See: Junk Silver.

9/11/01: The radical Islamic terrorist attacks of 9/1/2001 which took 3,000+ American lives. See also: WTC.

AA: Depending on context, Antiaircraft or Anachronistic Anomaly.

AAA: Depending on context: American Automobile Association, or Anti-Aircraft Artillery.

A.A. Flu: Asian Avian Influenza (See also: H5N1 and AAV)

AAR: After-Action Report

AAV: Asian Avian Virus

AB: Ammo Bearer. (From a machinegun or mortar squad.)

ABC: Airway, Breathing, and Circulation

ABS: Depending on context, anti-lock brake system or asset-backed security

AC: Alternating Current

ACH: Advanced Combat Helmet

ACOG: Advanced Combat Optical Gunsight (A tritium scope made by Trijicon)

ACP: Automatic Colt Pistol

ACT: American College Test.

ACU: Army Combat Uniform. The U.S. Army's new "digital" pattern camouflage uniform replacing the BDU.

AD: Accidental Discharge

ADC: Depending on context AIDS Dementia Complex or Animal Damage Control

ADD: Attention Deficit Disorder

AEC: Atomic Energy Commission

AFAIK: "And For All I Know"

AFB: Air Force Base

AFRTS: Armed Forces Radio Television Service

AG: Depending on context: Assistant Gunner, Attorney General, or Adjutant General.

AGL: Above Ground Level

AGM: Absorbed Glass Mat, a modern and very reliable rechargeable battery design that uses saturated absorbent glass mats instead of gelled or liquid electrolyte. Somewhat more expensive than flooded (liquid) type cells.

AI or A.I.: Depending on context: Artificial Intelligence, Artificial Insemination, or Assistant Instructor.

AID: See: USAID.

AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome--a disease stemming from HIV. See also: HIV.

AIN: Animal Identification Number. (See also: NAIS.)

AIT: Advanced Individual Training. See also: MOS.

Alpha Strategy: Storing extra logistics, as a hedge against inflation, and for barter and charity. This term was coined by economics writer John Pugsley. A PDF of Pugsley's book titled The Alpha Strategy is available for free download.

AK: Avtomat Kalashnikov. The gas-operated weapons family invented by Mikhail Timofeyevitch Kalashnikov, a Red Army sergeant. AKs are known for their robustness and were made in huge numbers, so that they are ubiquitous in much of Asia and the Third World. The best of the Kalashnikov variants are the Valmets that were made in Finland, the Galils that were made in Israel, and the R4s that are made in South Africa.

AKA or aka or a.k.a.: Also Known As

AKC: American Kennel Club

AKO: Army Knowledge Online

ALICE: All-Purpose Lightweight Individual Carrying Equipment

ALS: Advanced Life Support

AM: Amplitude Modulation

AMA: American Medical Association

Anthracite (coal): A hard, compact variety of mineral coal that has a high luster. It has the highest carbon count and contains the fewest impurities of all coals, despite its lower caloric content. Anthracite coal is the highest of the metamorphic rank, in which the carbon content is between 92% and 98%. The term is applied to those varieties of coal which do not give off tarry or other hydrocarbon vapors when heated below their point of ignition. Anthracite ignites with difficulty and burns with a short blue flame, without smoke.

ANWR: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

AO: Area of Operations

AONB: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. (UK term.)
AOAP: Army Oil Analysis Program
AP: Armor Piercing
APC: Armored Personnel Carrier
API: Depending on context, American Petroleum Institute, Armor Piercing Incendiary, or Application Programming Interface.
Apgar: A scoring system used to evaluate the health of newborn babies, typically taken at one minute and five minutes after delivery
APHIS: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that provides tasked with ensuring the health and care of animals and plants.
API: Armor Piercing Incendiary
APIT: Armor Piercing Incendiary Tracer
APO: Army Post Office
AQ: Al Qaeda
AQT: Army Qualification Target
AR: Automatic Rifle. This is the generic term for semi-auto variants of the Armalite family of rifles designed by Eugene Stoner (AR-10, AR-15, AR-180, et cetera.) See my FAQ on this subject.
AR-7: The .22 LR semiautomatic survival rifle designed by Eugene Stoner. It weighs just two pounds, and when disassembled, all of the parts fit in the buttstock. The stock is foam filled, so the rifle floats.
AR-10: The 7.62mm NATO predecessor of the M16 rifle, designed by Eugene Stoner. Early AR-10s (mainly Portuguese, Sudanese, and Cuban contract, from the late 1950s and early 1960s) are not to be confused with the present-day semi-auto only "AR-10" rifles that are more closely interchangeable with parts from the smaller caliber AR-15.
AR-15: Semi-auto civilian variants of the U.S. Army M16 rifle.
AR-180: A low cost gas piston-operated .223 made primarily from stamped steel. Designed by Eugene Stoner. Early AR-180s (made in the US, England, and Japan) use a proprietary magazine, some of which do not interchange with AR-15 magazines, because their narrow magazine catch notches were on the opposite side of the magazine. These are not to be confused with the current production AR-180B rifles that can use standard AR-15 or M16 magazines.
ARC: American Red Cross (Nicknamed "The Red Curse" by some SurvivalBlog readers) See also: ICRC.
ARDS: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
ARM: Depending on context: Adjustable Rate Mortgage or Anti-Radiation Missile
Arm Chair Commando: An individual that has a one track mind (guns!) and that never trains. Synonymous with: Tommy Tactical, or regarding his fashion style: Mall Ninja
ARNG: Army National Guard
ARRL: Amateur Radio Relay League
ARVN: Army of the Republic of Vietnam.
ASA: Army Security Agency. The U.S. Army's SIGINT branch, now sadly defunct.
ASAP: As Soon As Possible
ASAT: In the context of this blog: An anti-satellite missile, laser, or particle beam weapon. In other contexts, the ASAT acronym also stands for All Season All Terrain—a civilian camouflage pattern.
ASBO: Antisocial behaviour order. (UK) See also: Yob.
ASL: Above Sea Level
ASPO: Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas (in Ireland)
ASW: Anti-Submarine Warfare
Associated Gas: See: Casinghead Gas.
ATF: See BATFE
ATM: Automatic Teller Machine.
ATV: All Terrain Vehicle. Commonly called a "quad" in some regions.
AU: About Uncirculated. (Coin Grade.) See also: MS.
AUG: See Steyr AUG.
Austrian Economics: The school of neo-classical economic thought established in Vienna during the late 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. It is strongly opposed to Marxism and, more broadly, to the use of economic theories to justify government intervention in the economy. Prominent members included Friedrich Hayek and Ludwig von Mises.
Avgas: Aviation gasoline (Leaded, 100 octane, also known as 100LL)
AVR: Automatic Voltage Regulator.
AWB: Assault Weapons Ban (The 1994 U.S. Federal ban on magazines over 10 round capacity and certain "assault" [sic] firearms. The law sunsetted in 2004 and is now null and void.)
AWD: All Wheel Drive See also: 4WD.
AWG: Depending on context, American Wire Gauge, the system for indicating the size of electrical wire. (The higher the number, the smaller the wire. Most standard home wiring is #12 or #14 AWG.), or Ad-hoc Working Group (on climate change)..
B100: 100% Biodiesel
B20: A blend of 80% standard petroleum-based diesel with 20% biodiesel.
Ball (ammo): See FMJ.
Ballistic Wampum: Ammunition stored for barter purposes. (Term coined by Jeff Cooper.)
Bananaland: JWR's generic term for Central America and South America
Band: In analog transmission, the range of frequencies between two defined limits.
BAR: Browning Automatic Rifle.

***** Crystal: A radio transmitter frequency controlling crystal that is cut to allow out of band transmission. See also: Free Band.

BATFE: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (a U.S. Federal government taxing agency)

BBC: British Broadcasting Corporation

BBS: Bulletin Board System

BDC: Bullet Drop Compensator

BDU: Battle Dress Uniform. Also called "camouflage utilities" by the USMC.

Benadryl: Trade name for diphenhydramine. This drug reduces the effects of histamine release, which is triggered by an immune response. It is a useful adjunct to epinephrine. It will not prevent airway compromise or vascular collapse! See also: Epi.

BFO: Depending on context: Beat Frequency Oscillator (the circuitry in an amateur radio that allows you to hear Morse code as tones), or Blinding Flash of the Obvious. (JWR gives copies of his first novel away as the prizes for his "BFO Awards" to anyone that e-mails a letter or article to SurvivalBlog that includes a particularly brilliant, novel, or useful concept.

BHO: Bolt Hold Open

BIS: Bank for International Settlements

Big Sandbox: Generic term for the Middle East

Biochip: See RFID and NAIS.

Biodiesel: An alternative vegetable oil fuel for diesel engines. Also called Greasel. See also: BTL and Dinodiesel

Bivvy: Slang for Bivouac.

BK: Buckshot

Black Rifle: Generic term for a modern battle rifle with a plastic stock.

BLEVE: Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion. (Spoken "Blevy")

BLM: Bureau of Land Management (a U.S. Federal government agency that administers public lands)

Blog: A Web Log (Internet On-Line Journal)

BLOS: Beyond Line of Sight.

BLS: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

BMG: Browning Machinegun. Usually refers to .50 BMG, the U.S. military's standard heavy machinegun cartridge since the early 20th Century. This cartridge is now often used for long-range precision counter-sniper rifles.

BoB, BOB, or B-o-B: Bug-out Bag. Synonymous with G.O.O.D. Kit.

Bollard: A stout object that is used to confine traffic within or from a given area. These are typically 4 to 6 foot long vertical members made of concrete, steel, or wood set at least 18" in the ground with at least 30" exposed.

BOLO: Be on the Lookout. (U.S. police acronym.)

BoV or BOV: Bug-out Vehicle. Synonymous with G.O.O.D. Vehicle.

BP: Black Powder

BRAC: Base Realignment and Closure

Brady Bunch: Sarah Brady and her civilian disarmament gang

Bravo Sierra: See: BS

BS: Depending on context: Bachelor of Science, or Barbra Streisand. Sometimes spoken "Bravo Sierra." Barbra Streisand's name has become synonymous with lying.

BSA: Boy Scouts of America.

BSD: Berkeley Software Distribution

BSE: Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (a.k.a. "Mad Cow" disease) See also: TSE and CWD.

BSN: Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

BTL: Biomass-to-liquids. (Biodiesel.)

BTU: British Thermal Units

BTW: By The Way

BW: Biological Warfare.

BX: Base Exchange. See also: PX.

C2: Command and Control.

C2H5OH: Ethanol. (Ethyl or "Grain" alcohol.) See also: EtOH.

CH3OH: Methanol. ("Wood" alcohol .) Toxic to drink, forms formaldehyde in eyes, causing blindness. Can be absorbed through the skin. Also a suspected carcinogen.

C3CM: Command, Control and Communications Countermeasures

C4: Command, Control, Communications, Computers

C4I: Command, Control, Communications, Computers & Intelligence

C4ISR: C4, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

C4N: Command, Control, Communications, Computers & Navigation

C.A.: Central America

CAD: Computer Aided Design

CALGLY: Calcium Chloride and Glycerol mixture, used for preserving seeds.

Californication: The tendency of other states to begin to resemble California (lifestyles, culture, politics, gun laws, and so forth.)

Camo: Slang for Camouflage

CAR-15: See: M4

Carb: Depending on context, slang for Carburetor or Carbohydrate

Carry and Carry Trade: Carry is defined as the difference between return on securities held and financing costs, and "carry trade" refers to institutions and businesses taking advantage of this differential. A positive/negative carry occurs when the financing cost is less/more than the yield on securities that are being financed. (Definition courtesy of OECD.)

CAS: Close Air Support

Casinghead Gas: Unprocessed natural gas containing natural gasoline and other liquid hydrocarbon vapors produced from an oil well. Also called Wet Gas or Associated Gas. In contrast, dry natural gas usually comes from dedicated natural gas wells rather than oil wells.

Cat: Depending on context, short for Caterpillar (tractor) or Category.

