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South African Military Abbreviations and Acronyms

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**South African Military
Abbreviations and Acronyms**
(from 1903)

compiled by
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P r e f a c e

WAR conditions produce a host of acronyms and abbreviations signifying the names of military units, ranks, titles and other matters, which are not in common peacetime usage. Many of these appear on cachets appearing on wartime correspondence, or in the correspondence itself as well as on personnel record cards and other military documentation. Others are referred to in books on military history to which the collector of militaria may refer. Some are philatelic terms peculiar to war-time conditions

This list of abbreviations and acronyms has been compiled to assist South African militaria collectors who may be puzzled by an abbreviation. Many of these are in common usage but others may not be familiar to the average or even the specialist collector. Full stops and strokes have been omitted in this list, although used in most abbreviations.

The listing concentrates on the period after the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, from the Imperial occupation period, excluding Imperial units, to the present. Many of the acronyms and abbreviations were noted while researching records in the SANDF Documentation Centre for other purposes. The SANDF is continually restructuring and new units and formations over the years have replaced many previous ones. The involvement of the SANDF in United Nations and African Union peacekeeping missions has added to this listing. Again, there is no official list of acronyms or abbreviations referring to these newer organisations. These more recent acronyms have been sourced from a variety of recent publications.

Abbreviations of the SA Engineering Corps have been included that are mentioned in the book *Nine Flames* by Ken Anderson. Most of these units are prefixed with a number, e.g. 61 Tunnelling Company.

The list is by no means complete, and will be added to as new items are discovered. It must be remembered that there is no official list of abbreviations, and many are self-created by the unit or individual concerned. There were many small units, often consisting of a company or less, which had specific names that they themselves abbreviated, and which cannot be found in any works of reference on military history. Individual members of such a unit may have abbreviated its name on their correspondence without any official sanction.

Some common Afrikaans abbreviations have been included in the list. To provide the translations or Afrikaans forms of all abbreviations would result in an extended listing of abbreviations that are seldom or never encountered. A listing of all staff sections, postings and abbreviations (in Afrikaans) at Defence Headquarters after the re-organisation during World War II are contained in the Deputy Adjutant General's Circular No. 37 of 21 October 1942. Most of these have been included.

A number of acronyms concerning the Africa Union and United Nations peacekeeping missions are included. South Africa is becoming a major participant in many of these missions.

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A		ADA	Advance Desert Airforce (WWII)
A	Acting	ADA Fmn	Air Defence Artillery Formation (post 1994)
AA	Assistant Adjutant	ADAP	Assistant Director of Air Personnel
A&ACTC	Artillery and Armoured Car Training Centre (WWII Potch)	ADAPS	Assistant Directorate of Army Postal Services
AAD	Advanced Ammunition Depot [VAD]; Africa Aerospace and Defence (post 1994);	ADB	Adelbors [Mid]
	Anti-Aircraft Depot [Lugafweer-depot]	ADC	Aide de Camp
A&AD	Aircraft and Artillery Depot (at Roberts Heights, WWII)	ADF	Auxiliary Defence Force (East Africa)
AADS	Anti Aircraft Defence School; Artillery Air Defence School	ADFS	Advanced Flying School
AAG	Assistant Adjutant General	Adj	Adjutant
AAI	Allied Armies Italy	ADK	Administratiewe Dienskorps [ASC]
A&AOS	Armament and Air Observers School	ADL	Air and Divisional Liaison
AAPC	African Auxiliary Pioneer Corps (High Commission Territories and East Africa)	Adm Mil Hosp	Admitted to Military Hospital
AA & QMG	Assistant Adjutant & Quartermaster General	ADMS	Assistant Directorate of Medical Services
AAR	Anti Aircraft Regiment [LA Regt]	ADRY	Assistant Director of Railways
AASL	Anti Aircraft Searchlight	ADOS	Assistant Director of Ordnance Services
AATO	Army Air Transport Organisation [LLTO]	ADS	Advanced Dressing Station; Air Defence School [LVS]; Assistant Director of Supplies [Asst DK]
AB	Able Bodied Seaman [Bev]; Air Borne; Armoured Brigade;	ADS&T	Assistant Director of Supplies and Transport (also ADSupS&T)
ABM	Aktiewe Burgermag [ACF]	ADSup Pet	Assistant Director of Supplies (Petrol)
ABOD	Advanced Base Ordnance Depot [BVKD]	ADSVy	Assistant Director of Survey
ABPO	Advance Base Post Office	ADT	Assistant Director of Transport
ABS	Army Battle School [LGS]	ADU	Aircraft Delivery Unit; Air Defence Unit [LVE]
AB Tps	Airborne Troops	ADVS	Assistant Director of Veterinary Services
ABTU	Army Basic Training Unit	ADW	Assistant Director of Works
AC	Aircraftsman; Armoured Car	AEF	Army Engineer Formation (post 1994).
ACBO	Assistant Counter Bombardment Officer [ATBO]	AES	Army Education Service
ACBtncDC	Armoured Car Battalion Coastal Defence Corps	AF	Air Fitter
ACC	Ambulance Car Company; Armoured Car Commando (8th and 12th);	AFB	Air Force Base [LMB]
	Armoured Car Company (1st to 5th)	A/FdC	Assistant Field Cornet [A/VK]
ACF	Active Citizen Force [ABM]	AFCCS	Air Force Command and Control School (post 1994)
ACI	Army Council Instruction	AFCP	Air Force Command Post (post 1994)
ACO	Air Control Officer [LVO]	AF Gym	Air Force Gymnasium [LM Gim]
ACR	Armoured Car Regiment (3rd, 4th, 4/6th, 6th, 8 th); Army Conventional Reserve (post 1994)	AFHQ	Air Force Head Quarters Unit [LMHKE]
ACRBtnc	Armoured Car Recce Battalion	AFMDW	Air Force Mobile Deployment Wing (post 1994)
ACS	Assistant to Chief of General Staff	AFPU	Air Formation Postal Unit
ACT	Air Contact Team [LKS]	AFR	Air Force Reserve
ACTC	Army Combat Training Centre (Lohatla, post 2000)	AFRD	Air Force Reserve Depot
ACV	Armoured Command Vehicle [PBV]	AFRS	Air Force Reserve Squadrons (post 1994)
AD	Air Defence; Air Despatch; Air Depot [LD]; Armoured Division	AFS	Advanced Flying School [GVS]; Air Force Station [LMS]; Army Fire Service [LBW]
		AFSG	Air Force Station Germiston
		AFU	Area Force Unit
		AFTU	Advanced Flying Training Unit; Air Force Training Unit
		AFV	Armoured Fighting Vehicle [PVV]

AFVTC	Armoured Fighting Vehicle Training Centre	APIS	Army Photographic Interpretation Section [LFSL]
AG	Adjutant General; Air Gunner	APLA	Anzania Peoples Liberation Army
AGB	Adjutant General's Base (WWI)	APM	Assistant Provost-Marshal
AGRA	Army Group Royal Artillery	APO	Army Post Office [Militère Poskantoor]
AGWR	Adjutant General War Records	APRD	Army Postal Regulating Depot (British depot in Durban)
AHQ	Air Headquarters	APS	Army Postal Service
AHQEA	Advance Headquarters East Africa	APSTA	African Peace Support Trainers Association (AU)
AIG	Assistant Instructor Gunnery	AQ	Administrative and QMG
AILO	Air Intelligence Liaison Officer	ARC	Air Recovery Centre
AIMS	Assistant Inspector Medical Stores [Asst IGM]	ARD	Advanced Repair Depot
AKR	Algemene Krygsraad [GCM]	AREAL	Air Radio East Africa Link (WWII)
ALC	Army Logistics Command; Air Logistics Command	ARG	Armoured Replacement Group [PVG]
ALG	Advanced Landing Ground [VLV]	ARH	Ammunition Railhead
ALO	Air Liaison Officer [LSO]	Armd Div	Armoured Division
ALVS	Artillerie Lugverdedigingskool [Artillery Air Defence School]	Armr	Armourer
ALU	Air Logistic Unit [LLE]	ARP	Ammunition Refilling Point [AAP]
AM	Airman; Air Mechanic (WWII)	ARS	Aircraft Repair Section
AMA	Army Maintenance Area [LOG]	ARTD	Army Reserve Training Depot
Amb	Ambulance	ARU	Aircraft Recovery Unit; Airframe Repair Unit ; Armoured Reinforcement Unit [PVE]
AMB	African Mission in Burundi (post 2003)	ARV	Armoured Recovery Vehicle [PHV]
AMC	Armed Merchant Carrier	AS	Air School
AMD	Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industries Association (post 1994)	AS-A	Ambulance sud-africaine (France, WWI)
AMES	Air Ministry Experimental Station (Radar development)	ASB	Army Support Base (post 1994)
AMGOT	Allied Military Government Occupied Territories (Middle East and Europe only)	ASC	Army Service Corps; Air Supply Company; Administrative Service Corps [ADK]
AMHU	Area Military Health Unit (post 1994); Army Military Health Unit	ASEAL	Air Signals East Africa Link (WWII)
AMIB	African Mission in Burundi (2002 +)	ASF	Africa Standby Force (in support of the AU)
AMIS	African Mission in Sudan	A/S GP	Anti-Submarine Group
AMISOM	African Mission in Somalia	ASNRh	Air Signals Northern Rhodesia
AMLC	Air Mail Letter Card	ASO	Assistant Staff Officer
AMLO	Assistant Military Landing (or Liaison) Officer	ASP	Air Stores Park
AMU	Airfield Maintenance Unit [VOE]	ASRU	Air Sea Rescue Unit
ANMC	African Native Medical Corps (WWI)	A/S Shore Def	Anti Submarine Shore Defences (WWII)
ANS	Air Navigation School [LNS] at AFB Ysterplaat	ASSU	Air Support Signal Unit [LSSE]
AO	Adjutant-Offisier [Warrant Officer]	ASU	Aircraft Serving Unit [VVE]; Air Servicing Unit; Air Supply Unit (post 1994)
AOC	Air Officer Commanding	ASW	Anti-Submarine Warfare
AOD	Army Ordnance Depot	AT or A/T	Ambulance Train; Animal Transport [DT]; Anti Tank
AONS	Air Observer and Navigator School (WWII)	ATC	Advanced Training Course; Advance Transit Camp (WWII); Air Traffic Controller
AOP	Air Observation Post (Pilot)	AT Comd	Air Transport Command [LV Komdt]
AOS	Air Observation Squadron	ATF	Air Task Force [LTM]; Air Transport Flight; Army Training Formation (post 1994)
AP	Ammunition Point	ATG	Air Training Group
APDC	Army Postal Distribution Centre	ATI	Army Training Instruction [LOI]
APC	African Pioneer Corps; Armoured Personnel Carrier [PTW]		
APF	African Peacekeeping Force		
APD	Air Publication Depot [LPD]		
APIU	Army Photographic Interpretation Unit [LFTE]		

