

Christopher J. Abbe

PILOT'S POCKET DECODER

Slang

Symbols

Acronyms

V-Speeds

Designations

Weather Terminology

Acrostic Memory Joggers

Abbreviations

Aviation Alphabet

Transponder Codes

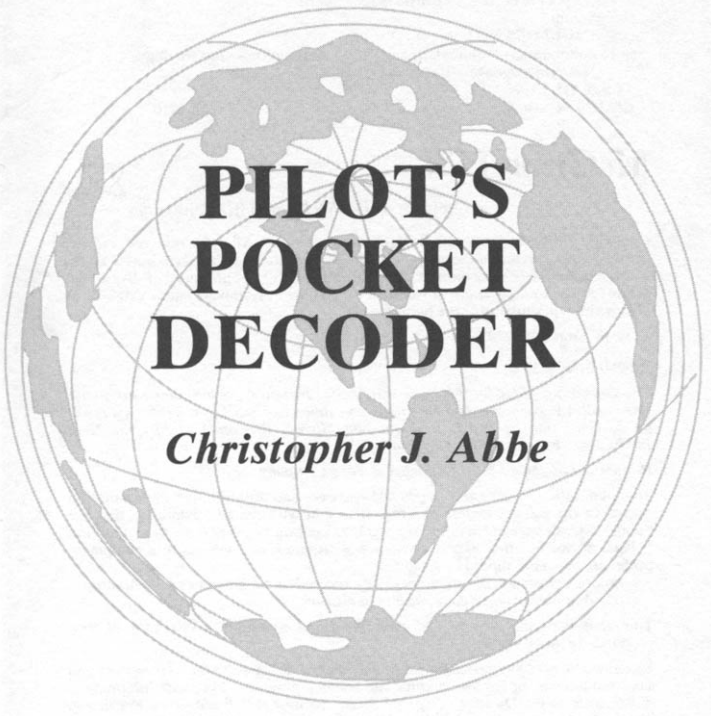
AND MORE!



**3,000+
ESSENTIAL
ENTRIES**

**PILOT'S
POCKET
DECODER**

This page intentionally left blank



PILOT'S POCKET DECODER

Christopher J. Abbe

McGraw-Hill

New York San Francisco Washington, D.C. Auckland Bogotá Caracas
Lisbon London Madrid Mexico City Milan Montreal New Delhi
San Juan Singapore Sydney Tokyo Toronto

Copyright © 1998 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. Except as permitted under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

ISBN: 978-0-07-164047-3

MHID: 0-07-164047-9

The material in this eBook also appears in the print version of this title: ISBN: 978-0-07-007549-8, MHID: 0-07-007549-2.

All trademarks are trademarks of their respective owners. Rather than put a trademark symbol after every occurrence of a trademarked name, we use names in an editorial fashion only, and to the benefit of the trademark owner, with no intention of infringement of the trademark. Where such designations appear in this book, they have been printed with initial caps.

McGraw-Hill eBooks are available at special quantity discounts to use as premiums and sales promotions, or for use in corporate training programs. To contact a representative please e-mail us at bulksales@mcgraw-hill.com.

This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is sold with the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional service. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional person should be sought.

—From a declaration of principles jointly adopted by a committee of the American Bar Association and a committee of publishers.

Information contained in this work has been obtained by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("McGraw-Hill") from sources believed to be reliable. However, neither McGraw-Hill nor its authors guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any information published herein, and neither McGraw-Hill nor its authors shall be responsible for any errors, omissions, or damages arising out of use of this information. This work is published with the understanding that McGraw-Hill and its authors are supplying information, but are not attempting to render engineering or other professional services. If such services are required, the assistance of an appropriate professional should be sought.

TERMS OF USE

This is a copyrighted work and The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("McGrawHill") and its licensors reserve all rights in and to the work. Use of this work is subject to these terms. Except as permitted under the Copyright Act of 1976 and the right to store and retrieve one copy of the work, you may not decompile, disassemble, reverse engineer, reproduce, modify, create derivative works based upon, transmit, distribute, disseminate, sell, publish or sublicense the work or any part of it without McGraw-Hill's prior consent. You may use the work for your own noncommercial and personal use; any other use of the work is strictly prohibited. Your right to use the work may be terminated if you fail to comply with these terms.

THE WORK IS PROVIDED "AS IS." MCGRAW-HILL AND ITS LICENSORS MAKE NO GUARANTEES OR WARRANTIES AS TO THE ACCURACY, ADEQUACY OR COMPLETENESS OF OR RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED FROM USING THE WORK, INCLUDING ANY INFORMATION THAT CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH THE WORK VIA HYPERLINK OR OTHERWISE, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. McGraw-Hill and its licensors do not warrant or guarantee that the functions contained in the work will meet your requirements or that its operation will be uninterrupted or error free. Neither McGraw-Hill nor its licensors shall be liable to you or anyone else for any inaccuracy, error or omission, regardless of cause, in the work or for any damages resulting therefrom. McGraw-Hill has no responsibility for the content of any information accessed through the work. Under no circumstances shall McGraw-Hill and/or its licensors be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, punitive, consequential or similar damages that result from the use of or inability to use the work, even if any of them has been advised of the possibility of such damages. This limitation of liability shall apply to any claim or cause whatsoever whether such claim or cause arises in contract, tort or otherwise.