CB: Citizen's Band Radio. A VHF broadcasting band that requires no license for operation in the United States. Some desirable CB transceivers are capable of SSB operation. Originally 23 channels, the Citizen's Band was later expanded to 40 channels during the golden age of CB, in the 1970s. See also: Free Band.

CBO: Collateralized Bond Obligation

CBOT: Chicago Board of Trade

CBP: Customs & Border Protection (Division of the U.S. Immigration Service.)

CCA: Chromated Copper Arsenate

CCD: Depending on context: Charge Coupled Device (electro-optics) or Colony Collapse Disorder (Beekeeping.)

CCL: Concealed Carry License. See also: CHL.

CCRKBA: Citizens' Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms

CC&Rs: Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions

CCW: Depending on context: Carrying a Concealed Weapon or Counter-Clockwise

CD: Depending on context: Civil Defense, Certificate of Deposit, or Compact Disc.

CDC: Centers for Disease Control

CDO: Collateralized Debt Obligation

CDPOC: Credit Derivative Product Company/Companies

CEB: Compressed Earth Block

CEO: Chief Executive Officer

CEOI: Communications Electronic Operating Instructions. See also: SOI.

CEP: Circular Error Probability. This term is used in a variety of contexts, such as radio direction finding (where it is more correctly rendered elliptical error probability), and in describing the accuracy of nuclear warheads.

CERA: Cambridge Energy Research Associates

CERT: Community Emergency Response Team

CETME: The Spanish predecessor of the HK G3 (HK91) rifle. Currently being re-built in the U.S. using surplus parts kits and U.S.-made semi-auto only receivers.

CEWI: Communications, Electronic Warfare, and Intelligence

CFI: Confidence Factor Index

CFN: Commercial Fueling Network

CFO: Chief Financial Officer

Charge Controller: A device that regulates the voltage applied to the batteries from a generator or PV array. A good charge controller is necessary to ensure that batteries reach the maximum charge and have the longest life.

Channelized Areas: In the context of this blog, the most likely routes that the Golden Horde will take WTSHTF. Also called Refugee Lines of Drift. See also: Golden Horde and WTSHTF. The Chartist takes a purely technical view towards the market

Chartist: A stock, bond, or commodities analyst that takes a purely technical view towards the markets.

Chartist Gnome: The nickname of a market analyst that advises JWR.

Chinese Parliament: The open session that typically follows a military operational briefing, where everyone involved can speak freely, regardless of their rank, to give their input. (British SAS term.)

CHL: Concealed Handgun License. See also: CCL.

Chrononaut: A time traveler.

CHU: Containerized Housing Unit (a CONEX retrofitted with a door, window, top vent, power cabling, and air conditioning unit--as used by servicemen in Iraq.)

CI/KR: Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource

CIA: Central Intelligence Agency

CIDRAP: Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (at the University of Minnesota.)

CINOs: Christians in name only.

CIO: Chief Information Officer

Cipro: Short for Ciprofloxacin, an anti-bacterial drug.

Civie: US Military slang for civilian.

Claire Files: The Internet discussion forums hosted by libertarian writer Claire Wolfe.

Class 3: The Federal tax category for Machineguns, short-barreled rifles, shotguns, and suppressors, mandated by the National Firearms Act of 1934.

Class 3 guns are not legal in all states. Regardless, there is a \$200 Federal transfer tax, fingerprints, and background check required.

CLENS: Camouflaged Long Endurance Nano-Sensors

CLEO: Chief Law Enforcement Officer

CLO: Collateralized Loan Obligation

CLP: Cleaner, Lubricant, Protectant. A Mil-Spec lubricant, sold under the trade name "Break Free CLP"

CM: Compressed Meals (The U.S. Army's new alternative to MREs, with a freeze dried entree. These are about 2/3s the size and weight of an MRE.

CME: Coronal Mass Ejection. (Solar flares.)

CMP: Civilian Marksmanship Program. (The Federal government agency, formerly called the office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship (DCM).

CNC: Computerized Numerical Control

CO: Depending on context: Commanding Officer, telephone company Central Office, Carbon Monoxide, or Conscientious Objector.

COB or C-O-B: Depending on context, Corn-Oat-Barley mix (for livestock), sweetened with molasses (commonly called "Sweet Feed") or COB: Contingency Operating Base

CO: Telephone company Central Office.

COG: Continuity of Government.

COIN: Counterinsurgency

Combat Tupperware: See: Glock.

ComBloc: Communist Bloc.

COMEX: Commodity Exchange (U.S. precious metals market.)

COMINT: Communications Intelligence

Comm, Commo: Communications equipment.

COMSEC: Communications Security

Condensation Gasoline: See Drip Oil.

Condition 0: (SA Pistol Carry Condition Code) Ready to fire: A round is in the chamber, hammer is cocked, and the safety off.

Condition 1: (SA Pistol Carry Condition Code) A cartridge is chambered, the hammer is cocked, and the safety is in the up (safe) position. Also known as "cocked and locked" carry.

Condition 2: (SA Pistol Carry Condition Code) A cartridge is in the chamber and the hammer is down.

Condition 3: (SA Pistol Carry Condition Code) The chamber is empty and hammer is down with a full magazine in the pistol. Also known as "Israeli Carry."

Condition 4: (SA Pistol Carry Condition Code) The chamber is empty, hammer is down and no magazine is in the pistol.

CONELRAD: Control of Electromagnetic Radiation. The now defunct emergency broadcasting system for the United States. In recent years it has been replaced by the Emergency Alert System (EAS). See also: EAS.

CONEX: A CONTinental EXpress shipping container. The standard steel or aluminum international shipping containers used on trucks, railpacks, and on ships.

Usually manufactured in 20, 30, and 40 foot lengths. BTW, they make great weatherproof lockable storage sheds, especially if you weld on a sleeve to protect the padlock from attack by bolt cutters or bullets.

CONOPS: Concept of Operations

Contrapreneur: Someone that foolishly invests in a declining market. (Term coined by JWR.)

Contrarian Investing: An investing strategy that that run contrary to the popular opinion of the MSM and the Sheeple.

CONUS: Continental United States

COO: Chief Operations Officer

COOP: Continuity of Operations Plan.

COP: Combat Outpost.

Cord: A cord is a unit of dry volume used in Canada and in the United States to measure firewood. From Wikipedia: "One cord is defined as 128 foot³ (~3.62 m³), corresponding to a woodpile 8 foot wide x 4 foot high of 4 foot long logs. In the metric system, wood is usually measured in steres or cubic metres: 1 stere = 1 m³ ≈ 0.276 cords.

In the United States, the cord is defined by statute in most states. Wood is also sold by the "face cord" (sometimes called a "rick"), which is usually not legally defined, and varies regionally."

COSCO: China Overseas Shipping Company.

COSTCO: An American membership "warehouse" type grocery store chain that sells everything from canned hams to home computers. Most items are sold in case lots. See also: Sam's Club.

Couple, Coupling: See: EMP.

CP: Candle Power

CPA: Certified Public Accountant

CPAP: Constant Positive Airway Pressure. (Some sleep apnea patients require a CPAP machine at night.)

CPI: Consumer Price Index

CPR: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

CPU: Central Processing Unit

CQ: Depending on context: Charge of Quarters or the amateur radio code for "Calling any amateur radio station"

CQB: Close Quarters Battle

C&R: Curio and Relic (U.S. Federal firearms legal category.)

C-Ration: Combat ration. The U.S. Army canned field rations that were replaced by MREs in the mid-1980s.

CRB: Commodities Research Bureau

Credit Spread: The difference in yield between low risk U.S. Treasury bonds and more risky fixed-income securities

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease: (vCJD). A degenerative brain disease of cattle and other hooved animals that is transmissible to man. Also called Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in deer.

CRKT: Columbia River Knife and Tool.

CRNA: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

CRP: Conservation Reserve Program. A Federal Government program designed to pay farmers to not grow crops; -- leaving their fields fallow. See also: NRCS.

CRT: Cathode Ray Tube.

Crunch, The.: See: WTSHTF.

CSA: Depending on context, Community Sustained Agriculture or Confederate States of America.

CSAR: Combat Search and Rescue

CSRS: Civil Service Retirement System

CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

CTCSS: Controlled Tone Coded Squelch System (also known as PL or Channel Guard) Uses subaudible tones or codes to allow co-channel users to operate without having to hear transmissions directed to other users.

CTIS: Central Tire Inflation System

cu. in.: Cubic Inch

CUCV: Commercial Utility Cargo Vehicle (1980s vintage U.S. Army versions of diesel Chevy Blazers and Pickups, currently being sold off as surplus.)

CW: Continuous Wave (an operating mode for amateur radio gear, used for Morse Code.) In the context of NBC defense: chemical warfare.

CWD: Chronic Wasting Disease. See also : Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, BSE, and TSE. CWD is classified as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE)

CWP: Concealed Weapon(s) Permit.

CYA: Cover Your Assets

DA: Depending on context: Double Action or District Attorney.

DAO: Double Action Only. (The type of pistol action used on the Glock and HK VP-70 pistols.)

DARPA: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (U.S.)

DBDU: Desert Battle Dress Uniform. Also commonly called DCUs.

DC: Depending on context, Direct Current or District of Criminals.

DCI: Director of Central Intelligence

DCM: See: CMP.

DCU: Desert Camouflage Uniform. The common term for the U.S. military uniform that is officially called the Desert Battle Dress uniform (DBDU.)

DDS: Doctor of Dental Surgery

DE: Diatomaceous Earth

DEA: Drug Enforcement Agency

Decon: Decontamination

Deep Cycling: (or deep discharging): Discharging a battery to 20 percent or less of its full charge. This shortens the life of most types of batteries.

Deep Larder Concept: A pantry stocked with foods and essential oils for a family for 2+ years

DEFRA: Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs--(the UK's equivalent of the USDA)

DEQ: Department of Environmental Quality

Det cord, Detonating cord, Primacord: A plastic tube 4 to 7 millimeters in diameter, filled with PETN high-order explosive. Generally used for joining separate explosive charges to make them explode almost simultaneously. See also: PETN.

DEW: Directed Energy Weapon

DF: Direction Finding

DFW: Dallas/Fort Worth (metropolitan area, also the designation for the airport.)

DGPS: Differential Global Positioning System

DH: Darling Husband

DHS: Department of Homeland Security (a U.S. Federal government agency)

DIA: Defense Intelligence Agency

DIAS or D.I.A.S. : Drop-in Auto sear

DIC: Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation. Widespread clotting in the blood vessels, (usually due to poisons and infections) leading to hemorrhage.

Dinodiesel: Diesel fuel oil extracted from petroleum. See also: Biodiesel

DIY: Do It Yourself

Dirty Bomb: A conventional explosive used to propel radioactive materials--designed solely to cause contamination and incapable of reaching critical mass.

DLP: Defense of Life and Property

DMA: Day Moving Average (commodity or stock price)

DMV: Department of Motor Vehicles

DNA: Deoxyribonucleic acid

DNR: Depending on context: Department of Natural Resources or Do Not Resuscitate

DNVT: Digital Non-secure Voice Terminal. Late generation digital keypad-controlled field telephones. The current U.S. military issue is the AN/TA-1042. See also: TA-1 / TA-312.

DOA: Dead on Arrival. Traditionally applied to cadavers, this term is now also used for describing a piece of mail-ordered equipment that doesn't work.

DOD: U.S. Department of Defense. It was more appropriately called The War Department before the onset of political correctness.

DOE: U.S. Department of Energy (a U.S. Federal government agency)

DOI: U.S. Department of the Interior (a U.S. Federal government agency)

DOT: U.S. Department of Transportation. (a U.S. Federal government agency)

DPM: Disruptive Pattern, Marine. The camouflage cloth pattern developed for the U.K.'s Royal Marines.

Drip Oil: The light oil or hydrocarbon liquids condensed in a natural gas piping system when the gas is cooled. Sometimes also called natural gasoline, condensation gasoline, or simply "drip." Drip oil can be burned like gasoline in most engines.

DRMO: Defense Reutilization Management Office (The U.S. Military's "auction yard".)

Drop Box: In the context of fuel: A container (usually a large tank); that is used to collect drip oil. In other contexts: A commercial mail box, such as those rented at UPS Stores.