ATR	Active Territorial Reserve (post 1994); Army Territorial Reserve	BEA	British East Africa (WWI)
ATS	Air Technical Services (Director General Air Services); Air Training School; Armaments Training School (WWII, Youngsfield); Auxiliary Territorial Service (East Africa)	BEF	British Expeditionary Force
Att	Attached	BEME	Brigade Electrical & Mechanical Engineer [BEWI]
AU	African Union	BESL	British Empire Service League
AUPSC	African Union Peace and Security Council	BFM	British Fleet Mail
AUSTF	African Union Special Task Force (post 2000)	BFME	British Forces, Middle East
A/VK	Assistant-Veldkornet [A/FdC]	BFPO	Base (Branch) Field Post Office
AVRP	Advanced Vehicle Reception Park	BFR	Brand's Free State Rifles (WWI)
AW	Air Woman	BG&ANS	Bombing, Gunnery and Air Navigation School
AWGD	Air Woman General Duties	BGGS	Brigadier General, General Staff
AWOL	Absent Without Leave	BGMC	Bomber Group Maintenance Company (WWII)
B		BGRU	Burial and Graves Registration Unit [BGRE]
BAD	Base Ammunition Depot	BGS	Bombing and Gunnery School (WWII, East London)
BAC	Brigade Ammunition Column	BH	Brabant's Horse; Border Horse;
BAFF	British Air Forces France (WWII)	BHR	Broken Hill (Northern Rhodesia)
BAO	Base Accounts Office	BINUB	Botha's Hogevelde Ruiters (WWI) United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (replaced ONUB on 31 Dec 2006)
BAOR	British Army on the Rhine	BIO	Brigade Intelligence Officer
BAPO	Base Army Post Office	BJSTT	British Joint Services Training Team
BASFD	Bomb Assembly and Shell Filling Depot	BKD	Basiskrygsbehoefstedepot [BOD]
BatSM	Battery Sergeant Major	BLA	British Liberation Army
BBD	Bulk Breaking Depot	BLP	Back Loading Point
BBJ	Boeing Business Jet (President's aircraft flown by SAAF crews; "Inkwasi")	BM	Boatsman [BMN]; Brigade Major; Burgermag [Citizen Force]
BBMC	Bomber Brigade Maintenance Corps (Q Services, WWII)	BMA	Beach Maintenance Area; British Military Administration; British Military Authority
BBP	Bulk Breaking Point [ABP]	BMATT	British Military Advisory and Training Team (first visit to RSA on 14 May 1994)
BBS	Botha's Berede Skutters (WWI)	BMDA	Brigade Major Divisional Artillery
BB Verknrs	Berede Brigade Verkenners [Mounted Brigade Scouts, WWI, Rebellion, GSWA]	BMI	Border Mounted Infantry
BC	Battery Commander	BMM	British Military Mission [BMS]
BCAF	Belgian Congo Air Force	BMN	Bootsman [BM]
BCO	Battery Command Officer	BMP	Basutoland Mounted Police
BCU	Base Censor Unit	BMR	Border Mounted Rifles; Botha's Mounted Rifles
BD	Base Depot; Bomb Disposal	BMU	Boarded Medically Unfit
BDAT	British Defence Advisory Team (in RSA from January 1997) <i>Also</i> BMAT	BMY	Base Marshalling Yard [BOW]
BDC	Base Depot Company (WWI); Bomb Disposal Company (SAEC)	Bn	Battalion
BDD	Base Details Depot	BNAF	British North Africa Force
Bde	Brigade	BNR	Botha's Natal Horse (WWI)
BDF	Bophuthatswana Defence Force; Botswana Defence Force (with SANDF in Lesotho, 1998)	BO	Bevelvoerende Offisier [CO]
Bdr	Bombardier	BOD	Base Ordnance Depot [BKD]
Bdy Grd	Body Guard	Bombr	Bombardier
Bev	Bevare Seeman (AB); Bevelvoerder [Commander]	BOO	Brigade Ordnance Officer [BKO]
		Bothas B S	Bothas Berede Skutters (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)
		Bothas HR	Botha's Hogevelde Ruiters (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)
		Bothas Ntl Hse	Botha's Natal Horse (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)
		Bothas M R	Botha's Mounted Rifles (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)

Bothas S	Botha's Scouts (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)	CASF	Canadian Active Service Force (originally Canadian troops in UK)
BOWO	Brigade Ordnance Warrant Officer [BKAOO]	CAT	Centre for Advanced Training (post 1994)
BPCVPK	Bureau de Poste de Campagne Veldpostkantoor (WWI Belgium, GEA)	CATD	Central Army Training Depot
BPD	Base Personnel Depot	CATS	Cape Air Training School
B/PS	Botha / President Steyn Regiment (WWII, Italy)	Cav	Cavalryman [Kav]
BPU	Base Postal Unit	Cit Bat	Citizen's Battery (WWI, GSWA)
BQMS	Battery Quartermaster Sergeant	CB	Confined to Barracks; Counter Battery; Counter Bombardment
Brands FSR	Brand's Free State Rifles (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)	CBGLO	Carrierborne Ground Liaison Officer [GSOB]
Brands VSS	Brand's Vrystaatse Skutters (WWI, Rebellion, GSWA)	CBO	Counter Battery Officer
BRCH	British Red Cross Hospital	CC	Camouflage Company (SAEC); Cape Corps; Coastal Command; Convalescent Camp
BRD	Base Remount Depot	CCAS	Cape Corps Auxiliary Service
Brig	Brigade; Brigadier	CCBO	Corps Counter Bombardment Officer [KTBO]
BS	Bereden Schutters; Berede Skutters [Mounted Rifles]	CCLC	Cape Corps Labour Corps
BS	Baasseeman [LS]	CCLR	Cape Coloured Labour Regiment (WWI)
BSAP	British South Africa Police	CCMT	Cape Corps Mechanical Transport
BSD	Base Supply Depot	CCP	Casualty Clearing Post [VPG]
BSM	Brigade or Battery Sergeant Major	CCR&TD	Cape Corps (Coloured?) Reception & Training Depot
BSPT	Bloemspruit	CCS	Camp Commandant Staff [KKS]; Cape Command Signals (WWI); Casualty Clearing Station [APG]
BSup Airfd	Base Supply Airfield	CCS/DC	Camp Commandant Staff/Depot Company (WWI in South Africa)
BTA	British Troops in Africa (or Austria)	CCSCR	Cape Command Staff Corps Regiment
BTC	Basic Training Centre	CD	Civil Defence [BV]; Coastal Defence; Convalescent Depot
BTD	Base Transport Depot	CDB	Coastal Defence Battery
BTE	British Troops in Egypt	CDC	Coastal Defence Company
BTU	Base Transfusion Unit [BOE]	CDCC	Chief of Defence Corporate Communications (post 1994)
Bty	Battery (Artillery)	CDF	Ciskei Defence Force
Burg	Burger (WWI)	CDO	Commando (WWI) [KDO]
Burg BK	Burgerlike Beskermingskorps [Civ DC]	Cdr	Commander [Kdr]
BVR	Buffalo Volunteer Rifles (previously Kaffrarian Rifles)	CDRA	Cape Defence Rifle Association
BWEF	British Western European Force	Cdre	Commodore [Kdoor]
BWS	Base Workshop (also B wk sp)	CEMIS	Centre for Military Studies (at the University of Stellenbosch)
C		C Ent O	Chief Entertainment Officer [HVO]
CA	Civil Affairs [BS]; Coast Artillery [KA]	CEO	Chief Engineer Officer
CA Bde	Coast Artillery Brigade (WWII)	CF	Citizen Force [BM]
CAE	Chief Area Engineer	CFA	Cape Field Artillery [KVA]
CAFRD	Central Air Force Recruiting Depot	CFC	Chief Field Censor
CAFRTD	Central Air Force Recruits Training Depot	CFE	Cape Fortress Engineers
CAFTD	Central Air Force Training Depot	CFS	Central Flying School [SVS] (Dunnottar, since 1992 Langebaanweg)
CAHTC	Cape Auxiliary Horse Transport Corps (WWI, France) [KHPTK]	CFS	Combat Flying School (post 1994)
CAO	Chief Air Officer; Chief Artillery Officer	CGA	Cape Garrison Artillery
CAONBGS	Combined Air Observer, Navigator, Bombing and Gunnery School (WWII)	CGA HAB	Cape Garrison Artillery Heavy Artillery Brigade
Cape FRT	Cape Fortress	CGD	Compressed Gas Depot (SAEC)
Capt	Captain [Kapt] <i>Also</i> Capt SAN [Kapt SAV]	CGF	Coast Garrison Force [KGM]
CASD	Centre for Higher Defence Studies (post 1994)		

