

GLOSSARY AND SHIPBOARD TERMINOLOGY

AMC – Airborne Mission Commander. The primary role of the AMC is to coordinate and control aircraft during a mission

Angels – Aircraft altitude in thousands of feet MSL, i.e., “Angels 1.5” is 1,500 feet

Bingo – Fuel state needed for recovery

Base Recovery Course (BRC) – The ship’s *magnetic* heading for aircraft recovery

Buster – Fly at maximum continuous airspeed

Charlie – A signal indicating clearance to land. “Charlie Spot 3” means, “cleared to land Spot 3”

Coverage Factor – The ratio between Sweep Width and Track Spacing

CSAR – Combat Search and Rescue. SAR conducted during war or military operations other than war

CSARTF – CSAR Task Force. All forces committed to a specific combat search and rescue operation to locate, identify, support, and recover isolated personnel during combat

CVW – Carrier Air Wing

Datum – A geographic point, line or area used as a reference in search planning

FATHER – Ship’s TACAN station

Feet Dry/Wet – Pilot report indicating transition from over water to over land/ vice versa

Fox Corpen – Ship’s **true** heading during flight operations

Gadget – All-inclusive term for radar

“Mark your FATHER” – Controller request for aircraft’s range and bearing from ship’s TACAN

MEU – Marine Expeditionary Unit

MOTHER – Parent ship

NO JOY – Indicates no visual contact with a target, or unsuccessful in performing an assigned task

On-Scene Commander – A person designated to coordinate SAR operations within a specified search area

OTC – Officer in Tactical Command. The senior officer present eligible to assume command, or the officer to whom he has delegated command.

Parrot/India – Identify Friend or Foe (IFF)/Mode IV Transponder

Pigeons – Vectors provided by ship’s aircraft controller

Pogo – Instruction given to return to previously assigned frequency if unable to establish comms on assigned frequency

Position and Intended Movement (PIM) – Ship’s planned direction and speed

Probability of Detection – The probability that the search object being detected, assuming it was in the areas that were searched

RESCAP – Rescue Combat Air Patrol. Counter-air fighters assigned to protect the recovery force and survivors from airborne threats

RESCORT – Rescue Escort. FW or RW aircraft assigned to provide reconnaissance, threat suppression, and communications relay to the recovery vehicle

RMC – Rescue Mission Commander. The individual designated to control recovery actions in the terminal area

RV – Recovery Vehicle. The asset assigned to rescue isolated personnel

SENAV – Senior Naval Aviator. The SENAV is the most experienced naval aviator on an aircapable ship, and will be consulted by the ship’s CO on aviation-related matters

See Me (USN/USMC)/Tally Ho (USCG) – A visual sighting of the ship

Snuggle Up – Term used to direct a helicopter to come close aboard

Strangle – Direction to turn off specified equipment, i.e., “Strangle the gadget”

Sweep Width – The width of a swath centered on the SRU’s track where the probability of detecting the search object if it is outside of that swath is equal to the probability of missing the search object if it is inside that swath

Sweet/Sour – Valid or invalid/no response to IFF interrogation. Equipment operable/inoperable.

Track spacing – The distance between adjacent parallel search tracks

TRAP – Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel. An umbrella term for all contingency operations related to CSAR or aircraft salvage and repair as conducted by Marine Expeditionary Units

TTF – TRAP Task Force. All forces committed to a specific TRAP mission