Dry Gas: See: Casinghead Gas.

DSA: D.S. Arms (The D.S. stands for Dave Selvaggio)

DSL: Digital Subscriber Line

DSLAM: DSL Access Multiplexer

DSP: Digital Signal Processor/Processing

DSS: State Dept. Diplomatic Security Service

DTRA: Defense Threat Reduction Agency

DTRC: Defense Threat Reduction Center (HQ of the U.S. DTRA.)

DU: Depending on context Depleted Uranium or Ducks Unlimited

DUG: Doom und Gloom. (Acronym coined by JWR.)

DVD: Digital Video Disc

DWV: Drain, Waste and Vent pipe. Typically black plastic pipe in modern U.S. house construction.

DX: Depending on context: Long distance radio communication (amateur radio) or Direct Exchange (military supply system.)

E85: A fuel blend that 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline

E911: Enhanced 911. The FCC-mandated capability of cellular phone providers to be able to track the location of their cell phone subscribers.

E100: 100% ethanol

EAS: Emergency Alert System. See also: CONELRAD.

ECCM: Electronic Counter-Countermeasures

ECM: Depending on context, Electronic Countermeasures (electronic warfare) or Electronic Control Module (automotive electronic ignition systems.)

EDIS: Electronic Distributorless Ignition System. (Ford Motor Company terminology for an electronic ignition system.)

E&E: Escape and Evasion

EER: Extended Eye Relief (Scope, typically used with pistols and "scout" rifles/carbines)

EFF: Electronic Frontiers Foundation

EFP: Explosive Formed Projectiles--a.k.a. shaped charges.

e.g.: Exempli Gratia. Latin for "For example"

ELB: Depending on context, Electronic Logbook or Emergency Locator Beacon

Eleven Bravo (or 11B): The U.S. Army's MOS for Infantryman.

Elmer: A volunteer who helps new folks interested in amateur radio

EMC: Electromagnetic Compatibility.

EMCON: Emission Control

EMP: Electromagnetic Pulse. Described at Wikipedia. See also: Faraday Cage and TREE.

EMI: Electromagnetic Interference

EMS: Emergency Medical Services

EMT: Emergency Medical Technician (a.k.a. "Paramedic")

EMV: Electromagnetic Vulnerability

Encryption: The systematic encoding of a message or bit stream before transmission to prevent unauthorized recipients from understanding it. The process of again rendering the information readable is Decryption.

EO: Depending on context Electro-optics or Executive Order

EOD: Explosive Ordnance Disposal

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. Federal government agency)

Epi, Epi-Pen: Trades name for Epinephrine. An injectable drug used for treating anaphylaxis. See also: Benadryl.

EPS: Encapsulated Postscript file format. Can be opened by most Adobe products, including Acrobat Reader

ER: Emergency Room

EROEI: Energy Return on Energy Invested. The ratio of the amount of energy needed to generate a unit of energy from a fuel source. When oil was first produced over 150 years ago the EROEI was 40 (or more) to 1. The oil gushed out of the ground. Just 30 years ago it was as high as 20:1. Today, the oil EROEI is variously reported as 2.5 to 1.2 to 1 for light sweet crude. As Peak Oil occurs, oil shale production is expected to see an EROEI of less than 1. That means it takes more than one energy unit to produce a single unit of energy from the oil shale. Thus, it doesn't matter how much it costs, because the extraction operation will have become an energy sink. See also: Peak Oil.

ERRB: Enhanced Radiation Reduced Blast nuclear warhead. Commonly called a Neutron Bomb.

ESHTF: Economic Schumer Hits the Fan. (See also: WTSHTF and SHTF.)

ETA: Depending on context, Estimated Time of Arrival or the Basque terrorist group Euskadi ta Askatasuna. (Which means "Basque Fatherland and Liberty" in Euskara, the Basque language.)

ETF: Exchange Traded Fund

EtOH or ETOH: Ethanol. (Ethyl or "Grain" alcohol.) See also: C₂H₅OH

E-Tool: Entrenching Tool.

EU: European Union

EW: Electronic Warfare

F2F: Face to Face
FA: Forward Assist. (A feature on later M16s, AR-15s, and Israeli FAL rifles, designed to push the bolt carrier forward under dusty/dirty conditions.)
FAE: Fuel-Air Explosive
FAIK: "For All I Know"
FAK: First Aid Kit
FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions
FAL: Fusil Automatique Leger --A Belgian 7.62mm NATO battle rifle (+ clones thereof) See also: L1A1 and my FAQ on this subject.
FALFiles: The web site for FAL and L1A1 owners. See: <http://www.falfiles.com/forums/index.php>
Faraday Cage: A shielding enclosure for electronics. See: EMP
FAS: Federation of American Scientists
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
FBO: Fixed Base Operator. (A private airfield. In rural areas these are sometimes "mom and pop" operations.)
FCC: Federal Communications Commission. (A U.S. Federal government agency)
FCSA: Fifty Caliber Shooters Association. See: www.fcsa.org
FDA: Food and Drug Administration. (A U.S. Federal government agency)
FDIC: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (A taxpayer guaranteed bailout fund for banks.)
FDR: Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Fed: Slang shorthand for The Federal Reserve--a private banking cartel and the de facto central bank in the United States.
Feds: Slang shorthand for agents of any Federal agency, but most commonly the FBI.
FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency. (A U.S. Federal government agency) The acronym is also jokingly defined as "Foolishly Expecting Meaningful Aid."
Ferret: Depending on context: 1.) A post-WWII British armored scout car, made by Daimler, in several variants. 2.) A shotgun shell that fires a CS tear gas liquid capsule that vaporizes on impact. 3.) The Ferret .50 single-shot .50 BMG rifle that utilizes an AR-15-type lower receiver.
FET: Field Effect Transistor
FFE: Fuel Flame Expedients
FFL: Federal Firearms License
FFV: Flexible Fuel Vehicle. (Gasoline engine vehicles that are E85 Ethanol compatible.)
FFTAGFFR: Food for Thought and Grounds for Further Research (Acronym coined by JWR)
FG: Coarse grain black power, normally used only in shotguns and cannon
FFG: "Two F" Black power, normally used in rifles with a bore of .50 to .75 caliber
FFFG: "Triple F" black power, used in most single shot pistols and percussion revolvers. It is also popular for rifles up to .50 caliber.
FFFFG: "Four F" black power. Can be used for priming the pans of flintlocks.
FFFFFG: "Five F" extra fine black power--the preferred granulation for priming the pans of flintlock rifles.
FIFO: First In, First Out--used for food storage rotation.
FIJA: The Fully Informed Jury Association
FinCEN: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. A division of the U.S. Department of the Treasury tasked with stopping money laundering.
FLIR: Forward Looking Infrared
FM: Depending on context, Field Manual or Frequency Modulation)
FMA: Filipino Martial Arts
FMJ: Full Metal Jacket. (A bullet that does not expand when it strikes tissue.) Also called "ball:" ammunition by the U.S. Military.
FMS: Foreign Military Sales
FN: The Belgian arms maker Fabrique Nationale de Herstal.
FN-49 or FN49: A post-WWII semi-auto rifle produced by FN, with a 10 round magazine fed from stripper clips. Variants were made in several calibers including 7x57, 8x57, and .30-06. A later arsenal conversion made in Argentina was made in .308, with detachable 20 round magazines.
FN/FAL or FN-FAL: See: FAL
FOB: Forward Operating Base
Fobbit: Someone who is stationed at a Forward Operating Base (FOB.)
FOIA: Freedom of Information Act
FOMC: Federal Open Market Committee. A 12-member committee which sets interest rate and bank credit policies for the Federal Reserve banking cartel.
Force Recon: Force Reconnaissance is the U.S. Marine Corp's elite commando force.
FOREX: The foreign exchange market, where currencies are traded.
Forward (contract): The original and basic derivative contract, a forward transaction is an agreement to buy or sell a certain quantity of an asset or commodity in the future at a specified price, place, and time.
FPO: Fleet Post Office. (U.S. Navy/USMC/USCG postal service.)
FPS: Feet Per Second
FRA: Forward rate agreement. An agreement to borrow or lend a certain amount of principal at a specified interest rate and time. In other contexts: Försvarets Radioanstalt (The Norwegian equivalent of the NSA.)
Frag: Short for fragmentation. In one context a "frag order" or "FRAGO" is an abbreviated military operations order.

Free Band: The bands for CB radio frequencies just above and just below the official CB channels. Also known as illicit "out of band transmission." Use of the Free Band is illegal except in genuine emergencies. See also: ***** crystal.

FRN: Federal Reserve Note(s)

FRS: Family Radio Service (A type of FM walkie-talkie that requires no license in the U.S.) See also: GMRS and MURS.

FSB: Federalnaya Sluzhba Bezopasnosti. The main successor of the KGB.

FSBO: For Sale By Owner

FSP: Free States Project

FSNH: Free State New Hampshire

FSR: First Strike Ration

FSW: Free State Wyoming

FTE: Failure to Eject

FTF: Failure to Feed

FTRSS: Flexible Temperature Range Sleep System. Modular synthetic sleeping bags made by Wiggy's.

FUBAR: Fouled up beyond all recognition.

FUD: Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt

Futures (Contract): An agreement to buy or sell a given quantity of an asset or commodity in the future at a specified price, place, and time.

FWIW: For What Its Worth

G1: The West German Army's version of the FN/FAL rifle. G1 parts kits have been used in recent years for building semi-auto only FALs in the U.S.

G3: The West German Army's selective fire battle rifle of the 1960s/70s/80s. Its civilian (semi-auto only) equivalent is the HK91

Galil: See: AK.

Garand: See: M1.

GATA: Gold Anti-Trust Action (GATA.org)

GBP: Great Britain Pound

GBS: Group B Streptococcus

GCA or GCA-68: The Gun Control Act of 1968. The law that first created FFLs and banned interstate transfers of post-1898 firearms, except "to or through" FFL holders.

GD: A persistent nerve gas developed for the Soviet army.

GDP: Depending on context, Gross Domestic Product or Generally Dumb Public.

Gen: Generation

Gen 1: First Generation

Gen 2: Second Generation

Gen 3: Third Generation

Genny: Slang for generator.

Genset: Generator Set. (U.S. military terminology.)

GGGG: God, Gold, Guns, and Groceries. Coined by Richard "Doc" Sweeny.

Ghillie: A ragged-texture camouflage suit, originally developed by Scottish game wardens.

G.I. or GI: Depending on context, General inductee (draftee), Government Issue (equipment specifications), or Gastro-Intestinal tract. See also: U.S.G.I.

GIS: Geographical Information Systems

Glazis: Globalist Socialists. Coined by Lawrence Rayburn.

Glock: The popular polymer-framed pistol design by Gaston Glock of Austria. Also derisively known as "Combat Tupperware " by their detractors, because they were the first maker to ship their pistols in a plastic box with a snap lid. Glocks are a favorite of gun writer Boston T. Party.

GM: General Motors

GMC: General Motors Corporation

GMO: Genetically Modified Organism

GMRS: General Mobile Radio Service. See also: FRS and MURS.

GNIS: Geographic Names Information System. An excellent resource when you are looking for specific areas on a map. See: <http://geonames.usgs.gov/> See also: USGS.

Gold Cup: The target version of Colt's M1911. Has fully adjustable target sights, a tapered barrel and a tighter barrel bushing than standard M1911s.

Golden Horde: In historical contexts, the Mongol Horde of the 13th Century, but in the context of this blog, the anticipated large mixed horde of refugees and looters that will pour out of the metropolitan regions WTSHTF. See also: WTSHTF.

GOA: Gun Owners of America

G.O.O.D.: Get Out of Dodge--the author's generic acronym for leaving the big city in a hurry WTSHTF. I also use the term "bug out" and the British soccer term "take the gap." See also: BOB, WTSHTF. (Acronym coined by JWR)

Goretex: A patented breathable fabric.

GP: Depending on context General Practice (physician) , General Purpose, or General Principal

GPM: Gallons Per Minute (usually in the context of water wells or springs)

GPO: Government Printing Office.