CGS	Chief of the General Staff [HGS]	Cpl	Corporal [Kpl]
CH	Clearing Hospital	Cpln	Chaplain [Kapelaan]
Chap	Chaplain	CPM	Chief Paymaster
C in C	Commander in Chief;	CPO	Chief Petty Officer [EBMN];
	Commodore in Charge (or CIC)		Command Post Officer [BPO]
CIM&C	Controller Institutes Messes and	CPR	Cape Peninsular Rifles (WWI)
	Canteens [KIMK]	CPS	Civilian Protective Services (WWII)
CIRdT	Chief Inspector of Road	CQMS	Company Quartermaster Sergeant
	Transportation [HI Padver]	CRE	Command (or Chief or
Civ DC	Civil Defence Corps [Burg BK]		Commandant) Royal Engineer
CJO	Chief Joint Operations [HGO] <i>Also</i>	CRO Coy	Composite Railway Operating
	CJOps		Company (also CROC) (SAEC)
CLH	Cape Light Horse (WWI, 6 th	CRPB	Chairman of Classification
	Mounted Rifles)		Remustering and Posting Board
CM	Court Marshall (also CsM – Courts	CRS	Camp Reception Station [KOK]
	Marshall)	CS	Chief of Staff
CMA	Corps Maintenance Area [KOG]	CSARC	Central South African Railways
CMA	Court of Military Appeals (post		Corps
	2004)	CSAREC	Central South African Railways
Cmdo	Commando		Engineer Corps
CMDR	Commander	CSD	Command Supply Depot
Cmdt	Commandant (Kmdt)	CSF	Chief of Staff Finance [HSF]
CME	Central Medical Establishment	CSI	Chief of Staff Intelligence [HSI]
CMF	Central Mediterranean Forces	CSL	Chief of Staff Logistics [HSL]
	(WWII);	CSM	Company Sergeant Major
	Commonwealth Monitoring Force	CSigO	Chief Signal Officer
CMISD	Command and Management	CSND	Council for the Support of National
	Information Systems Division (post		Defence (post 1994)
	1994)	CSO	Chief Signals Officer;
CMP	Cape Mounted Police		Chief Sorting Office;
CMR	Cape Mounted Rifles		Chief Staff Officer
CMVO	Council of Military Veterans	CS Ops	Chief of Staff Operations [HS Ops]
	Organisations	CSP	Chief of Staff Personnel [HSP]
CN	Cape Navy	CS Tk	Close Support Tank
CNavy	Chief of the Navy [HVloot]	CSU	Civil Service Unit (WWII)
CO	Commanding Officer [BO]	CTBA	Ceases To Be Attached;
C of PO	Corps of Professional Officers [K van		Central Training Brigade Armour
	PO]		(WWII)
COIN	Counter Insurgency [TEIN]	CTC	Combat Training Centre (post 1994)
Col	Colonel [Kol]	CTD	Command Training Depot
Colet	College of Educational Technology	CTH	Cape Town Highlanders
	SANDF (post 1994)	CTMOC	Cape Town Maritime Ordnance
COMARDEF	Commander Maritime Defence		Corps
COME	Chief Ordnance Mechanical Engineer	CTO	Central Telegraph Office
Comd	Command [Kmdmt]	CU	Conversion Unit
Comdr	Commander	Cullinan's R	Cullinan's Ruiters
Com Flt Nrb	Communications Flight Nairobi	CV	Command Vehicle [BV]
COMOPS	Combined Operations	CWS	Central Wireless Station
Comp	Company [Komp]		
Constr Regt	Construction Regiment [Konstr	D	
	Regt]	DA	Defence Act
COO	Chief Ordnance Officer	DAAA	Director Anti-Aircraft Artillery
COVE	Centre of Vocational Excellence	DAA & QMG	Deputy Assistant Adjutant &
	(post 1994; training for Pers, Int,		Quartermaster General
	Log, etc staff)	DAAG	Deputy Assistant Adjutant General
Coy	Company	DAAQMG	Deputy Assistant Quartermaster
CP	Cape Police		General
CPC	Canadian Postal Corps	DACG	Deputy Assitant Commissary
CPDGR	Cape Peninsular Defence Garrison		General, or Chaplain General
	Regiment	DAD	Deputy Administration Director;
CPE	Central Photographic Establishment		Deputy Assistant Director
	[SFI]		
CPGR	Cape Peninsular Garrison Regiment		

DADAPS	Deputy Assistant Director Army Postal Service	DDAO	Deputy Director of Air Operations
DADQT	Deputy Assistant Director Quartermaster Technical Services	DDAOSD	Deputy Director of Air Organisations and Staff Duties
DADMS	Deputy Assistant Director of Medical Services	DDAP	Deputy Director Air Personnel
DADOS	Deputy Assistant Director of Ordnance Services	DDAPS	Deputy Director Army Postal Services
DADVS	Deputy Assistant Director of Veterinary Services	DDAQS	Deputy Director of Air "Q" Services
DAF	Desert Air Force (WWII); Director of the Air Force	DDA Sigs	Deputy Director of Air Signals
DAG	Deputy Adjutant General (Personnel or Organisation) [Adjk AG]	DDAT	Deputy Director of Air Training
DAO	Director of Air Operations	DDATT	Deputy Director of Air Training Technical
D of AP	Director of Air Personnel	DDAW	Deputy Director Aerodromes and Works
DAPM	Deputy Assistant Provost-Marshal	DDC	Durban Defence Company
DAPS	Director of Army Postal Services	DDCA	Deputy Director Coast Defence [Adjk DK]
DAP&S	Director of Army Printing and Stationery Services	DDCAA	Deputy Director Coast Anti-Aircraft (General or Personnel) [Adjk DKL]
DAQMG	Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General	DDCD	Deputy Director Coast Defence
DAQM(S)	Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General (Statistics or 'G' General)	DDFT	Deputy Director of Flying Training
DAT	Directorate of Air Training (or Army Training)	DDGAS	Deputy Director General of Air Services
DATQS	Director of Air "T" and "Q" Services	DDGTS	Deputy Director of General Technical Services
DATS	Director Air and Technical Services (up to 30 June 1939)	DDGMS	Deputy Director of General Medical Services
DATS	Director of Air Technical Services	DDI	Deputy Director of Intelligence or Infantry
DAW	Director of Aerodromes and Works [DVW]	DDIT	Deputy Director of Infantry Training [Adjk DIO]
DB	Detention Barracks	DDMet	Deputy Director of Meteorological Services [Adjk DWD]
DBN	Durban or Dbn	DDMI	Deputy Director of Military Intelligence
DBN FRT	Durban Fortress (WWII)	DDMO	Deputy Director Military Operations [Adjk DK]
DCA	Director of Civil Aviation; Director of Coastal Artillery	DDMS	Deputy Director of Medical Services
DDCA	Director of Coast Anti-Aircraft Artillery [DKLA]	DDMT	Deputy Director of Mechanical Transport
DCBO	Divisional Counter Bombardment Officer [DTBO]	DDNEAS	Deputy Director Non-European Army Services
DCC	Deputy Chief Censor	DDNET	Deputy Director of Non-European Training [Adjk DONB]
DCD	Director of Coast Defence	DDOS	Deputy Director of Ordnance Services
DCFC	Deputy Chief Field Censor	DDPT	Deputy Director of Physical Training [Adjk DLO]
DCM	District Court Marshal	DDR	Disarmament, Demobilisation and Rehabilitation
DCO	Draft Conducting Officer	DDRAF	Deputy Director Royal Air Force
DCOS	Deputy Chief of Staff	DDRM	Deputy Director of Repairs & Maintenance
DC'RE	Deputy Commander Engineering	DDS	Demobilised and Discharged from Service (WWII); Deputy Director of Supplies; Director of Dental Services
DCS	Deputy Chief of Staff [Adjk HS]	DDSAF	Deputy Director South African Air Force [Adjk DSALM]
DD	Defence Document; Department of Defence; Deputy Director; Defence Form; Discharged Dead; Dispersal Depot	DDSD (G)	Deputy Director Staff Duties (General) [Adjk DSD A]
DDAE	Deputy Director of Air Equipment [Adjk DLV]	DDSD (O)	Deputy Director Staff Duties (Organisation) [Adjk DSD]
DDAF	Deputy Director of Air Force [Adjk DLM]	DDSDF	Deputy Director of the Seaward Defence Force [Adjk DVMS]
DDAFS	Deputy Director Air Force Signals		
DDAFVT	Deputy Director of AFV Training [Adjk DPVO]		
DDAH	Deputy Director of Army Hygiene		