Contents

Introduction vii

Acknowledgments xi

CHAPTER ONE

Abbreviations and Initials 1

CHAPTER TWO

Weather-Related Abbreviations and Symbols 105

WX Symbols 105

Abbreviations 106

Word Endings for Weather Words 156

Runway Visual Range Initials 157

Urgent Pilot Report Initials 159

CHAPTER THREE

Codes, Symbols, Designations, and Initials 161

English 161

Greek 166

Symbols and Shorthand 167

CHAPTER FOUR

Aviation Alphabet 169

CHAPTER FIVE

Slang and Memory Joggers 171

Slang 171

Memory Joggers 173

CFI Helpers 183

CHAPTER SIX

V-Speeds 185

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Military and Manufacturers 189

Military Designations 189

Manufacturer Designations 190

Manufacturer Abbreviations 191

CHAPTER EIGHT

**Transponder Codes and
Squawk Codes 193**

Transponder Codes 193

Squawk Codes 194

Introduction

This book has been in preparation for many years. By the time I had completed college, advanced flight ratings, certificates, and airline training, I had thousands of initials and abbreviations that were needed the first day of my private pilot ground school.

This book is compiled mostly from what was written on black, blue, and green chalkboards and from a few class handouts. These classes include global navigation, fuel and lubricants, turbines, aircraft reciprocating power plants, meteorology, aircraft electronics, aircraft airframes, aviation safety, numerous ground schools, and many other aviation seminars and classes devoted to similar topics. The book contains initials either commonly used in the cockpit, in ground training, or in stories from fellow pilots. I hope this book will be helpful throughout your future as an aviator or aviation enthusiast.

There are a few things you should know to help in your search for the unknown meaning behind the mysterious letters in this book. The first and largest section of the book is the abbreviations and initials chapter. Several chapters dealing with more specific categories

PILOT'S POCKET DECODER

follow. Each chapter is in alphabetical order to make reference simple. Start your search in Chapter One. If the meaning is not found there, check the weather-related chapter. If you still can't find the meaning, consider the possible context of the abbreviation/initials and search the relevant chapter alphabetically. If you are unsuccessful after checking all chapters of this book, then try logistics. Most abbreviations are created by removing vowels and leaving only the consonants. Although many of the abbreviations and initials have both general and weather-related meanings, they aren't listed in both chapters. Therefore, if you don't find it in one chapter, try another. Abbreviations and initials have been placed in the chapter that deals with their most common use.

When you find your abbreviation/initials, look at how they are printed. If all the letters are capitals, then they are initials. In other words, the first letter of each main word is used to make the short form of common reference.

Example:

AFD Airport Facility Directory

Introduction

If the letters are all in lowercase, they form an abbreviation for a word.

Example:

dsplcd **displaced**

There are a few exceptions to this format. If it is a single-letter abbreviation, it is also a capital.

Example:

I **Injected**

Abbreviations commonly written in capital letters (such as on charts or in directories) appear that way in the book.

Example:

RGT TFC **Right Traffic**

Months also have their first letter capitalized.

Example:

Sep **September**

The weather chapter is in capital letters because that is how most weather reports are printed.

Example:

LTGICCCCG **Lightning In Clouds,**
Cloud to Cloud, and
Cloud to Ground

PILOT'S POCKET DECODER

If there is more than one meaning for an abbreviation, the meanings appear on the same line.

Example:

mod modulate, modulation

With the initials, if there is more than one meaning, each meaning is on a separate line.

Example:

DA Decision Altitude

DA Density Altitude

This is because abbreviations are only one word and require less space. Initials are several words and require their own line.

This book does not include all clubs, organizations, associations, companies, and so forth. Only the most common ones are listed. Under no circumstances should this book replace instruction from a flight instructor.

Acknowledgments

There are many I would like to thank for their help with the completion of this book. They include my family, friends, and instructors. Special thanks are in order to my father, James Abbe. He is a pilot and my mentor for my career choice, and he encouraged me to compile this book. This would still be on notebook paper without his help.

Mary Reymann was my instructor for my CFI, CFII, and MEI. I would like to thank her for quality instruction on how to be a flight instructor.

Thanks also to Dr. David Rouleau, Terry Michmerhuizen, and David Schneider for their help in formatting and proofreading the manuscript. I appreciate their help and encouragement with the book and with my career.

I owe a great deal of gratitude to Bob Munley, Walter Musial, William Julian, Dr. David Rouleau, Bill Bethau, Julie Clippard, Mary Reymann—my flight instructors and the instructors at Western Michigan University School of Aviation Science. Thanks also to Ward Seeley, Ben Gibson, Joe Mosteller, Dr. Sheila Smith, Kevin Raymond, and John DeGroot.