GPS: Global Positioning System

Greasel: See: Biodiesel

Grid Down: An extended period of time when the power grid is non-functional

Grid Up: A situation where the national power grids stay functional except for brief interruptions.

Group Therapy: Slang term for full automatic fire. See also: Rock-'n-roll.

GTG: Good To Go

gtt: Drop. (Medicinal dropper measure, from the Latin gutta.) The plural (drops) is written gtt

GU: Genitourinary

Gunsite: The firearms training school in Arizona founded by Col. Jeff Cooper.

GVW: Gross Vehicle Weight

GWB: George Walker Bush

GWOT: Global War on Terror

H2H: Human to human (disease transmission.)

H5N1: The CDC's designation for one of the current strains of the Asian Avian Flu Also called Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). See my article on the subject: <http://www.SurvivalBlog.com/asianflu.html>

Ham or HAM: Amateur radio operator.

HARM: High Speed Anti-Radiation Missile

Haole: The Hawai'ian word for Anglos.

Hardened (electronics): See: EMP.

Ha-Shem, Hashem: Hebrew for "His Name." My Jewish friends use it in reference The Creator. (They consider it disrespectful to use His name directly.)

Hazmat or HAZMAT: Hazardous Material(s)

H-BAR: Heavy Barrel.

HD or H.D.: Heavy Duty.

HDPE: High Density Polyethylene is used in milk, juice and water containers in order to take advantage of its excellent protective barrier properties. Most five gallon "food grade" buckets are made from HDPE.

HDTV: High Definition Television

Helicopter Ben: A derogatory nickname for Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. In 2002, when the word "deflation" began appearing in the business news, Bernanke gave a speech about deflation. In that speech, he mentioned that the government in a fiat money system owns the physical means of creating money. Control of the means of production for money implies that the government can always avoid deflation by simply issuing more money. (He referred to a statement made by Milton Friedman about using a "helicopter drop" of money into the economy to fight deflation.) Bernanke's critics have since referred to him as "Helicopter Ben" or to his "helicopter printing press". In a footnote to his speech, Bernanke noted that "people know that inflation erodes the real value of the government's debt and, therefore, that it is in the interest of the government to create some inflation." (Definition courtesy of Wikipedia.)

HEI: High Energy Ignition. (Patented by General Motors.)

HEPA: High Efficiency Particulate Air (Filter). In the context of this blog, I refer to HEPA filters used to trap the dust from the air pumped into fallout shelters. Some of the best (and most expensive) HEPA filter systems are made by Luwa of Switzerland.

HERF: Hazards of Electromagnetic Radiation to Fuel

HERO: Hazards of Electromagnetic Radiation to Ordnance

HERP: Hazards of Electromagnetic Radiation to Personnel

HF: High Frequency

hh or HH: Hands High. The abbreviation for the unit of measurement for horses, donkeys, ponies, et cetera. One hand equals four inches.

HHS: Health and Human Services

High Acid: Foods that have a high acid content that inhibits spoilage.

Hittlery: JWR's nickname for Hillary Rodham Clinton

HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus. See also: AIDS.

HK: Heckler und Koch, the German gun maker

HK91: Heckler und Koch Model 91. The civilian (semi auto-only) variant of the 7.62 mm NATO G3 rifle.

HMG: Heavy Machinegun.(Such as the M2 Browning .50 Caliber.)

HMMWV: High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, also commonly called a Humvee

HOA: Homeowners association. Sometimes called a landowners association (LOA)

Hoplophobe: Someone that fears firearms.(Term popularized by Jeff Cooper.)

Hotel Sierra: Aviator lingo for "Hot Stuff!"

H.P., h.p., HP: Depending on context Horsepower or hollow point (bullet)

HPAI: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Called "high path" in epidemiologist slang. See also: LPAI and H5N1

HPBT: Hollow point boat tail (bullet)

HR: Human Remains. In other contexts, Human Resources.

HRC: Hillary Rodham Clinton

HSA: Health Savings Account

HTF: (Schumer) Hits the Fan.

Hubbert's Peak: The presumed peak in oilfield production that is expected to occur +/- 2015. See also: LATOC.

HUD: Housing and Urban Development (U.S. Federal government agency)

HUMINT: Human Intelligence

HVAC: Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning.

HVACR: Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration

Hydrometer: An instrument for measuring the density of liquids in relation to the density of water. Used to indicate the state of

charge in lead-acid cells by measuring the specific gravity of the electrolyte. Also used in commercial food canning.

IANSAs: International Action Network on Small Arms). The umbrella lobby group for all the anti-gun groups at the United Nations.

IBA: Interceptor Body Armor--the current U.S. Military issue Kevlar body armor. The base vest weighs 6 pounds. The front and rear trauma plates are additional 6 pounds each. Additional shoulder armor and groin protectors add even more weight.

IBS: Irritable Bowel Syndrome

IC: Depending on context Integrated Circuit or Internal Combustion.

ICBM: Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

I.C.E.: Depending on context Institute for Christian Economics (Founded by Dr. Gary North), or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (a Division of the DHS)

ICF: Insulated Concrete Form. (House construction method.)

ICRC: International Committee of the Red Cross/Red Crescent. See also: ARC.

ICS: Incident Command System (See also: FEMA.)

ICU: Intensive Care Unit

ID, I.D., i.d.: Depending on Context: Identification or Inside Diameter

IDF: Depending context, Israeli Defense Force or Indirect Fire

IDIQ: Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity

IDPs: Internally Displaced Persons

IDPA: International Defensive Pistol Association

i.e.: Id Est. Latin for "That is"

IED: Improvised Explosive Device

IEDTF: Improvised Explosive Device Task Force

IEEE: Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers

IER: Intermediate Eye Relief (Scope, typically used with "scout" rifles/carbines)

IEW: Intelligence and Electronic Warfare

IEWCS: Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Common Sensor

IEW&S: Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors

IFV: Infantry Fighting Vehicle. See Also: M2 Bradley.

IG: Depending on context, Instructor Greg (who teaches "Tac Tuesday"), or Inspector General

IIRC: If I Recall Correctly

IM: Depending on context, Instant Messenger or intramuscular (drug injection).

IME: Institute of Makers of Explosives

IMF: International Monetary Fund

IMHO: In My Humble Opinion

ING: Iraqi National Guard

In-Town Retreat: A retreat inside or adjoining town limits that depends on some local infrastructure. See also: Isolated Retreat.

Inverter: A device that converts DC electricity (anywhere from 12 to 600 VDC) to AC electricity (typically 120/240 VAC.)

IP: Internet Protocol

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

IQ: Intelligence Quotient

IR: Infrared

IRA: Depending on context: Individual Retirement Account or Irish Republican Army.

IRR: Depending on context: Internal Rate of Return (bonds and CDOs) or Individual Ready Reserve (U.S. military.)

IRS: Internal Revenue Service (a U.S. Federal government taxing agency)

Isolated Retreat: A privately owned stronghold designed to be almost entirely self-sufficient and self-contained. Also, often called a Remote Retreat. See also: In-Town Retreat.

ISAF: International Security Assistance Force

ISID: International Society for Infectious Diseases

ISR: Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

ISS: International Space Station

ISTAR: Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance

IT: Information Technology

IV or i.v.: Intravenous

Izzy: Slang for Israeli

JASBORR: Jim's Amazing Secret Bunker of Redundant Redundancy. (A variation on an acronym coined by Richard Daugherty, who writes under the pen name The Mogambo Guru.) The JASBORR is also sometimes called the Flaggermus Grotte.

JBT: Jack Booted Thug

JHP: Jacketed Hollow Point (ammunition)

JIT: Just In Time. See also: Kanban.

JMHO: Just My Humble Opinion

JP4: High grade aviation kerosene.

JPFO: Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership

"Junk" Silver: 1964 or earlier mint date circulated U.S. silver coins with little or no numismatic value. These coins have a silver content of 90%.

JWR: James Wesley, Rawles (The primary author/editor of SurvivalBlog.)

K-1: "Water Clear" grade Kerosene

Kalashnikov: See: AK.

Kali, Kalifornia: California. See also: PRK.

Kanban: The Japanese term for a Just In Time (JIT) inventory control system. See also: JIT.

KBR: Kellogg, Brown and Root.

KD: Known Distance

KGB: Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti. Committee for State Security. Now defunct, the Soviet KGB has been succeeded by the Russian FSB. See also: FSB.

Keynesian: Those who believe in the socialistic economic theories of John Maynard Keynes. Keynesians advocate government intervention, or "demand-side management" of the economy, ostensibly to achieve full employment and stable prices.

KG or kg : Kilogram

KI: Potassium Iodate

KHz: Kilohertz

KIA: Killed In Action.

Killer Caravans: Kurt Saxon's term for Rover Packs.

KISS or K.I.S.S. : "Keep it Simple, Stupid!"

KJV: King James Version of The Bible

Klick: Slang for Kilometer (km)

Kludge or Kluge: Slang for an expedient "crude, but effective" fix to a problem. Spoken "klooj". An ugly fix is often described as "kludgy."

km: Kilometer

KR: Key Resource. See also: CI/KR.

KT or Kt: Kiloton. Most commonly used in describing the yield of nuclear weapons.

Kva: Kilo Volt Amp. This term describes power in a relationship of thousands of volts (voltage) and amperage.

KW or Kw: Kilowatt

KWh: Kilowatt Hours. One KWh is one thousand watts acting over a 1 hour period.

L1A1: The British and Australian "Inch" measurements versions of the metric FAL Rifle. Also known as the SLR (Self-Loading Rifle.) See my FAQ on this subject.

LATOC: Life After The Oil Crash. See: LifeAfterTheOilCrash.net, a blog edited by Matt Savinar. See also: Hubbert's Peak

LAV: Light Armored Vehicle

LAW: Light Anti-Tank Weapon

LBE: Load Bearing Equipment. The generic name for military style suspenders or vest used for carrying magazine pouches, canteen, pistol holster, et cetera.

LBO: Leveraged Buyout

LBV: Load Bearing Vest.

LC-1: Load Carrying, Type 1. (U.S. Army Load Bearing Equipment, circa 1970s to 1990s.)

LCD: Liquid Crystal Display.

L&D: Labor and Deliver. (Childbirth.)

LD: Lunar Distance

LDS: The Latter Day Saints, commonly called The Mormons. (Flawed doctrine, great preparedness.)

LED: Light Emitting Diode

LE: Law Enforcement

LEO: Depending on context: Law Enforcement Officer, "Law Enforcement Only" (product sales restriction), or Low Earth Orbit

LER: Log Eye Relief (Scope, typically used with pistols and "scout" rifles/carbines)

Li: Lithium

LIA: Little Ice Age

LIC: Low Intensity Conflict

Lines of drift: See: Channelized Areas.

LLC: Limited Liability Corporation

LLDPE: Linear Low-Density PolyEthylene

LMG: Light Machinegun.(Such as the M249 SAW.)

LNG: Liquefied Natural Gas

LOA: Depending on context Length, over all. (Sailing ship term.) or Landowner's Association Also see: HOA.

LOL: Laughing out loud.

LOS: Line of Sight. Many communications technologies require an unobstructed path between transmitter and receiver, as in microwave radio, satellite communications, and laser/infrared optical communications links.

Low Acid: Foods that have little acid and therefore can contain food poisoning bacteria if poorly processed.

LOX: Liquid Oxygen.

LPAL: Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI). Called "low path" in epidemiologist slang. See also HPAI and H5N1

LPI: Low Probability of Intercept

LP/OP: Listening post/observation post: Usually the same position, used for observation in daylight hours and for listening and use of Starlight devices at night. See also: Starlight

LR: Depending on context: Lactated Ringers (Or Ringer's Lactate) an IV support fluid. or Long Rifle (as in .22 LR rimfire.)

LRP: Long Range Patrol (See also: MCW/LRP)

LSA: Depending on Context, Lubricant, Small Arms, or Logistics Support Area

LSB: Lower Sideband (an operating mode for CB and amateur radio gear.)