DDT	Deputy Director of Transport	1994)
DDTS	Deputy Director "T" Services (Equipment or Coast Defence)	Director of Internment Camps; (WWII)
DDTT	Deputy Director of Technical Training	DICRS Director of Internment Camps and Refugee Settlements (WWII)
DDVS	Deputy Director of Veterinary Services	Displ CO Dispersal Camp Order
DDW	Deputy Director of Works	Disc Mil Hosp Discharged from Military Hospital
DDWAAF	Deputy Director Women's Auxiliary Air Force [Adjk DVHLM]	DIT Director of Infantry Training
DEFCON	Defence Department of South Africa – United States Committee	DITF Darfur Integrated Task Force (AU)
Demob	Demobilisation; Demobilised	Div Division
DEMS	Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship/s	Div Heavy Rec S Division Heavy Recovery Section
DEOR	Duke of Edinburgh's Own Rifles (Dukes) (later Cape Town Rifles)	DJAG Deputy Judge Advocate General
DEOR / RLI	Duke of Edinburgh's Own Rifles / Rand Light Infantry (WWII, Italy)	DKA Directeur van Kusartillerie [DCA]
DEORVR	Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteer Rifles	DKV Directeur van Krygsverrigtinge [DMO]
DES	Director of Engineer Stores	DLAA Directeur van Lugafweerartillerie [DAAA]
D of F	Director of Fortifications	DLDNB Directeur Leërdienste Nie-Blankes [DNEAS]
Det	Detachment	DLI Durban Light Infantry (previously Royal DLI)
DEX	Director of Explosives [DSp]	DLM Directeur van Lugmag [DAF]
DFAA	Director of Field Army Artillery	DLR De la Rey Regiment
DFAAT	Director of Field Army Artillery Training [DVLAO]	D of M Director of Movements (also DM)
DFAET	Director of Field Army Engineer Training [DVLGO]	DME Divisional Mechanical Engineer
DFE	Director Field Engineers	DMI Directorate of Military Information; Directorate of Military Intelligence
DFPC	Division Field Park Company (SAEC)	DMO Director of Military Operations; Direkteur van Militêre Opleiding [DMT]
D of F&CW	Director of Fortifications and Coastal Works	DMO&I Director of Military Operations and Intelligence [DKVMI]
DGA	Durban Garrison Artillery	DMP Director of Medical Personnel
DGAF	Durban General of Air Force (18 March 1944 – 1951) [AGLM]; Director General Army Finance	DMPD Directeur van Militêre Posdienste [DMPS]
DGAS	Director General of Air Services (13 Sept 1939 – 17 March 1944)	DMPS Director of Military Postal Services
DG Cen	Defence Force Dog Centre [HDE Sen]	DMR Die Middelandse Regiment
DGD	Director General Dispersals	DMR District Mounted Rifles (WWI)
DGMI	Director General of Military Intelligence	DMS Director of Medical Services
DGMS	Director General of Medical Services	DMT Director Mechanical Transport; Director Military Training [DMO]
DGO	Director General of Operations	DMTW Driver's Maintenance Training Wing
DGR	Director of Graves Registration	DNE Did Not Embark (WWI)
DGRHST	Director General of Railways, Harbours and Sea Transport [DGSHST]	DNEAS Director Non-European Army Service
DGTO	Director General Training and Organisation	DNTR Dunnottar
DGTS	Director General of Technical Services [DGTD]	DO Dental Officer
DGWS	Director General War Supplies	DOC Docks Operating Company (SAEC)
DH	Director of Hygiene or Hospitals	DOD Department of Defence (post 1994)
DHQ	Defence Headquarters	Don R Despatch Rider
DHS	Director of Hygiene Services	DOS Died on Service; Director of Ordnance Services
DIAFVT	Director of Infantry and AFV Training (also DIA) [DIPVVO]	D of S & T Director of Supplies and Transport
DIC	Defence Intelligence College (post 1994)	DOW Died of Wounds
		D of W Director of Works
		DP Dates of Pay; Delivery Point [afl P]
		DPost Director of Postal Services
		DPOW Died whilst a Prisoner of War
		DPSS Director of Printing and Stationery Services
		DPU Divisional Postal Unit
		DPW Died whilst a Prisoner of War

D of P	Director of Personnel	EAAPC	East Africa Army Pay Corps
DQMG	Deputy Quartermaster General	EAAPO	East Africa Army Post Office
DQS	Director of "Q" Stores	EAAPS	East Africa Army Postal Services
DR	Despatch Rider [RR]; Disciplinary Regulations; Durban Regiment	EAASC	East Africa Army Service Corps
DRA	Defence Rifle Association [VSV]	EAAT	East Africa Ambulance Train
DRC	Defence Rifle Commandos; Dundee Rifle Club	EAC	East Africa Command
DRemounts	Director of Remounts	EACMP	East Africa Corps of Military Police
DRLS	Despatch Rider Letter Service	EACS	East Africa Corps of Scouts; East Africa Corps of Signals
D of R	Director of Recruiting [DW]	EAE	East Africa Engineers
D of R&H	Director of Railways and Harbours	EAEF	East Africa Expeditionary Force
DRy	Director of Railways	EAEME	East Africa Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
DS	Died on Service; Directing Staff [KS]; Director of Signals; Director of Supplies	EAEMEKC	East Africa Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Training Centre
DSASM	Direkteur van die Suid-Afrikaanse Seemagte [DSANF]	E&M	Electrical and Mechanical
DSANF	Director of SA Naval Forces	EAF	East African Forces
DS	Divisional Signalling Company (WWI, GSWA, EA)	EAGB	East Africa Garrison Battalion
DSD	Director of the Seaward Defence Director of Staff Duties [Direkteur van Stafdienste]	EAIC	East Africa Intelligence Corps
DSDF	Director of the Seaward Defence Force [DVMS]	EAMAU	East Africa Military Audit Unit
DSigs	Director of Signals	EAMLC	East Africa Military Labour Corps
DSR	Divisional Signals Regiment; The Dukes, Transvaal Scottish, Rand Light Infantry (amalgamated unit, Italy)	EAMLS	East Africa Military Labour Service
DST	Director of Supplies and Transport	EAMNS	East Africa Military Nursing Service
DSTO	Deputy Sea Transport Officer [Adjk STO]	EAMR	East Africa Military Records
DSup	Director of Supplies [DK]	EAP	East Africa Pioneers
DSvy	Director of Survey [D Opmt]	EAPC	East Africa Pioneer Corps
DSWA	Duits-Suidwes-Afrika [GSWA]	EAPSC	East Africa Postal Service Corps
DT	Director of Transport (also DTn) [D Verv]	EAPTC	East Africa Pack Transport Corps
DTCS	Danie Theron Combat School [DTKS]	EARN	East Africa Royal Navy
DTD	Director Technical Developments [DT Ontw]	EARS	East Africa Reconnaissance Squadron
DT&EW	Directorate Telecommunications and Electronic Warfare.	EASC	East Africa Signal Corps
DTKS	Danie Theron Krygskool [DTCS]	EATS	Empire Air Training Scheme
Dvr	Driver	EAWU	East Africa Welfare Unit
DVS	Director of Veterinary Services	EBMN	Eerste Bootsman [CPO]
DW	Died of Wounds	EBW	Engineer Base Workshops (SAEC) [GBW]
D of W	Director of Works [D Werk]	EC	Emergency Commission
DZ	Drop Zone [AS]	Ech	Echelon
Dukes	See DEOR	ECZ	Eastern Caprivi Zipfel (WWI and II)
E		EEF	Egypt Expeditionary Force (WWI)
EA	East Africa	EFI	Expeditionary Forces Institute [EMI]
EAA	East Africa Artillery	EFTS	Elementary Flying Training School
EAAC	East Africa Armoured Corps	EGMR	East Griqualand Mounted Rifles
EAACD	East Africa Army Chaplain's Department	EL FRT	East London Fortress (WWII)
EAAEC	East Africa Army Education Corps	ELS	Express Letter Service
EAAOC	East Africa Army Ordnance Corps	EMB	Embarked (also Emb)
		EME	Electrical Mechanical Engineer [EWI]
		EMO	Embarkation Medical Officer
		EMP	Emplaned (also Emp)
		EMS	Express Message Scheme (Radio)
		Engr	Engineer
		Ens	Ensign [Vdg]
		Enslin's H	Enslin's Horse [Ruiters] (WWI)
		EOCD	Equal Opportunities Chief Directorate (post 1994 in DoD)
		EP	Eastern Province [OP]
		EPD	Engineer Plant Depot [GMD]
		EPP	Egypt Postage Prepaid (WWII)
		ER	Eastern Rifles (WWI)
		ERS	Engine Repair Section
		ERTD	Engineering Reserve Training Depot

