

## **PROWORDS or PROCEDURE WORDS**

Procedure words or prowords are words or phrases limited to radio telephone procedure used to facilitate communication by conveying information in a condensed standard verbal format. Prowords are voice versions of the much older prosigns for Morse code first developed in the 1860s for Morse telegraphy, and their meaning is identical.

The U.S. military communications manual ACP-125 is the most formal and perhaps earliest modern definition of procedure words, but its definitions have been replicated by many other organizations. Page 66 of the ARES Field Resource Manual has a basic list. Here are more:

“OVER”: used at the end of a voice transmission when a reply is expected from another station.

“BREAK”: I have priority traffic

“OUT” or “CLEAR”: No reply is expected, and communications has ended between the stations.

“SAY AGAIN” or “REPEAT”: Use this to ask a station to repeat last transmission.

“I SAY AGAIN” or “I REPEAT”: Use this to tell a station that you are repeating your last transmission.

“CORRECT”: Same as “YES”, comes through clearly in bad conditions

“CORRECTION”: An error has been made in last transmission. Correction transmission follows.

“DISREGARD”: This transmission is in error. Disregard it.

“UNKNOWN STATION”: This is used to call a station that was not heard clearly.

“NOTHING HEARD”: The station called did not respond.

“ROGER”: Message received satisfactorily. This does NOT indicate agreement and is NOT a replacement for the word “YES” or “CORRECT”.

“VERIFY”: Verify entire message (or a portion indicated) with the originator and send the correct version.

“I VERIFY”: That which follows is verified per your request.

“I SPELL”: Spell the next word phonetically. Used to clarify difficult words or names. The word is said, then spelled phonetically, and then said again.

“FIGURES” or “NUMBERS”: A group of one or more numerals. The numbers are said by each numeral. “12” is not “twelve”, but “FIGURES ONE TWO”.

“INITIALS”: A group of one or more characters, the first of which is a letter, follows.

“WAIT” or “STAND-BY”: This is used for a short pause between transmissions.

“WAIT OUT”: This is used for a longer pause between transmissions.

“WORDS TWICE”: Communication is difficult. Transmit each word, group, or phrase twice.

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“WORD AFTER”: The word I need a fill of is the word after \_\_\_\_\_.

“WORD BEFORE”: The word I need a fill of is the word before \_\_\_\_\_.

“ALL AFTER”: The portion of the message to which I refer is that portion which follows \_\_\_\_\_.

“ALL BEFORE”: The portion of the message to which I refer is that portion which precedes \_\_\_\_\_.

“READ BACK: Read back this message exactly as received.

“RELAY THROUGH”” Relay this message through \_\_\_\_\_(specified callsign)

“SPEAK SLOWER” or “SPEAK FASTER”: Change the tempo of your transmission accordingly.

“POINT” or “DOT”: decimal point.