LSE: Depending on context: London Stock Exchange or London School of Economics

LTCM: Long-Term Capital Management. The infamous derivatives hedge fund that went bankrupt in 1999. LTCM had only about \$4 billion in net asset value, with assets totaling over \$100 billion but they had about \$1.4 trillion in derivatives bets on the table when the house of cards collapsed.

M or m: Meter

M1 Garand: The U.S. Army's primary battle rifle of WWII and the Korean conflict. It is semi-automatic, chambered in .30-06, and uses a top-loading 8 round en bloc clip that ejects after the last round is fired. This rifle is commonly called the Garand. (After the name of its inventor.) Not to be confused with the U.S. M1 Carbine, another semi-auto of the same era, which shoots a far less powerful pistol-class cartridge.

M1A1 Abrahms: The United State's current main battle tank, with a 120mm cannon.

M1 Carbine: The U.S. Army semi-auto carbine issued during WWII and the Korean conflict. Mainly issued to officers and second echelon troops such as artillerymen, for self-defense. Shoots .30 U.S. Carbine, an intermediate (pistol class) .30 caliber cartridge. More than six million were manufactured, and several hundred thousand were released as surplus by the DCM in the 1960s.

M1A: The civilian (semi-auto only) version of the U.S. Army M14 7.62mm NATO rifle. See my FAQ on this subject.

M14: U.S. Army issue 7.62mm NATO selective fire battle rifle. These are still issued in small numbers, primarily to designated marksmen. The civilian semi-auto only equivalent is the M1A. See also: M21.

M16: U.S. Army issue 5.56mm NATO selective fire battle rifle. The current standard variant is the M16A2 that has improved sight and three shot burst control. The civilian semi-auto only equivalent is the AR-15.

M1911: The Model 1911 Colt semi-auto pistol (and clones thereof), usually chambered in .45 ACP. See my FAQ on this subject.

M2 Bradley: The U.S. Army's current tracked APC.

M2 Carbine: The selective fire variant of the U.S. M1 Carbine.

M21: The match grade sniper version of the U.S. Army M14 7.62mm NATO rifle

M240B: The current U.S. Army issue 7.62 mm NATO belt fed light machinegun.

M4: U.S. Army issue 5.56mm NATO selective fire carbine. (A shorter version of the M16 rifle, with a 14.5" barrel and collapsing stock.) Earlier issue M16 carbine variants had designations such as XM177E2 and CAR-15.)

M4gery: (Spoke "Em Forgery") Civilian (semi-auto only) version of the U.S. Army issue 5.56mm NATO carbine. (Typically with a 16" barrel instead of the military issue 14.5" barrel--to meet the U.S. 16" minimum rifle barrel length requirement--and a collapsing stock.)

M60: The semi-obsolete U.S. Army issue 7.62 mm NATO belt fed light machinegun. It utilized some design elements of the German MG-42 LMG.

M9: The U.S. Army issue version of the Beretta M92 semi-auto 9mm pistol.

M&A: Mergers and Acquisitions

MAC: Depending on context, Military Airlift Command or Military Armament Corporation. (The latter was the original manufacturer of the Ingram M-10 submachinegun--commonly called a "MAC-10", although that nomenclature was never used by the company.)

Mag: Depending on context, short for magazine, magnum, or magnesium.

maH: Mil-Amp Hours (Battery capacity rating.)

Mall Ninja: See: Arm Chair Commando

MAM: Military Age Male

MAP: Minimum Advertised Price

MARPAT: MARine PATtern. The U.S.M.C's new "digital" pattern camouflage uniform, replacing the BDU.

MARS: Military Affiliate Radio System

MBITR: Multi-Band Inter/Intra Team Radio (AN/PRC-148)

MBR: Main Battle Rifle

MBS: Mortgage Backed Security/Securities

M-C-C-Ls: Murdering Commie Cannibal Looters (Coined by JWR)

MacGyver: To improvise, using readily available household materials. (Term derived from the television series MacGyver.)

MCW/LRP: Meal, Cold Weather/Long Range Patrol (MCW/LRP)

M.D. or MD: In most contexts, Medical Doctor

MDR-TB: Moderately Drug Resistant Tuberculosis. See also: XDR-TB.

Medevac: Medical Evacuation. (Typically via helicopter.)

Meds: Medications

MELIOS: Mini Eye-Safe Laser Infrared Observation Set (AN/PVS-6)

Memsahib: The darling Mrs. Rawles

Meprolight: A maker of Tritium-lit sights and scopes

MEW: Mortgage Equity Withdrawal.

mg: Milligram

MG: Depending on context, megagram or machinegun.

MGTEOTWAWKI: Multi-Generational The End of the World as we Know It. (A derivation of the TEOTWAWKI acronym coined by Mike Medintz) (Spoken "Tee-ought-walk-ee").

MHSA: Mine Safety and Health Administration

MI or M.I.: In most contexts: Military Intelligence. In the context of Robert A. Heinlein's fictional writings: Mobile Infantry.

MIA: Missing In Action.

MICH: Modular/Integrated Communications Helmet

MILES: Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System. Laser tag for grunts.

Military Crest: A position on a hill or mountain that is near the summit but low enough to avoid being seen "skylined" when standing.

MIL-SPEC: Military specification. (A product made to the demanding standards of military organizations.)
Milsurp: Slang acronym for military surplus.
MIM: Metal Injection Molding
Mini-14: A 5.56mm NATO semi-auto carbine made by Ruger.
MIRV: Multiple Independently targetable Reentry Vehicle. See also: RV.
misc.survivalism: The Usenet newsgroup dedicated to survivalist topics (It has now sadly degenerated into endless flame wars.)
MIT: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
ML: Milliliters
MLM: Multi-Level Marketing
MLS: Multiple Listing Service (Real estate.)
MMG: Medium Machinegun.(Such as the M240.)
mmHg: Millimeters of Mercury (Measure of barometric pressure.)
MOA: Minute of Angle (1.047" at 100 yards)--a measurement of rifle accuracy)
Mods: Modifications
MOLLE: Modular Lightweight Load-carrying Equipment
Molon Labe: Greek for "Come and Take [It]" --the rallying cry of the modern Second Amendment Movement. Also the title of a novel by Boston T. Party.
Monoculture: A local or regional agricultural economy that is dependent on a single crop. (Such as corn in some parts of the Midwest.)
MOPP: Mission Oriented Protective Posture
MOS: Depending on context, Military Occupational Specialty or Metal Oxide Semiconductor (microcircuits).
Mouse Gun: Derisive term for a rifle chambered in 5.56mm NATO/.223 Remington. (JWR prefers .308 Winchesters.) See my FAQ on this subject.
MOUT: Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain
MPG or m.p.g.: Miles per gallon.
MPH or m.p.h.: Miles per hour.
MRE: Meal, Ready to Eat (U.S. Army field rations) a.k.a.: "Meals Rejected by Ethiopians", "Meals Rarely Eaten" and "Three lies for the price of one"—viz., "It isn't a meal, it's not ready, and you can't eat it.") See also: CM.
MREA: Midwest Renewable Energy Association
MROD: Manual Reverse Osmosis Desalinators
MRSA: Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MS: Mint State (Coin Grade.) See also: AU.
MSA: Mine Safety Administration
MSDS: Material Safety Data Sheet(s). Used in US industry to identify toxic or otherwise dangerous materials.
MSG: Monosodium Glutamate
MSSA: Military Style Semiautomatic. The term used in New Zealand to designate paramilitary-looking rifles or shotguns.
MSM: Mainstream Media
MSR: Main Supply Route
MSRP: Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price
MT or Mt: Megaton. Most commonly used in describing the yield of nuclear weapons.
MTBE: Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether. A toxic chemical used to oxygenate gasoline. MTBE now contaminates the groundwater in most of California.
MTBF: Mean Time Between Failures. See also: UMTBF.
MTOE: Modified Table of Organization & Equipment
MTTR: Mean Time to Repair
MTV: Medium Tactical Vehicle (Steyr 5 Ton 6x6)
MURS: Multi Use Radio Service. See also: FRS and GMRS.
MVPA: Military Vehicle Preservation Association
MWP: Medieval Warm Period
MWR: Morale, Welfare and Recreation
MZB: Mutant Zombie Biker
N/A: Not Applicable
N.A.: North America
NaCl or NaCl: Sodium Chloride--table salt (In some contexts, a saline IV solution.)
NAEP: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Periodic public school tests in reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, civics, geography, and the arts.
NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement.
NAIS: National Animal Identification System. This scheme will use RFID biochips. See The Memsahib's article on the subject. See also: RFID.
NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
NASD: National Association of Securities Dealers
NASDAQ: National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations
NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization
Natural Gasoline: See Drip Oil.
NBC: Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical warfare

NBCE: Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, and Explosive
NCO: Non-Commissioned Officer
NCOIC: Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge
ND: Negligent Discharge
NDA: Non-disclosure agreement
NEO: Near-Earth Object
NFA: National Firearms Act
NFPA: National Fire Protection Association
NG: Natural Gas
NGC: Numismatic Guaranty Corporation. An independent professional numismatic coin grading service. See also: PCGS and Slab.
NGIC: National Ground Intelligence Center
NGO: Non-Government Organization. (Such as a private charity.)
NiCd: Nickel Cadmium (rechargeable batteries)
Night vision: See Starlight.
NIJ: National Institute of Justice (Sets technical standards for body armor.)
NiMH: Nickel Metal Hydride (rechargeable batteries)
NIMS: National Incident Management System
NIMSS: Not in My Solar System
NIPP: National Infrastructure Protection Plan. (See also: DHS.)
NLOS: Non-Line of Sight
NLP: Neuro-Linguistic Programming
nmi: Nautical Miles
NNEMPW: Non Nuclear Electro Magnetic Pulse Weapon
NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (A U.S. Federal government agency, best known for supplying weather data)
NOD: Depending on context, Notice of Default or Night Observation Device (See: Starlight.)
NOLA: New Orleans, Louisiana
Nomagram: A scale for measuring nuclear weapons effects and radiation dissipation
NONEL: Non-Electric Blasting Cap (Traditional fuse type cap)
NORAD: North Aerospace Defense Command
NOS: Depending on context: Network Operating System (packet radio), New Old Stock (merchandise), or Nitrous Oxide(engine modification)
NRA: National Rifle Association
NRA-ILA: National Rifle Association-Institute for Legislative Action
NRC: Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NRCS: National Resources Conservation Service (formerly called the Soil Conservation Service. Part of the USDA.) See also: CRP and USDA.
NRO: National Reconnaissance Office
NRP: National Response Plan
NRR: Noise Reduction Rating (Used for ear plugs and ear muffs.)
NSA: National Security Agency
NSF: Depending on context, National Sanitation Foundation or Science Federation
NSN: National Stock Number
NSPD: National Security Presidential Directive
NSSF: National Shooting Sports Foundation
NSTDC: Nano Silver-Titanium Dioxide Coating (NSTDC)
NVA: North Vietnamese Army
NVD: Night Vision Device
NVG: Night Vision Goggles
NWO: New World Order
NYBOT: New York Board of Trade
NYC: New York City
NYPD: New York Police Department
OAL or O.A.L.: Overall Length
OBC: Officer Basic Course
OBE: Overcome by Events (In the context of SurvivalBlog, OBE means something that is out of date, no longer existent, or no longer relevant.)
OB-GYN: Obstetrician-Gynecologist
OBTW: Oh, By The Way
OCOKA: Observation and fields of fire, Cover and Concealment, Obstacles, Key terrain, Avenues of approach
OCONUS: Outside the Continental United States
OCS: Officer Candidate School
OD, O.D.: Depending on Context: Olive Drab, Overdose, or Outside Diameter
ODAC: Oil Depletion Analysis Centre (in England.)

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OEF: Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)

OEM: Original Equipment Manufacturer

Off Grid: A home that is not connected to the power grid. Typically powered by PVs, wind power, or micro-hydro generators, or gas/diesel/propane gensets.

OIC: Officer In Charge

OIF: Operation Iraqi Freedom

OISM: Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine

O-Level: Operator Level

One Percenter: 99% of bikers are not criminals. It is that remaining one percent that is a threat, even before TSHTF. They have no compunctions about killing, and with motorcycles they are a highly mobile threat, capable of covering long distances with just a few gallons of gasoline.