ESALO	Eastern Southern Africa Liaison Office (post 1994)	FIC	Flight (Flying) Instructor Course
ES&TC	East Africa Supply & Transport Corps	FID	Field Intelligence Department
ESBD	Engineer Stores Base Depot (SAEC) [BDGV]	FIS	Flying Instructor's School
Esk	Eskader [Sqn] (Lug en See)	Fld	Field
Eskn	Eskadron [Sqn] (Kavallerie, Pantser)	FLH	Frontier Light Horse
ESO	Embarkation Staff Officer [SOI]	FM	Field Marshal
ESPC	Essential Services Protection Corps	FMA	Forward Maintenance Area
ESU	Engineer Support Unit [GSE]	FMD	Posted for further military duties
ETC	Engineer Training Centre (SAEC)	FMO	Fleet Mail Office
ETC ZW	Engineering Training Centre Zonderwater	FMR	Frontier Mounted Regiment
EU	Embarkation Unit, also Emb U. (WWII, No 24 at Durban, No 39 at Cape Town)	FNLA	Frente Nacional de Libertação de Angola
F		FO	Force Order (WWII)
F (F&F)	France (WWI, France and Flanders)	FOB	Forward Observation Battery [VO Bty]; Forward Observer Bombardment [VWB]; Forward Operational Base
FA	Field Allowance; Field Ambulance	FOD	Forward Ordnance Depot [VKD]
FAA	Fleet Air Arm	FOIC	Flag Officer in Charge
FAAD	Field Army Artillery Depot	FOO	Forward Observation Officer
FAATD	Field Army Artillery Training Depot (Potchefstroom)	FP	Field Punishment; Force Publique (Belgium and colonies WWI); Forfeit Pay
FAB	Field Artillery Brigade (WWI)	FPC	Field Park Company
FACP	Forward Air Command Post	FPS	Field Park Squadron
FAMTO	First Aid Mechanical Transport [NHUMD]	FPO	Field Post Office [VPK]
FANY	First Aid Nursing Yeomanry	FPU	Field Postal Unit [VPE]
FAPLA	Forças Armadas Populares de Libertação de Angola	FR	Fighter Reconnaissance
FAR	Forces Armée de Rwandaises	FRAM	Financial Representative of the Air Ministry
Far	Farrier	FRD	Field Remount Depot [VRD]
FASO	Forward Airfield Supply Organisation [VVAO]	FRO	Field Records Office [VRK];
FB Sq	Fighter Bomber Squadron	FS	Field Security [VV]; Field Service [VD]; Field Squadron (SAEC)
FC	Field Company (SAEC); First City (Regiment)	FSA	Forward Supply Area [VOG]
FC/CTH	First City / Cape Town Highlanders (amalgamated regiments)	FSC	Financial Service Corps [FDK]
FCI	Flight Commander Instructor	FSD	Forward Supply Depot
FCO	Flight (Flying) Control Officer	FSR	Free State Rifles (Brand's) [VSS]
FCP	Forward Control Post [VBP]	FST	Field Surgical Team
Fd	Field [Vd]	FTC	Flight Testing Centre (Overberg) [VTS]
FD Amb	Field Ambulance (WWI)	FTS	Failed to Serve; Flying Training School [VOS]
Fd Bak	Field Bakery	FTT	Field Transfusion Team
Fd Bty	Field Battery	Fwd	Forward
FDC	Field Dental Station [VTP]	Fwd Del Sqn	Forward Delivery Squadron [Vooraf Eskn]
FdC	Field Cornet [VdK]	G	
FDK	Finansiedienkorps [FSC]	GA	Garrison Artillery
Fd Hyg Sec	Field Hygiene Section	GBA	Geregistreerde Briewe-afdeling [Registered Letter Section]
FDL	Forward Defended Locality	GCAU	Ground Control Approach Unit (SAAF) [GGNE]
Fd Regt	Field Regiment [Vd Regt]	GCC	Group Control Centre [GBP]
FDS	Field Dressing Station [VdVP]; Field Squadron (WWI) (Engineers)	GCM	General Court Marshall (also Field GCM) [AKB]
FD Wksp	Field Workshop	GCR	Gold Coast Regiment
FES	Fortress Engineer Section	GCU	Graves Concentration Unit
FFB	Field Force Battalion		
FFM	Free Forces Mail [PVM = Posvry vir Magte]		
FHQ	Force Headquarters		

GD	Geneeskundige Diens [Medical Services]; General Depot; General Duties	HAA	Heavy Anti-Aircraft; Helicopter Administrative (Administration) Area
GEA	German East Africa [DOA] (EAA – French)	HAB	Heavy Artillery Brigade
Gen	General	HCC	Harbour Construction Company (SAEC)
Genl	Generaal [Gen]	HCTC	High Commission Territories Corps (Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland, 1947-54)
Genl-Maj	Generaal-Majoor [Major General]	HDC	Home Defence Company
GFTN	Grootfontein (in SWA / Namibia)	HDE Sen	Weermag-Hondesentrum [DG Cen]
GG	Government Gazette	HDF	Home Defence Force
GGNE	Grondgeleide Naderingseenheid [GCAU]	HF	Home Forces
GH	General Hospital	HG	Home Guard
GHK	Groothoofkwartier [GHQ]	HGO	Hoof Gesamentlike Operasies [CJO]
GHQ	General Headquarters	HK	Hoofkwartier [HQ]
GIS	Ground Instruction School (WWII, SAAF)	HMAC	His Majesty's Armed Cruiser
GL	Gunlayer/ing	HMAS	His Majesty's Australian Ship
GLO	Ground Liaison Officer [GSO]	HMG	Heavy Machine Gun
G List	General List (WWII)	HMS	His Majesty's Ship
GL Sec	Ground Liaison Section	HMSAS	His Majesty's South African Ship
GLVIS	Gesamentlike Lugverkenning-sinligtingsentrum [JARIC]	HMT	His Majesty's Transport
GMP	Garrison Military Police	HNP	Hector Norris Park
Gnr	Gunner	HPC	Home Postal Centre
GO	General Order (WWII)	HPK	Hoofposkantoor [GPO]
GOC	General Officer Commanding	HQ	Headquarters [HK]
Gp	Group	HR	Hogeveld Ruiters (WWI)
GPO	General Post Office [HPK]; Gun Position Officer	HS	Hoof van Staf [CS]; Hospital Ship
GP-S	Government Printer – Staatsdrukker	HSF	Hoof van Staf Finansies [CSF]
GRO	General Routine Order (WWI)	HSI	Hoof van Staf Inligting [CSI]
Grp	Group	HSL	Hoof van Staf Logistiek [CSL]
Grp Com Flt	Group Communications Flight	HSP	Hoof van Staf Personeel [CSP]
GRS	General Reconnaissance School (SAAF at George).	HSPT	Hoedspruit (Air Base)
GRU	Graves Registration Unit	HT	Horse Transport [PT]
GS	General Service [AD]; General Staff; Geological Section (SAEC)	I	
GSB	General Support Base (post 1994)	IA	Inspector of Armourers [IW]
GSC	General Service Corps; General Staff College	IAF	Inspector of the Air Force [Insp LM]
GSE	Geniesteuneskadron [ESU]	IAHQ	Inland Area Headquarters
GSO	General Staff Officer	IAM	Institute for Aviation Medicine [ILG] (post 1994)
GSO I	General Staff Officer Personnel	IAS	Inspector of Administrative Services [Insp AD]
GSO II	General Staff Officer Intelligence	IBC	Indian Bearer Corps (WWI)
GSO III	GSO Ops (Ops, Air, Chemical Warfare, Intelligence and Liaison Officer)	IBD	Infantry Base Depot
GSW	Gunshot Wound	IBT	Infantry Brigade Train (WWI)
GSWA	German South West Africa [DSWA]	ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross (French – CICR)
GTC	General Transport Company (East Africa)	IDS	Inspector of Defence Security Measures [IMVD]
GT Coy	General Transport Company [AT komp]	IEF	Indian Expeditionary Force (WWI)
GWS	General War Service	IF	Infantry Formation (post 2000)
H		IFTC	Imperial Forces Transit Camp (at Clairwood, Durban, and Pollsmoor, Retreat, CT) <i>Also</i> Transshipment
H	Horse (WWI: Botha's, Brand's, Cullinan's etc)	IFV	Infantry Fighting Vehicle
HA	Heavy Artillery	ILG	Instituut vir Lugvaartgeneeskunde [IAM]
		ILH	Imperial Light Horse (now Light Horse Regiment)