ONE

Abbreviations and Initials

A	Alert
A	Class "A" airspace
A&E	Airframe and Engine
A&ME	Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering
A&P	Airframe and Power plant
A/A	Air to Air
A/B	Afterburner
A/C	Aircraft
A/C	Approach Control
A/F	Air-to-Fuel ratio
A/FD	Airport/Facility Directory
A/G	Air to Ground
A/H	Altitude or Height
A/P	Autopilot
A/S	Airspeed
AAAE	American Association of Airport Executives

CHAPTER ONE

AADC	Approach And Departure Control
AAF	Army Air Force
AAI	Angle of Approach Indicator
AAI	Arrival Aircraft Interval
AAL	Above Aerodrome Level
AAS	Advanced Automation System
AAS	Airport Advisory Service
AAS	American Astronautical Society
AB	Air Base
abate	abatement
abbr	abbreviation
ABC	After Bottom Center
ABDC	After Bottom Dead Center
abm	abeam
abnml	abnormal
abs	absolute
AC	Advisory Circular
AC	Aerodynamic Center
AC	Air Carrier
AC	Air Conditioning
AC	Alternating Current
AC Form	Airman Certification Form

Abbreviations and Initials

ACARS	Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System
ACAS	Airborne Collision Avoidance System
ACC	Active Clearance Control
ACC	Air Coordinating Committee
ACC	Area Control Center
ACCC	Area Control Computer Complex
accel	accelerate
access	accessory
accum	accumulate, accumulation
ACDO	Air Carrier District Office
ACE	Aviation Career Education
acft	aircraft
ACI	Airport Council International
ACLS	Automatic Carrier Landing System
ACLT	Actual Calculated Landing Time
ACN	Airborne Classification Number
ACO	Aircraft Certification Office
ACP	Airlift Command Post
ACP	Aniline Cloud Point
ACR	Air Carrier

CHAPTER ONE

ACR	Air Corps Reserve
act	actual
ACT GS	Actual Ground Speed
actuat	actuating
actvt	activate
actvty	activity
AD	Airworthiness Directive
AD	Apparent Drift
ADAS	Aircraft Departure and Arrival Sequencing
ADCUS	Advise Customs
ADF	Automatic Direction Finder
ADI	Attitude Director Indicator
ADIZ	Air Defense Identification Zone
adj	adjacent, adjustable
ADLY	Arrival Delay
adm	administration
ADM	Aeronautical Decision Making
ADMA	Aviation Distributors and Manufacturers Association
ADO	Airport District Office
ADR	Advisory Route

Abbreviations and Initials

ADS	Air Data System
adv	advisory
AEEC	Airline Electronic Engineering Committee
AEF	American Expeditionary Forces
AEG	Aircraft Evaluation Group
aero	aerodrome, aerodynamic, aeronautical
AESOP	Aircraft, Environment, Situation, Operation, and Personnel
AF&E	Airframe and Engine
AFA	Air Force Association
AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEA	Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association
AFD	Airport Facility Directory
AFFF	Aqueous Film Forming Foam
AFI	African-Indian Ocean region (ICAO)
AFI	Authorized Flight Instructor
AFIS	Aerodrome Flight Information Service
AFL	Above Field Level

CHAPTER ONE

AFM	Aircraft Flight Manual
AFOVRN	Air Force Overrun
AFR	Actual Fuel Remaining
AFSC	Aggregate Friction Seal Coat
AFSS	Automated Flight Service Station
AFTI	Advanced Fighter Technology Integration
AGB	Accessory Gearbox
AGI	Advanced Ground Instructor
AGI	Authorized Ground Instructor
AGL	Above Ground Level
agri	agriculture
AH	Artificial Horizon
AHS	American Helicopter Society
AI	Attitude Indicator
AIA	Aircraft Industries Association of America
AIAA	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
AIF	Instrument Flight Instructor— Airplane (added rating)
ail	aileron
AIM	Airman's Information Manual

Abbreviations and Initials

AIP	Aeronautical Information Publication
AIP	Airport Improvement Program
AIRMET	Airman's Meteorological information
airpl	airplane
AIS	Aircraft Integrating System
AIT	Auto Ignition Temperature
AIT	Automated Information Transfer
ALA	Authorized Landing Area
alc	alcohol
ALERFA	Alert Phase
ALF	Auxiliary Landing Field
ALNOT	Alert Notice
ALPA	Airline Pilots Association
ALS	Approach Light System
ALSF-I	Approach Light System with sequenced Flashing lights
ALSF-II	Approach Light System with sequenced Flashing lights and red side row bars the last 1000 ft
ALSTG	Altimeter Setting
alt	alternate, altimeter

CHAPTER ONE

altd	altitude
altm	altimeter
ALTRV	Altitude Reservation
alum	aluminum
AM	Amplitude Modulation
AMA	Area Minimum Altitude
AMASS	Airport Movement Area Safety System
amdt	amendment
AME	Aviation Medical Examiner
AMEL	Airplane Multi-Engine Land
AMES	Airplane Multi-Engine Sea
AMM	Aircraft Maintenance Manual
AMOS	Automatic Meteorological Observing Station
amp	ampere
AMSL	Absolute Mean Sea Level
AMT	Aviation Maintenance Technician
AMVER	Automated Mutual-assistance Vessel Rescue system
AN	Air Force-Navy
ANDB	Air Navigation Development Board