One Trip Bugout. In the event of a major disaster, you may have the opportunity to make one trip to your retreat location before roads become impassible. (Due to road blocks, road closures by law enforcement, or stalled traffic jams)

OOB: Order of Battle

OODA: Observation, Orientation, Decision, Action (term coined and concept developed by Col. John Boyd, USAF (Ret.), usually called an OODA Loop). An explanation can be found at <http://www.mindsim.com/MindSim/Corporate/OODA.html>

OP: Observation Post:

OPD: Overfill Protection Device. OPD valves are used on many propane tanks.

Op-Ed: Opinion/Editorial

OPFOR: Opposing Forces. The "bad guys" in U.S. military training exercises. Also called the Red Force.

OPORD: Operations Order

Ops, OPS: Operations

OPSEC: Operational Security

OPTEMPO: Operational Tempo

Option: An agreement that grants the options buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell an asset or commodity at a specified "strike" price on or before a certain date. A call option grants the right to buy at the specified strike price, and so it pays off if the market price for the underlying item rises above that mark. A put option grants the right to sell at the strike price and pays off when the market price falls below the strike price. On the other hand, an option seller or "options writer" has the obligation to pay when the options buyer exercises their right. Options are traded on both exchanges and OTC markets. For example, party A buys a call that grants them the right to buy 1 million Euros at \$0.9400 in September. (Definition courtesy of The Derivatives Primer)

OR: Operating Room

ORS: Oral Rehydration Solution. Sold under brands names like Pedialyte.

OS: Operating System.

OSB: Oriented Strand Board (a type of plywood-like sheathing.)

OSOM: Out of Sight, Out of Mind

OSS: Office of Strategic Services. The WWII progenitor of both the CIA and the U.S. Army Special Forces.

OTC: Over The Counter (Drugs, Stocks)

OW: Off-World. (In outer space.)

oz: Ounce

Oz: Slang for Australia

+P: The designation used by many manufacturers for extra velocity ("hot") pistol ammunition. Note that not all handguns can handle +P loads. (Check your owner's manual first!)

P2P: Depending on context: Point to Point, Person to Person, or Peer to Peer.

P7: (Numeric acronym coined by JWR) See: PPPPPPP (P7 is also the designation of a highly regarded HK pistol. I recommend the P7-M13 for someone with lavish budget.

PA: Depending on context Physician's Assistant or Public Address (system amplifier)

PAC: Political Action Committee.

Packet: Amateur AX.25 communications, a structured group of binary digits in a prearranged sequence containing synchronization, address, control and error-checking data. A packet is a block of many characters (or bytes) which are sent together along with a few extra characters (overhead/checksum) used to guarantee that the data is completely error free. The packet includes addressing information so that the receiving station knows the source and destination of the Packet.

PADI: Professional Association of Diving Instructors.

PAMP: Produits Artistiques de Métaux Précieux. PAMP is a gold, silver and platinum group metals refinery based at Castel San Pietro, in Switzerland near the Italian border

Panic Azimuth: A compass bearing used to get folks to a rally point.

Para: Short for paratrooper. Refers both to the soldiers themselves, and the type of rifles that they often carry. (Typically with a folding stock.)

Parts Kit: A set of parts for a firearm, usually minus the receiver. Parts kits are typically derived from military surplus weapons that would not otherwise be importable because they were originally capable of fully automatic fire. Since in the U.S. only receivers are subject to Federal controls, a parts kit can be transferred without any FFL paperwork. Parts kits are typically used by hobbyists to assemble a complete semi-auto only firearm, or are kept as spare parts for a complete rifle of the same model.

"Patriots": JWR's first novel--"Patriots: Surviving the Coming Collapse" (Now out of print and quite scarce)

PASGT: Personal Armor System for Ground Troops (Often misspelled PAGST, because that is how it is typically spoken.)

PAH: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons. A carcinogenic compound found in used motor crankcase oil.

Passive Solar: A building that uses a room or part of the building as a solar collector, as opposed to active solar, such as PV.

PAWS: The Protection of Animal Welfare Statute (PAWS)--designated S. 1139 / H.R.2669 would make hunting dog breeders and sellers subject to USDA licensing.

PB: Prussian Blue.

PBS: Public Broadcasting Service

PC: Politically Correct. In other contexts: Personal Computer.

PCGS: Professional Coin Grading Service. An independent professional numismatic coin grading service. See also: NGC and Slab.

PCI: Pre-combat inspection(s)

PCM: Powertrain Control Module

PD or P.D.: Police Department

PDR: Physician's Desk Reference. (The standard reference on prescription drugs.)

PDA: Personal Digital Assistant

PDF: Portable Document Format. A common file format used for viewing text and graphics files, developed by Adobe software.

PDW: Depending on context: Personal Defense Weapon (HK MP-5 variant) or Pulse Descriptor Word (ELINT.)

PE or P.E.: Physical Education

Peak Load: The maximum load, or usage, of electrical power occurring in a given period of time, typically a day.

Peak Oil: See: Hubbert's Peak.

Pectin: A natural jellying agent that is found in some fruits.

Percolation (or "Perk") Test: A test of the soil to determine if it will absorb and drain water adequately to use a septic leach field system for sewage disposal.

PERSCOM: The U.S. Army's personnel command. (The folks that make the duty assignments.)

PETN: Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate. A stable, flexible high-order explosive. The filler used in primacord (detonating cord.)

PF: Protection Factor. (Usually in the context of fallout protection)

pH (scale): The pH scale is a measure of hydrogen ion concentration. The scale runs from 0 to 14 with the middle point (pH 7) being neutral (neither acidic or basic). Any pH number greater than 7 is considered a base and any pH number less than 7 is considered an acid. 0 is the strongest acid and 14 is the strongest base.

Phantom Load: A device that consumes energy even when switched off, such as the digital clock on a VCR.

PGP: Pretty Good Privacy (Encryption freeware.)

PIK: Payment in Kind

PIR: Passive Infrared

PLC: Platoon Leader's Course (USMC).

PM: Depending on context, Preventative Maintenance, Preventive Medicine, Post Meridian, Precious Metals, or Prime Minister

PMO: Postal Money Order.

PMS: Depending on context, Pre-Menstrual Syndrome or Professor of Military Science (ROTC unit commanders).

PO or P.O.: Post Office.

POA: Program of Action

POC: Point of Contact

POF: Pakistan Ordnance Factory, makers of HK clones (made under license on HK tooling.) Some of their products are marketed in the US by POF-USA.

POI: Point of Impact

POL: Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants

Pollyanna: Someone that is in denial that TEOTWAWKI could occur and remains cheerfully optimistic, even confronted with evidence to the contrary. The "Pollyanna" label was popularized in the two years preceding Y2K. It is sometimes rendered as "Polly", for short. (Pollyanna was a 1913 novel by Eleanor H. Porter that is a classic of children's literature.)

POO: Point of Origin

POS: Piece of Schumer. (See also: Schumer.)

POTUS: President Of The United States

POV: Depending on context: Personally Owned Vehicle or Point of View.

POW: Depending on context: Prisoner of War or Personally Owned Weapon.

PPM or ppm: Parts per million

PPPPPP: Poor Prior Planning Produces Pitifully Poor Performance. Also called: P7 in JWR's lexicon.

PPT: Plunge Protection Team

PR: Depending on context: Public Relations or Puerto Rico.

Pre-1899: Guns made before 1899--not classified as "firearms" under Federal law. See my FAQ on this subject.

Pre-1965, Pre-'65: See Junk Silver.

Prepper: Slang for prepared individual. (A Survivalist.)

PRI-D: A commercial fuel additive that extends the storage life of diesel fuel and biodiesel. It includes an anti-bacterial.

PRI-G: A commercial fuel additive that extends the storage life of gasoline. See also: STA-BIL.

Primacord: See: Det Cord.

Primary Targets: These are mostly missile silos, bomber bases, submarine bases, and command and control (C2) centers. The enemy must neutralize these assets immediately to prevent or minimize retaliation.

PRK: Depending on context, People's Republic of Kalifornia or photorefractive keratectomy (vision corrective eye surgery.)

Projo: Shooter's slang for projectile. (A bullet.)

ProMED: Program for Monitoring Infectious Disease. Part of the Federation of American Scientists (FAS)

PSD: Personal Security Detail

PSI or p.s.i.: [Pounds] per square inch.

PSIG or p.s.i.g.: [Pounds] per square inch gauge.

PSP: Pointed Soft Point (bullet design)

PSYOPS: Psychological Operations

Pt.: Patient (medical)

PT: Depending on context: Physical (Fitness) Training, or Physical Therapy (Medical)

PTA: Parent-Teacher Association

PTB: Powers That Be

PTO: Power Takeoff. A physical mounting for running auxiliary equipment, turned by an engine. PTOs are found on most farm tractors and some trucks. They are used to power accessories like post hole diggers, manure spreaders, and snow blowers.

PTSD: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

"Pulling Through": JWR's first screenplay--available for free download. Also the title of an excellent nuke survival science fiction novel by Dean Ing.

PV: Photovoltaic . Photovoltaic power panels that converts energy from sunshine to DC electricity.

PVC: Poly-Vinyl Chloride (that ubiquitous white plastic water pipe used in the U.S. and Canada)

PX: Post Exchange. See also BX.

QDR: Quadrennial Defense Review

QRF: Quick Reaction Force

QRM: Man-made interference on a radio frequency, intentional or not.

QRN: Natural interference on a radio frequency. Lightning, solar noise (very weak signal work) are examples of natural interference.

QRP: Low power amateur radio operation, usually 5 watts output or 10 watts input power.

QSL: To acknowledge receipt. Commonly used to indicate "I understand", "I copied your transmission (or report) all OK". Also used as a term for sending cards by mail to confirm a two way contact with a station. (A "QSL Card")

QSO: Two way conversation. (Ham radio.)

R4: See: AK.

R: Depending on context: Rads (a.k.a. Roentgens), or R (Value)--the insulating value of building materials.

RAAF: Royal Australian Air Force

RACES: Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

RAF: Royal Air Force (UK)

Rawles Ranch: The full-time home/retreat for the Rawles family, located in The Un-named Western State (TUWS). The ranch is small but has plentiful game and it borders public lands, providing the family a several million acre "big back yard." OPSEC dictates that we don't mention the locale of the Rawles Ranch. It may sound slightly absurd, but guests and consulting clients that visit the ranch are required to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA). The Rawles Ranch is also sometimes jokingly called La Casa de la Mañana Grande. See also: JASBORR, TUM, TUR, TUROM, TUT, and TUWS.

RBC: Depending on context Retroactive Birth Control or Red Blood Cells

R&D: Research and Development

RDD: Radiological Dispersion Device. A "dirty bomb" is a variety of RDD.

RDF: Radio Direction Finding

RDS. or rds.: Contraction for "Rounds" (Cartridges.)

Rebar or Re-bar: Reinforcing Bar. (Steel, for concrete.)

Red Force: See: OPFOR.

Refugee Lines of Drift: See: Channelized Areas.

REI: Recreational Equipment, Incorporated. A membership store that sells outdoor gear.

REM: Roentgen equivalent, man. A measurement used to quantify the amount of radiation that will produce biological effects.

REMM: Radiation Event Medical Management.

Remote Retreat: See: Isolated Retreat.

RF: Depending on context, Radio Frequency (waves) or Rimfire.

RFID: Radio Frequency Identification. An identification tag that can be read from a distance. One variety of RFID is an implantable biochip.

RFT: Run-flat tire

R.I.G.: Rust Inhibitive Grease.(The brand name of one of the best brands of grease on the market.) See also: Silica Gel and VCI.

RKBA: The right to keep and bear arms.

RMS: Root Mean Square

RN: Registered Nurse

ROE: Rules of Engagement

Rock-'n-roll: Slang term for full automatic fire. See also: Group Therapy.