ILH / Kim R	Imperial Light Horse / Kimberley Regiment (amalgamated regiments)	Kav	Kavalleris [Cav]
IMB	Indian Mounted Battery (WWII, East Africa)	KDF	Kwandebele Defence Force
IMC	Imperial Movement Control (WWII at Durban and Cape Town); Indian and Malay Corps; Indian and Muslim Corps	KDK	Krygsbehoefedienkorps [OSC]
IMR	Independent Mounted Rifles (WWI) [BBS]	Kdoor	Kommodoor [Cdre]
IMSE	Inspector of Medical Stores and Equipment [IGMU]	Kdr	Kommandeur [Cdr]
Inf	Infantry	KFS	Kitchener's Fighting Scouts
IO	Intelligence Officer	KGM	Kusgarnisoenwag [CGF]
IOO	Inspecting Ordnance Officer	KGV	Krygsgevangene(s) [POW(s)]
IPL Coy	Italian Pioneer Labour Company (WWII, Italy)	KIA	Killed in Action
IRC	Imperial Rest Camp Staff	Kimb	Kimberley
IRTD	Infantry Reserve Training Depot	Kim R or KR	Kimberley Regiment
I of SAAF	Inspector of the SAAF	KK	Kaapse Korps [CC]; Kaffirskraal
ISC	Imperial Service Contingent (WWI)	KKS	Kampkommandant Staf
ISDSC	Interstate Defence and Security Committee (SADC countries)	KLH	Kimberley Light Horse
ISSUP	Institute for Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria	KM	Kwartiermeester [QM]
ITC	Infantry Training Centre	Kmdmt	Kommandement [Command]
ITS	Inspector of Technical Services	KMG	Kwartiermeester-generaal [Quartermaster General]
ITW	Initial Training Wing (RAF Kumalo, Bulawayo)	Komdo	Kommando
IWT	Inland Water Transport [BVT]	Komp	Kompanie [Coy]
J		Konstr Regt	Konstruksieregiment [Constr Regt]
JAG	Judge Advocate General (Law Officer)	Kpln	Kapelaan [Chaplain]
JAPIB	Joint Air Photographic Intelligence Board	KR	Kaffrarian Rifles; Krygsraad [CM]
JAPIC	Joint Air Photographic Intelligence Centre	KTD	Kommissariaat-en-Transportdepot [STD]
JARIC	Joint Air Reconnaissance Centre [GLVIS]	KTG	Kimberley Town Guard
JATS	Joint Air Training Scheme	KTK	Kommissariaat & Transportkompanie
JCC	Junior Cape Corps (WWII)	KWIS	Kenya Wireless Intelligence Screen
JL	Junior Leader	KZSF	Kwa-Zulu Self-protection Force
JMCC	Joint Military Co-ordinating Council (post 1994)	L	
JMR	Johannesburg Mounted Rifles	LAA Regt	Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment [LLA Regt]
JR	Johannesburg Regiment	LAC	Leading Aircraftsman
JSBG	Joint Support Base Garrison (Thaba Tshwane, post 1994)	LA Comd	Light Aircraft Command [LVT Kmdmt]
JTH	Joint Tactical Headquarters (post 1994)	LACW	Leading Aircraft Woman
K		LAD	Light Aid Detachment [LHD]; Light Armoured Detachment (an Armoured Car Detachment)
KA	Killed in Action	LAF	Libyan Air Force
KACR	Kenya Armoured Car Regiment	LAM	Leading Air Mechanic
Kaff R	Kaffrarian Rifles (later Buffalo Regiment or Buffalo Volunteer Rifles)	LA Regt	Lugafweerregiment [AA Regt]
KAR	King's African Rifles	L/Bdr	Lance Bombardier
KA AU	Kenya Auxiliary Air Unit	LBWG	Langebaanweg <i>Also</i> LBW
KA IPTC	Kofi Annan International Peace-keeping Training Centre (Accra)	L/C	Lines of Communication
Kapt	Kaptein [Capt]	L/Cpl	Lance Corporal
		LDF	Lesotho Defence Force
		LF	Land Force
		LFTU	Lêrfototolkeenheid [APIU]
		LG	Landing Ground; London Gazette
		LGS	Lêergevegskool [ABS]
		LHR	Light Horse Regiment (previously ILHR)
		Lieut.	Lieutenant
		LLA Regt	Ligte Lugafweerregiment [LAA Regt]
		LLE	Luglogistiekeenheid [ALU]
		LM	Lugmag [Air Force]
		LMB	Lugmagbasis [AFB]

LMG	Light Machine Gun	MAP	Medical Aid Post
LMHKE	Lugmaghoofkwartiereenheid [AFHQU]	MAPRC	Mediterranean Allied Photographic Reconnaissance Command
LMS	Lugmagstasie [AFS]	Mar Air Comd	Maritime Air Command
LNS	Lugnavigasieskool [ANS]	MBB	Militêre Basisbestuur [MBM]
LO	Liaison Officer; Liggaamsoefening-offisier; Logistics Officer	MBD	Medical Base Depot
LOB	Left Out of Battle	MBF	Motor Boat Flight
LoC	Line of Communications	MBFA	Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance (WWI); Mounted Brigade Field Artillery (WWI)
LocB, Loc Bty	Locating Battery [Osp B]	MBM	Military Base Management [MBB]
LPD	Lugpublikasiedepot [APD]	MBT	Mounted Brigade Train (WWI)
LRDG	Long Range Desert Group (WWII)	MC	Military Constabulary (SWA WWI); Movement Control (Office or Officer)
L & RA	Living and Ration Allowance	MCC	Motor Cycle Corps (WWI)
LS	Leading Seaman [BS]	MCR	Mounted Commando Regiment (converted to Armoured Car Regiments, Jan 1941)
LSF	Logistic Support Formation (post 1994)	MCR	Motor Cycle Regiment
L/Sgt	Lance Sergeant	MCU	Movement Control Unit [VE - Verplasingseenheid]
Lt	Lieutenant	MD	Missing Death assumed (WWI)
Lt Cdr	Lieutenant Commander [Lt-Kmdr]	MDB	Militêre Dorpsbestuur [MTM]
Lt Col	Lieutenant Colonel [Lt-Kol]	MDC	Military Discipline Code
Lt Gen	Lieutenant General	MDE	Militêre Drukeenheid [MPU]
LTM	Lugtaakmag [ATF]	MDP	Missing Death Presumed
Lt Regt	Light Regiment [Lte Regt]	MDR	Motor Despatch Rider
LTG	Leader Training Group (Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia)	MDS	Main Dressing Station
LUGOPE	Lugobservasiepos-eskader [Air Observation Squadron]	MDU	Mobile Dental Unit
Lug V Kmdmt	Lugvervoerkommandement [AT Comd]	ME	Middle East; Mounted Engineer (WWI)
Luit	Luitenant [Lt]	MEAF	Middle East Air Force (WWII)
LVE	Lugverdedigingseenheid	MEB	Mines Engineering Brigade (SAEC)
LVS	Lugverdedigingskool [ADS]	MEC	Middle East Command
LW	Regiment Louw Wepener (also RLW)	Mech	Mechanised; Mechanical
LWOP	Leave Without Pay	Mech Bn Gp	Mechanised Battalion Group
LZ	Landing Zone [LS]	MED	Mediterranean Theatre
M		Med Evac U	Medical Evacuation Unit [Med Afv E]
MA	Maintenance Area [OG]; Military Area [MG]; Military Attaché	MEF	Middle East Forces (WWII)
MAA	Medium Anti-Aircraft [MLA]	Meg Bn Gp	Meganiese Bataljongroep
MAAC	Military Attaché Advisory Corps (post 1994)	MELC	Middle East Labour Corps
MAAF	Mediterranean Allied Air Force (WWII)	MELF	Middle East Land Force
MAC	Malta Air Command; Mediterranean Air Command (WWII)	MERRA	Middle East Relief and Refugee Administration (WWII)
MAC	Motor Ambulance Convoy	MESC	Middle East Supply Centre (WWII)
MAF	Mobile Air Force	Met Flt	Meteorological Flight
MAFD	Mobile Air Force Depot	METU	Middle East Training Unit (RAF)
MAGHQ	General Headquarters Medium Artillery	MEOS	Mechanical Equipment Operational Section (Roads Company, SAEC)
Maint Comd	Maintenance Command	MFC	Mobile Fire Controller [MVL]
Maint Unit	Maintenance Unit [Ondh-eenh]	MFDU	Mobile Field Dental Unit (WWII)
Maj	Major [Majoor]	MFF	Mobile Field Force
Maj Gen	Major General	MFH	Mobile Field Hospital
MambCo	Mobile Ambulance Convoy	MFO	Military Forwarding Officer
MAMU	Mobile Air Movement Unit [MLVE]	MFP	Military Foot Police
MAO	Maritime Air Operations	MFPU	Mobile Field Photographic Unit or Section [MVPE]
MAOT	Mobile Air Operations Team	MFTU	Medical Forward Treatment Unit [VMBE]
		MFW	Military Foreman of Works
		MG	Military Government (Mil Gov); Militêre Gebied [MA]