ROI: Return on Investment. See also: EROEI

RON: Remain Over Night (location)

RoRR: "Rawles on Retreats and Relocation" a nonfiction book by JWR

ROTC: Reserve Officer Training Corps

ROTFL: Rolling on the floor laughing.

ROTFLMAO: Rolling on the floor laughing my a** off.

Rover Packs: Organized gangs of looters. See also: Killer Caravans
RP: Rally Point
RPG: Depending on context Rocket Propelled Grenade or Role Playing Game
RPM: Revolutions Per Minute
RSS: Real Simple Syndication, or in some contexts: Received Signal Strength
RSTA: Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition
RTV: Room Temperature Vulcanizing.
Rule 303 / Rule 308: Civilian Law Enforcement, post TEOTWAWKI ("Rule 303" in Canada and Oz, and "Rule 308" in the Americas)
RUM: Remington Ultra Magnum.
RV: In the context of nuclear weapons, a re-entry vehicle—a method of delivering a nuclear weapon. In the context of survival retreats, a recreational vehicle. In the context of the film Dr. Strangelove, both!
RVN: Republic of Vietnam.
RWVA: Revolutionary War Veterans Association (www.rwva.org)
Rx or RX: Prescribed or prescription medicine.
S1: Personnel (Military staff function. Called G1 at higher echelons.)
S2: Intelligence (Military staff function. Called G2 at higher echelons.)
S3: Operations and Training (Military staff function. Called G3 at higher echelons.)
S4: Logistics (Military staff function. Called G4 at higher echelons.)
S5: Civil-Military Operations (Military staff function. Called G5 at higher echelons.)
S6: Signal Operations (Military staff function. Called G6 at higher echelons.)
SA or S.A.: Depending on context: Single Action, Springfield Armory, South Africa, South America, or Finnish ("Suomi") Army
SAAMI: Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute, Inc.
SA-80: The UK military's 5.56mm "bullpup" infantry carbine. Their magazines are interchangeable with M16/AR-15 magazines.
SAFN-49: See: FN-49.
SALUTE: The standard S2 report format
Sam's Club: An American membership "warehouse" type grocery store chain that sells every thing from canned hams to home computers. A sister company of Wal-Mart. Most items are sold in case lots. See also: COSTCO.
SAPI: Small Arms Protective Insert (The ceramic insert used in some body armor.)
SAR: Search and Rescue
SAR-8: Springfield Armory's clone of the HK91 rifle.
SAR: Search and Rescue or Suspicious Activity Report. In the US, a SAR is a secret filing, triggered by any financial activity the government deems unusual. Specifically, any group of transactions totaling \$5,000 or more that "is not the sort in which the particular customer would normally be expected to engage."
SARS: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SAS: Special Air Service (British Special Forces.)
SASE: Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope
SASS: Single Action Shooter's Society
SAT: Scholastic Aptitude Test. In other contexts: Satellite
SAW: Squad Automatic Weapon (The M249, a.k.a. the FN "Minimi." See also: LMG.)
SBI: Special Background Investigation
SBR: Short-Barreled Rifle
SBS: Depending on context, Special Boat Service (British Special Forces) or Short-Barreled Shotgun
SCADA: Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCAR: Special Operations Forces Combat Assault Rifle
SCC: The Sarah Connor Chronicles. (A planned television series that already has its own Yahoo Discussion Groups Page)
Schumer: JWR's euphemism for the stuff that the septic tank pumper truck hauls away. (Full offense intended to Senator Charles Schumer, a scum-sucking hopolophobe.)
Schumeresque: Living under intolerably bad (post-TEOTWAWKI) circumstances (i.e. the Schumer has been widely distributed.)
See also: WTSHTF.
SCOTUS: Supreme Court of the United States
SCI: Sensitive Compartmented Information
Sci-fi: Science Fiction
SCS: See: NRCS.
SCUBA: Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
SEAL: Sea, Air Land—the U.S. Navy's elite commando force.
SEC: Securities and Exchange Commission.
Secondary (Nuclear) Targets: Major military, industrial, governmental, and transportation centers. Also included are seaports, locks and dams. These may be hit at once by the first missiles or struck by the bombers that will follow.
SERE: Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape.
SF or S.F.: Depending on context, Special Forces or San Francisco.
S&G.: Sargent & Greenleaf. (A lock manufacturer.)
Shank's Mare: Scottish slang dating from the eighteenth century. There was a verb, to shank or to shank it, meaning to go on foot. This is from standard English shank for the part of the leg from the knee to the ankle, which comes from Old English sceanca, the leg bone. This verb developed into shank's naig or shank's naigie (where the second words are local forms of nag, a horse) and

later into shank's mare. It was a wry joke: "I haven't got a horse of my own for the journey, so I'll use Shank's mare to get there." (Meaning, I'll go on my own two feet.) This supposed link with a person called Shank explains why the first word is often capitalised. Another form, now more common in Britain, is shank's pony. (Definition courtesy of Michael Quinion's World Wide Words web site)

Sheeple: ("Sheep People") Those who parrot the MSM and who are in denial of potential TEOTWAWKI. (Coined by Bill Cooper)

Shelf Life: The useful life of of product in home storage. In the context of foods: The period of time that a processed food can be stored before changes in color, flavor, texture or the number of micro-organisms make it unacceptable. In the contexts of nonreversible consumer batteries: The period of time that a battery can be stored and still have at least 85% of its original charge.

SHTF: Schumer Hits the Fan. (See also : HTF, WTSHTF and ESHTF.)

SIGINT: Signals Intelligence

SIG: Schweizer Industrie Gesellschaft. The superb Swiss gun maker.

SIGINT/EW: Signals Intelligence & Electronic Warfare

Silencer: See: Suppressor

Silica Gel: A granular desiccant, used to protect, guns, tools and other metal objects from rust. See also: R.I.G. and VCI.

SINGARS: Single-Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System. The U.S. military's current issue frequency-hopping VHF radio transceiver.

SIP: Shelter in Place.

SIPRNET: Secret IP Router Network (A DoD network carried via classified channels.)

SITREP: Situation Report.

Slab or Slabbed: Professionally graded and encapsulated numismatic coins. See also: PCGS and NGC.

SKI: Spending Kid's Inheritance

SKS: Samozariadnya Karabin Simonova, the semi-automatic carbine in 7.62x39 issued by the Soviet Army before and coincidentally with the AK-47. As originally issued, the SKS had a 10 round top-fed fixed magazine.

S&L: Savings and Loan

SLR: Self-Loading Rifle. See also: L1A1

SMG: Submachinegun

SMLE: Short Magazine Lee-Enfield (The British bolt action .303 service rifle in WWI, WWII, and Malaya.)

Snow Belt: Areas where prevailing onshore winds and/or elevation are responsible for heavy snowfall.

SOCOM: Special Operations Command

SOF: Special Operations Forces

SOI: Depending on context, Signal of Interest or Signal Operating Instructions. See also: CEOI

SO: Significant Other

SOL: "Schumer" Out of Luck, or, Simply Out of Luck

SOP or S.O.P.: Standard Operating Procedure(s)

SOPMOD: Special Operations Peculiar Modification

SP: Soft Point (bullet design)

Spec: Depending on context, Specification(s) or Speculation. The latter is often used to describe investment houses or land bought in a rising market.

SPF: Solar Protection Factor. (For sunscreen)

Spray 'n Pray: Un-aimed full automatic fire.

Squib (load): A cartridge with an inadequate or entirely missing powder charge. A squib load typically lodges a bullet only halfway down the barrel.

SSB: Single Sideband (an operating mode for CB and amateur radio gear.) See also: LSB and USB.

SS&S: "Shoot, Shovel, & Shut Up" - A common philosophy on feral dogs and other predators (Acronym coined by JWR)

SSTV: Slow Scan Television

STA-BIL: A commercial fuel additive that extends the storage life of gasoline. See also: PRI-G.

STANAG: Standardization Agreement

STANO: Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Night Observation. Also see: Starlight

Starlight: An electronic light amplification technology that was first developed during the Vietnam War. A Starlight device literally amplifies low ambient light by up to 100,000 times, turning nighttime darkness into daylight--albeit a green and fuzzy view. Starlight scopes are critical tools for retreat security, especially in a "grid-down" situation. Note: Starlight is also the name brand of a manufacturer of heavy-duty Mil-Spec gun cases. (So named because the design of the cases resembles that of cases used for Starlight scopes and goggles.) See also: Mil-Spec.

State Line (Jumping) Game, The: Living near a state line to take advantage of a lower tax or other advantages in one or more adjoining states.

STG-58: The Austrian Army's version of the FN/FAL rifle. STG-58 parts kits have been used in recent years for building semi-auto only FALs in the U.S.

Steyr: An Austrian gun manufacturer. Their Steyr Daimler-Puch division also makes military off-road vehicles.

Steyr AUG: The Austrian army's 5.56mm "bullpup" infantry carbine. Also issued by The Australian Army, as their replacement for the L1A1.

STRAC: See Strack.

Strack: U.S. military slang for a "squared away" soldier. Also sometimes applied to a field gear locker box -- a "Strack Box." The origin of this word is debated. Some say that it is an acronym for "Strictly Regular Army Commission" (STRAC), while others attribute it to the family name of Army Air Corps (later USAF) Brigadier General Harold Arthur Strack.

Structured (Note): A hybrid instrument that combines a bond or loan with a derivative. A traditional structured note is a call bond.

Sub-cu: Short for subcutaneous (drug injection).

SUIT: Sight Unit Infantry, Trilux, the optical sight using by the Brits on their L1A1s. See also: SUSAT.

Sulfation: The formation of lead-sulfate crystals on the plates of a lead-acid battery, which decreases battery capacity by impeding the opportunity for chemical reaction within a cell. It can be caused by leaving the battery in a discharged state for long periods of time.

Suppressor: A device for muffling the sound of a firearms discharge. They are often incorrectly called "silencers" by the mass media, but that is a misnomer since they do not completely silence any firearm. There is a \$200 Federal transfer tax for firearms sound suppressors here in the U.S. There are also additional state-enacted restrictions on suppressors in many states, such as California and Washington. Readers are strongly advised not to purchase or construct an unregistered suppressor. The risk of doing so is the loss of you gun ownership and voting rights for life, and many year behind bars. Don't take that risk! Keep in mind that purchasing a registered suppressor will raise your profile, both locally (since it will be your local sheriff or chief of police that will sign off on your license) and at the Federal level. So you need to carefully weigh the risks versus benefits of doing so. Proceed down that path only after considerable thought and prayer.

Survivalist: One who prepares for potential bad times. (Coined by Kurt Saxon)

SUSAT: Sight Unit Small Arms Trilux. See also: SUIT.

SUV: Sport/Utility Vehicle

S&W: Smith & Wesson

Swap: An agreement to swap the net value of two series of obligations or payments in which one payment is usually based on a fixed interest rate and the other is based on a variable interest rate. (Or, for example, an interest rate in another currency, the total rate of return of a security or index, or a commodity price.)

SWAT: Special Weapons and Tactics. (SWAT originally stood for Special Weapons Assault Team until that was deemed politically incorrect.)

Sweet Feed: See C-O-B.

TA-1 / TA-312: Older generation U.S. Military hard wire field telephones. They have been superseded by DNVTs. See also: DNVT.

TA-50: The standard issue U.S. Army field gear (backpack, web gear, tentage, boots, and fatigue uniforms) for active duty and reserve forces soldiers in Troop Program Units.

Take The Gap: Emigration under duress. (A term coined in Rhodesia, based on the British Commonwealth football term.)

Tango Sierra: U.S. Navy lingo for "Tough Schumer!"

TANSTAAFL: There Ain't No Such Thing as a Free Lunch (Coined by Robert Heinlein)

TB: Tuberculosis

T-Bills: U.S. Treasury Bills. (Short-term debt obligations of the U.S. Treasury.)

TBO: Time Between Overhauls

TBSP: Tablespoon.

T-Case: Transfer case.

TCP: Traffic Control Point

TD: Time dilation

TDP: Thermodepolymerization. A process for manufacturing oil from organic waste.

TELCO, Telco: Telephone Company. See: also: CO.