MGC	Machine Gun Corps	MT	Motor or Mechanical Transport
MHSF	Military Health Support Formation (post 1994)	MTB	Motor Torpedo Boat; Motorised Training Battalion
Mid	Midshipman [ADB]	MTC	Miscellaneous Trades Company (WWI, France); Motor Transport Company (Corps) (WWI)
Mil (MIL)	Military [Militère]	MTM	Military Town Management [Militère Dorpsbestuur]
MIOB	Observer Mission in Burundi (under the AU)	Mtd	Mounted
MILOBS	Military Observers (in peacekeeping missions)	Mtld	Maitland
MINUCI	United Nations Mission in Cote d'Ivoire	MTP	Military Training Pamphlet
MIR	Medical Inspector of Recruits [GOR]	MTPD	Motor Transport Personnel Depot (WWII)
MK	Militère Konstabelarij (WWI, GSWA); Umkhonto we Sizwe ('Spear of the Nation', ANC military wing)	MTRU	Motor Transport Repair Unit
MLB	Military Labour Bureau (WWI)	MTSD	Motor Transport Sub Depot (WWII)
MLB Coy	Mobile Laundry and Bath Company [MWB Komp]	MU	Maintenance Unit; Medically Unfit (other than wounds)
MLC	Military Labour Corps (WWI)	MVA	Military Veteran's Association
MLM	Military Liaison Mission	MVS	Mobile Veterinary Section (Mob Vet Sec)
MLO	Military Landing Officer	MWE	Militère Werke-eenheid [MWU]
MLVE	Mobiele Lugverplasingseenheid [MAMU]	MWTC	Maritime Warfare Training Centre (post 1994)
MMG	Medium Machine Gun	MWU	Military Works Unit [MWE]
MMP	Military Mounted Police		
MMPC	Mobile Map Printing Company (SAEC)	N	
MMP&P Co	Mobile Map Printing and Printing Company	NA	North Africa
MMS	Mobile Malaria Section (EA)	NAAFI	Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes
MO	Medical Officer; Movement Order	NAD	Naval Armament Depot [VWD]
Mob Cen	Mobilisation Centre	NADS	Northern Air Defence Sector [NLVS]
MONUC	United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo	NATS	Natal Air Training School
MONUC	Mission des Nations Unies en République Démocratique du Congo	NBST	Naval Base Simon's Town (post 1994)
MORU	Mobile Radar Unit	NC	Natal Carbineers (previously Royal NC)
Mot	Motorised (or Motd.)	NCC	National Contingent Commander (UN and AU Peacekeeping); Native Carrier Corps (WWI)
MOTA	Medical Officer Training Ambulance (WWII)	NCG	National Ceremonial Guard (post 1994)
MP	Military Police	NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer [OO]
MPA	Military Police Agency (post 1994)	NCT	Native Carrier Transport (WWI)
MPC	Military Provost Corps (Military Police Corps)	NDF	Nyasaland Defence Force
MPC	Mule Pack Company (WWII, Italy; USA forces)	NDLC	National Defence Liaison Council (from November 1997)
MPES	Mobile Photographic Enlargement Section [MVS]	NDMR	Northern District Mounted Rifles (Vryheid, Natal)
MPI	Military Psychological Institute (post 1994)	NDRA	Natal Defence Rifle Association
MPK	Militère Poskantoor [Military Post Office]	NEAS	Non-European Army Services
MPLA	Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola	NFA	Natal Field Artillery
MPR	Military Police Region (post 1994)	NFF	Nyasaland Field Force (WWI)
MPU	Military Printing Unit [Militère Drukeenheid]	NGA	Natal Garrison Artillery
MR	Midland Rifles [Midland Skutters]; Mounted Rifles [Berede Skutters]	NHB	Nairobi Howitzer Battery (SA unit, WWI)
MRE	Mobiele Radar Eenheid [MRU]	NI	Northern Ireland
MRU	Mobile Radar Unit [MRE]	NIC	Naval Intelligence Centre
Msl Regt	Missile Regiment [Missielregiment]	NIS	National Intelligence Service
		NISC	Nyasaland Imperial Service Contingent (WWI)
		NKRNB	Not Known at Royal Naval Barracks
		NLC	Native Labour Corps (WWI);

NLC	Northern Logistics Command [NLK]	OETA	Occupied Enemy Territory Administration
NLH	Natal Light Horse (WWI)	OFF	Ordnance Field Park [KVP]
NLK	Noordelike Logistieke Kommandement [NLC]	OFS	Orange Free State [OVS]
NLVS	Noordelike Lugverdedigingssektor [NADS]	OHMS	On His Majesty's Service [ISMD]
NMC	Native Military Corps	OIC	Officer In Charge
NMG	Native Military Guards (WWII, part of NMC)	OLC	Operational Liaison Committee (post 1994)
NMP	Natal Mounted Police	OLMEE	Organisation of African Unity Liaison Mission in Ethiopia/Eritrea
NMR	Natal Mounted Rifles	O Lt	Onder-Luitenant [S Lt]
NMR / SAAF	Natal Mounted Rifles / South African Air Force Regiment (WWII, Italy)	OME	Ordnance Mechanical Engineer
NNC	Natal Native Corps	Ond Eenh	Onderhoudseenheid [Maint Unit]
NOIC	Naval Officer in Command	ONUB	United Nations Operation in Burundi (closed 31 Dec 2006)
NPC	Native Police Corps (WWI)	OO	Onderoffisier [NCO]; Operational Order; Ordnance Officer
NR	North Return (returned from North Africa service)	OP	Observation Post; Oostelike Provinsie [EP]
NRSL	Non Recorded Service Leave (WWII; normally 30 days on return to the Union); North Return Service Leave	Opm Eskn	Opmetingskadron [Svy Sqn]
NRV	National Reserve Volunteers (WWII)	Ops B	Opsporingsbattery [Loc B]
NS	National Service	ORs	Other Ranks
NSB	Natal Scottish Battalion	OS	Off Strength; Ordinary Seaman
NSC	Natal Service Corps	OSC	Ordnance Service Corps [KDK]
NSD	Naval Stores Depot (Wingfield); Naval Station Durban (post 1994)	OTA	Occupied Territories Administration
NSF	Non-Statutory Force (post 1994)	OTC	Officer Training Corps
NSM	National Serviceman	OTE	Operational Tour Expired
NSO	Naval Staff Officer	OTU	Observer (air force) Training Unit; Officer Training Unit; Operational Training Unit (No 11 and 29, SAAF, WWII)
NTC	Natal Telegraph Corps	OUTEN FRT	Outeniqua Fortress (WWII)
N Tvl	Northern Transvaal [Noord-Transvaal]	OVD	Ontvangsdepot [RD]
NVB	National Volunteer Brigade (WWII)	OVSVA	Oranje-Vrystaat Veldartillerie
NVC	Natal Veterinary Corps	P	
NVR	Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve	PAC	Pacific Air Command; Preventative Ablution Centre
NWAAF	North West Africa Air Force (part of the DAF in WWII)	PADD	Port Area Defence Detachment (East Africa)
NWEF	North Western Expeditionary Force	PAG	Prince Alfred's Guard; Pupil Air Gunner
NYD	Not Yet Determined (WW1 medical)	PAIF	Persia and Iraq Force
NZEF	New Zealand Expeditionary Force	Pant K Regt	Pantserkar Regiment
O		PAOCFA	Prince Alfred's Own Cape Field Artillery
OAC	Ordnance Ammunition Company	P&AP	Pilot and Aircrew Pool
OAD	Op Aktiewe Diens [OAS]	Para	Parachute [Vask]
OAK	Oos-Afrika Kommandement [East African Command]	PB	Pioneer Battalion (Pnr B) (WWI)
OAT	Onward Air Transport	P Bag	Private Bag [P Sak]
OAS	On Active Service [OAD]	PBC	Passed by Censor
OAU	Organisation of African Unity	PB FPO	Polar Bear FPO (Russia, WWI)
OBC	Opened By Censor	PBV	Pantser-bevelsvoertuig [ACV]
Obs	Observer	PC	Passed Censor; Principal Chaplain
OBS	Onberede Skutters (WW1) [Dismounted Rifles]	PCLU	Pioneer Civil Labour Unit [BPE]
OC	Officer Commanding	PD	Pay at Destination (or Per Day)
OCRE	Officer Commanding, Royal Engineers	PE	Port Elizabeth
OCS	Officer Cadet School [OKS]	PE FRT	Port Elizabeth Fortress (WWII)
O2E	Officer in charge of 2 nd Echelon	Pel	Peleton [Platoon]
OECP	Operational Emergency Care Practitioner (SAMHS, post 1994)		
OET	Occupied Enemy Territory		