TEOTWAWKI: The End of the World as we Know It (Acronym coined by Mike Medintz) (Spoken "Tee-ought-walk-ee").

Tertiary (Nuclear) Targets: These are population and industrial centers that probably wouldn't be hit in the first strikes but would be high on the lists for later destruction to further cripple our ability to fight a prolonged war and/or recover and function as a nation. Threats against these targets could also be used following the initial attacks to force our leadership to capitulate.

The Crunch.: See: WTSHTF.

The Gray Nineties: Title of the DRAFT edition of JWR's first novel. It was shareware with 80,000+ downloads. No longer available on-line.

Thermal Mass: A material that has the ability to absorb, store, and release heat energy. Typically water tanks, concrete, bricks, or tiles.

Thermite: A mixture of aluminum powder and iron rust, that when ignited causes a vigorous exothermic reaction. Used primarily for welding. Also used by military units as an incendiary for destroying equipment.

TIM: Toxic Industrial Materials, See also: NBC.

Timber Cruise: The process of surveying forest stands to predict how many board feet of lumber a stand will yield, as well as its health/maturity.

TIPS: (Treasury Inflation-Protected Security)

TM: Technical Manual

TNC: Terminal Node Controller

TNFa: Tumor Necrosis Factor alpha (TNFa)(Reference) A cytokine.

TNT: Trinitrotoluene. A yellow crystalline compound. Used as a high explosive

TO&E or TOE: Table of Organization & Equipment

Tommy Tactical: See: Arm Chair Commando and Mall Ninja.

Tor: The onion router

TP: Toilet Paper

T-Pack: Tray-packaged U.S. military rations, sized to feed an entire squad.

TPM: Temporary Paralysis of the Mind

TPN: Total Parental Nutrition. With TPN, the patient's nutrients, liquids, etc, are all administered via a tube in a major vein. In

Partial Parenteral Nutrition, the patient's normal food intake is supplemented by a tube in a vein.

TPTB: The Powers That Be

Tracker: A rack for a PV array that follows the path of the sun to maximize the solar radiation incident on the panel's surface.

Typically, a single axis tracker will give you 15% to 25% more power per day, and dual axis tracking will add about 5% to that. Depending on the latitude and season.

Tranny: Slang for transmission.

TREE: Transient radiation effects on electronics. See also: EMP.

Tri-Chlor: Slang for the solvent 1,1,1 trichloroethane

Trickle Charge: A charge at a low rate, balancing through self-discharge losses, to maintain a cell or battery in a fully charged condition.

Trijicon: A maker of Tritium-lit sights and rifle scopes.

Tritium: A glowing radioactive gas (a hydrogen isotope) with an 11.2 year half-life.

Truck Farming/Truck Crops: Farming crops that are not processed before selling and that are directly used or sold fresh such as: lettuce, celery, and flowers.

TS: Top Secret

TSA: Transportation Security Administration

TSE: Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE). See also: BSE and CWD.

TSHTF: The Schumer Hits the Fan. (See: WTSHTF.)

TSP: Depending on context teaspoon (measure) or Tri-Sodium Phosphate (cleaner)

TTBOMK: To the Best of My Knowledge

TTP: Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures

TTS: Target Tracker System©

TTSLE: Target Tracker System - Law Enforcement©

TULIP: Acronym for the the Five Points of Calvinism:

* Total Depravity (also known as Total Inability and Original Sin)

* Unconditional Election

* Limited Atonement (also known as Atonement for the Elect)

* Irresistible Grace

* Perseverance of the Saints ("Once Saved Always Saved")

TUM: The Un-named Mountain. The mountain that adjoins the back property line of the Rawles Ranch. OPSEC dictates that we don't mention the mountain by name.

TUR: The Un-named River. The river that runs through the back end of the Rawles Ranch. OPSEC dictates that we don't mention the name of the river.

TUROM: The Un-named Range of Mountains. The Mountain range that surrounds the Rawles Ranch. OPSEC dictates that we don't mention it by name.

TUT: The Un-named Town. The town closest to the Rawles Ranch. OPSEC dictates that we don't mention the name of the town.

TUWS: The Un-named Western State. The State "somewhere west of the Rockies" where the Rawles Ranch is located. OPSEC dictates that we don't even mention the State where we live.

TV: Television. See also: HDTV.

TVP: Textured Vegetable Protein.

Two Meter: See: 2 Meter.

Tzedaka: Hebrew for Tithing Law.

TWS: Thermal Weapon Sight. An electronic sight that uses thermal imaging technology. Unlike starlight or infrared, a TWS literally "sees" heat.

UA 571-C: Nomenclature of the Remote Sentry Weapons that are used for perimeter security at the Rawles Ranch.

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

UAVIED: UAV Borne Improvised Explosive Device. (Acronym coined by JWR)

UB: Underground Burial. The rating for data or power cable that is designed to withstand being buried for extended periods.

UCC: Unincorporated Church Coalition. (In other contexts: Uniform Commercial Code)

UCMJ: Uniform Code of Military Justice

UFC: Uniform Fire Code

UGR: Unitized Group Ration

UHT: Ultra High Temperature milk pasteurization. Used for retort packaged milk.

UK: United Kingdom

UL: Underwriter's Laboratory.

ULSD: Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel (fuel).

UMTBF: Unacceptable Mean Time Between Failures. See also: MTBF.

UN: United Nations

UNE: Urban Northeast

Unhardened (electronics): See: EMP.

U.P.: Depending on context: Upper Peninsula of Michigan or Union Pacific Railroad

UPS: Depending on context: Uninterruptible Power Source or United Parcel Service

URL: Uniform Resource Locator. The actual written "address" of a given Internet site.

USAID: United States Agency for International Development

USAR: U.S. Army Reserve

USB: Depending on context, Universal Serial Bus or Upper Sideband (an operating mode for CB and amateur radio gear.)

USBP: U.S. Border Patrol

USCG: U.S. Coast Guard

USD: United States Dollar

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

USDIX: United States Dollar Index

USFS: United States Forest Service

USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

USG: United States Government.

USGS: United States Geological Survey. <http://www.usgs.gov/> See also GNIS (Geographic Names Information System)

USGPO: U.S. Government Printing Office.

U.S.G.I.: United States Government Issue (equipment specifications)

USMA: United States Military Academy (at West Point, New York.)

USP: United States Pharmacopoeia.

USPSA: United States Practical Shooting Association

USWS: United States Weather Service. See also: WX.

UTI: Urinary Tract Infection

UTMA: Uniform Transfers to Minors Act

UV: Ultraviolet (commonly called "Black Light")

UXO: Unexploded Ordnance

Uzi: The compact 9mm submachinegun designed by Uziel Gal of Israel.

VAC: Volts, Alternating Current

Valmet: See: AK.

VaR: Value at Risk

VBAC: Vaginal Birth After Caesarean

VBIED: Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device

VBT: Very Bad Thing

VC: Depending on context Viet Cong or Venture Capital

VCI: Vapor Phase Corrosion Inhibitive. (A rust preventative desiccant.) VCI products are often produced as a coated paper, for metal parts storage. See also: RIG and Silica Gel.

vCJD: See: Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

VDC: Volts, Direct Current

VFD: Volunteer Fire Department

VHF: Very High Frequency

VLF: Very Low Frequency

VOIP: Voice Over Internet Protocol (Internet telephone service.)

Vortex: Trade name of a flash hider that uses spirally-milled slots to break up a rifle's muzzle flash.

VOX: Voice Operated (Switch)

VW: Volkswagen. (Literally: People's Wagon)

WAFA: Wilderness Advanced First Aid

WD-1: U.S. military issue two conductor insulated field telephone wire.

WD-40: A commercial spray cleaner/lubricant. Not recommended for most firearms cleaning tasks. Deadens ammunition primers.

WDNNSB Mode: "We Don't Need No Stinkin' Badges" (Acronym coined by JWR, based on a quote from a famous Humphrey Bogart movie.)

Weaver Grip, Weaver Stance: The handgun shooting techniques developed by Jack Weaver in the 1950s and 1960s and widely adopted by law enforcement and the military in the 1980s. The shooter uses a system of hand counter pressure and body alignment to steady a handgun during firing. The shooter uses both hands to hold the gun, the firing hand pushing slightly forward and the other hand placed over the firing hand pulling slightly back. The gun is aimed at an oblique angle to the body almost to the side opposite the "strong" hand, using the "strong" arm bone structure to serve as a from of "stock" for the gun. (Definition courtesy of www.SavvySurvivor.com)

WECSOG: Wylie E. Coyote School of Gunsmithing (amateur gunsmithing) Coined at The FALFiles.

WEMSI: Wilderness Emergency Medicine Services Institute

W-EMT: Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician

Wet Gas: See: Casinghead Gas.

WFA: Wilderness First Aid

WFR: Wilderness First Responder

WGS-84: World Geodetic Survey of 1984.

WHO: World Health Organization

Wi-Fi: Wireless Fidelity. Used generically when referring of any type of 802.11 network, whether 802.11b, 802.11a, dual-band, etc.

WMA: Wilderness Medical Associates

WMD: Weapons of Mass Destruction

WMS: Wilderness Medical Society

WFA: Wilderness First Aid

WRT: With Regard To

WSM: Winchester Short Magnum.

WSSM: Winchester Super Short Magnum.

WTC: World Trade Center. One of the sites of the 9/11/01 radical Islamic terrorist attacks.

WTS: Depending on context Want to Sell or Williams Trigger Specialties

WTSHTF: When the Schumer Hits the Fan. (I formerly said "Stuff" hits the fan, but I think that the implied smell of Congressman Chuck Schumer's voting record is more descriptive. BTW, I also synonymously use the terms TEOTWAWKI, The Crunch, worst case, and the old military saying "when the balloon goes up." See also: Schumeresque and TEOTWAWKI.

WVO: Waste Vegetable Oil

WWCR: World Wide Christian Radio.

WWI: World War I

WWII: World War II

WWWF: Weapon, Web gear, Water, and Food. (Acronym coined by FDG.)

WX: Weather. The designated U.S. Weather Service frequencies are often called WX channels. These are between 162.400 MHz and 162.550 MHz. See also: USWS.

X, The: In the tactical realm, "The X" means the danger area, the line of attack, the place where the grenades are landing, the bullets are zipping through, and the bombs are going off. Small unit soldiers often say "get out of the X" or "Get off the x" The only place you want to be on the X involves a treasure map, otherwise you are in grave danger. (Definition courtesy of <http://getoffthex.com>.)

XD: Extreme Duty.

XDR-TB: Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis. See also: MDR-TB.

XM: Experimental Model

XM177E2: See: M4

Y2K: Year 2000 (Coined by David Eddy). The scare associated with the millennial ("Year 2000") date change that took place at 0001/01/01/2000.

YMMV: Your Mileage May Vary. This essentially means "Try this at your own risk."

Yob: An aggressive, rowdy, and/or violent young man. (UK slang.) Possibly derived from "boy" spelled backwards. See also: ASBO.

YOYO: You're On Your Own. (When government ceases to provide essential services such as fire department and police department protection, and when utilities no longer provide water, sanitation, electricity and phone service.) Acronym coined by David Weed.

Zener Diodes: See: EMP.

Zeroing, Zeroed: The process of adjusting a weapon's elevation and windage to an individual user so that a firearm, when fired, will hit the point of aim. A rifle is said to be "zeroed" when this is done. (Definition courtesy of The FALFiles.)

Zero Time: A complete restoration of a vehicle (bringing it back to like-new condition, i.e. "Zero time on the meter.")

BOHICA means, "Bend over here it comes again" (Generally politically.)

SSS = "shoot, shovel and shut up"

SHTF = "stuff hits the fan"

TEOTWAWKI = "End of the world as we know it"

LEO = "Law enforcement officer"

SNAFU = "Situation normal, all fouled up" Well, not really fouled up, but you're all adults you get the idea.

FUBAR = "Fouled up beyond all repair"

BH = "Blue Helmets" UN Troops

SAK = Swiss Army Knife

EDC = Every Day Carry (what you normally carry)

WSK = Wilderness Survival Knife or Wilderness Survival Kit

HDR = Homeland Defense Rifle