Pers RU	Personnel Recovery Unit [Pers HU]	PTW Eskn	Pantsertroepewa-eskadron [APC Sqn]
PES	Pulheems Employment Standard	PU	Postal Unit
PF	Permanent Force [SM]	PUKCHOME	Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO Militêre Eenheid
PPF	Permanent Force Police (WWI)	PUO	Pyrexia of Unknown Origin (Fever)
PFS	Permanent Force Staff	PVD	Pyrexia Venereal Disease
PGR	Protectorate Garrison Regiment (previously SA Veteran Regiment)	PVM	Posvry vir Magte [FFM]
PH	Pretoria Highlanders	PW	Prisoner of War
PK	Poskantoor [PO]	PWD	Public Works Department
PKD	Publikasie- en Kaarte-depot [PMD]		
PI	Platoon [Peleton]	Q	
PM	Provost Marshall [HP]	QAIMNS	Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service
PMC	President of the Mess Committee	QAMNS	Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service (Reserve)
PMD	Publications and Maps Depot [PKD]	QANR	Queen Alexandra's Nursing Service (WWI, at Mogadishu)
PMG	Postmaster General	QCG	Chief Clerk "Q" Services Corps ["K"G]
PMKS	Palmietkuil South (NMC camp at disused mine, WWII)	QMG	Quartermaster [KM]
PMTC	Peace Mission Training Centre (at SA Army College, opened 28 Nov 2007)	QMS	Quartermaster General [KMG]
PMU	Police Mobile Unit	QMV	Quartermaster Sergeant
Pnr	Pioneer	QRV	Queenstown Rifle Volunteers
PO	Petty Officer; Post Office [Pk]	QSC	Quartermaster Service Corps [KDK]
POC	Post Office Circular	Q&TS	Quartermaster and Technical Stores
POL	Petrol, Oil and Lubricants [POS]		
POP	Pilot Officer's Pool	R	
Potch	Potchefstroom	R	Ruiters [Horse, WWI]
POW	Prisoner of War	R & H	Railways and Harbours
POWIB	Prisoners of War Information Bureau	R & T	Re-inforcement and Training
PP	Petrol Park; Petrol Point; Petrol Pipehead (PPH); Proficiency Pay	RA	Ration Allowance; Replenishment Area; Royal Artillery
PRP	Petrol Refilling Point [PAP]	RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
PR(PAO)	Pretoria Regiment (Princess Alice's Own)	RAB	Regiment Algoabaai / Algoa Bay
PRO	Provost	RAD	Radar Company (61 or 63)
Pro Unit	Provost Unit	R Adm	Rear Admiral [S-Adm]
PS	Personnel Service [PD]; Regiment President Steyn (also RPS)	RAF	Royal Air Force
P Sak	Privaatsak [P Bag]	RAMC	Royal Army Medical Corps
PS Corps	Personnel Service Corps [PD Korps]	RAP	Regimental Aid Post
PSD	Protection Support Detachment (peacekeeping mission; protection for VIPs)	RASC	Royal Army Service Corps
PSO	Peace Support Operations	RASO	Rear Airfield Supply Organisation [AVAO]
PSOD	Peace Support Operations Division (AU)	RATG	Rhodesian Air Training Group
PSS	Personnel Service School [PDS]; Printing and Stationery Service	RB	Regiment Botha; Reserve Battalion
PSTO	Principal Sea Transport Officer [HSTO]	RBol	Regiment Boland
PTB	Physical Training Battalion (WWII)	RBS	Regiment Bloemspruit
PTBG	Pietersburg	RC	Reconnaissance Commando [VK]; Red Cross [Rooi Kruis]; Roads Company (SAEC)
PTC	Pilot Transit Centre	RCB	Regiment Christiaan Beyers
Pte	Private [Wrn = Weerman]	RCBU	Reconnaissance Commando Base Unit [VKBE]
PTF	Peace Task Force [VTM]	RCC	Railway or Roads Construction Company (SAEC)
PTO	Please Turn Over	RCD	Reception Depot [OVD]
PTU	Parachute Training Unit (Pilot)	RCMG	Railway Construction and Maintenance Group (SAEC)
PTURP	Pilot Training Unit Reinforcement Pool	RCRP	Road Convoy Regulating Post [PKBP]

RCS	Reconnaissance Commando School [VKS]	RNO	Resident Naval Officer
Rd Constr Coy	Road Construction Company	RN-K	Regiment Noordwes-Kaap
RDF	Radio Direction Finding (= Radar)	RNN	Regiment Noord-Natal
RDLI	Royal Durban Light Infantry (now DLI)	RNR	Rhodesia Native Regiment (WWI); Royal Naval Reserve (WWI)
RDLR	Regiment De La Rey	RNT	Regiment Noord-Transvaal
RDP	Regiment Dan Pienaar	RNVR	Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve
RDW	Regiment De Wet	RO	Routine Order
RE	Royal Engineers; Regiment Erongo	R of O	Reserve of Officers
Recce	Reconnaissance	ROC	Railway Operating Company
Regt	Regiment	ROJ	Regiment Onse Jan (= RWP)
Ret List	Retired List	ROMC	Railway Operating and Maintenance Company (SAEC)
RFC	Reserve Force Council; Royal Flying Corps	ROO	Railhead Ordnance Officer
Rfn	Rifleman [Skt = Skutter]	R Oos R	Regiment Oos-Rand
RFU	Reserve Ferry Unit (air force)	ROR	Regiment Oranjerivier
RGK	Regiment Groot Karoo	ROT	Regiment Oos-Transvaal
RHA	Royal Horse Artillery	ROV	Regiment Overvaal
RHAF	Royal Hellenic Air Force (WWII training in SA)	RP	Railway Police [SP]; Refilling Point [Aanv P]; Regimental Police [RP]
RH Coy	Railhead Company	RPK	Regiment President Kruger
RHHB	Railways & Harbours Rifles (WWII)	RPN	Regiment Port Natal
RHQ	Regimental Headquarters [RHK]	RPR	Regiment Piet Retief
RHST	Railways, Harbours & Sea Transport [SHST]	RPS	Regiment President Steyn
RHU	Reinforcement Holding Unit	RPU	Regiment Potchefstroomse Universiteit
RHV	Regiment Hoëveld	RQMS	Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant
R&I	Refugee and Internee or Internment (Camp)	RR	Rand Rifles (WWI)
RIASC	Royal Intelligence Army Security Corps	RS	Recruiting Section [WA]; Regiment Springs
RIO	Regimental Intelligence Officer	RSB	Returned Soldiers Battalion (WWI)
RJTF	Regional Joint Task Force (post 1994)	RSC	Railway Survey Company (SAEC)
RK	Regiment Kemp; Rooi Kruis [RC]	RSD	Returned Stores Depot [DTG]
RKNVR	Royal Kenya Naval Volunteer Reserve (WWII)	RSM	Regimental Sergeant Major
RKP	Rooikop (air base near Walvisbaai, SWA)	RSO	Railhead Supply Officer; Railway Staff Officer
RL	Radio Link (Central and East Africa, WWII)	RSP	Release from Service Period (WWII leave)
RL	Regiment Langenhoven	RSupO	Railhead Supply Officer
RLI	Rand Light Infantry	RSS	Regiment Skoonspruit
RLO	Returned Letter Office	RSWD	Regiment Suid-Westelike Distrikte
RLS	Registered Letter Section	R/T	Radio Telephony
RLW	Regiment Louw Wepener	RTB	Regiment Tafelberg
RM	Regiment Molopo; Royal Marines	RTD	Reserve Training Depot
RMO	Regimental Medical Officer	RTO	Railway Transport Officer
RMR	Regiment Mooirivier	RTP	Radio Teleprinter
RMS	Royal Mail Ship	RTMC	Reserve Motor Transport Company (East Africa)
RMT	Road Motor Transport	RTO	Railway Transport Officer
RN	Regiment Namutomi (SWA); Royal Navy	RTS	Return To Sender
RNARY	Royal Navy Aircraft Repair Yard (Wingfield, WWII)	RTU	Returned To Union; Returned To Unit
RNAS	Royal Navy Air Service; Royal Navy Air Station (Wingfield, WWII)	RU	Regiment Uitenhage
RNC	Royal Natal Carbineers (later NC)	RUS	Regiment Universiteit Stellenbosch
		RVR	Regiment Vaalrivier
		RVS	Regiment Vrystaat
		RW	Regiment Windhoek (SWA)
		RWAFF	Royal West African Frontier Force
		RWP	Regiment Westelike Provinsie
		RYAF	Royal Yugoslav Air Force (WWII JATS training)

S

SA South Africa(n); Suid-Afrika(aanse)
 SAA Small Arms Ammunition [KKP];
 South African Artillery
 SAAADAC S A Army Air Defence Artillery
 School (post 1994, Anti Aircraft
 School)
 SAAAF S A Army Armour Formation (post
 1994)
 SAAC S A Ammunition Column (WWI);
 S A Armoured Corps [SAPK];
 S A Army College [SALK];
 S A Aviation Corps
 SAACC S A Army Combat Centre (post1994,
 was Army Battle School)
 SAACTC S A Army Combat Training Centre
 (post 1994)
 SAAD S A Armoured Division (or Depot)
 SAADAC S A Air Defence Artillery Corps (post
 1994)
 SAAF S A Air Force [SALM]
 SAAFM SAAF Museum [SALMM]
 SA Ammo C S A Ammunition Corps [SA Ammu
 K]
 SAAPC S A Army Postal Corps
 SAAPCC S A Administrative, Pay and Clerical
 Corps [SAABKD]
 SAAPO S A Army Post Office
 SAAPS S A Army Postal Service
 SAASC S A Army Service Corps
 SAAWC S A Army Woman's College (closed
 1998) [SALV Kol]
 SAAWC S A Army Woman Corps [SALVK]
 SABAT S A Battalion (in UN and AU
 Peacekeeping Missions)
 SABGOC S A Broad Gauge Operating
 Company (Railways, WWI)
 SAC S A Constabulary;
 S A Corps [SAK];
 Senior Aircraftman
 SA Cat C S A Catering Corps [SA Spys K]
 SACB S A Corps of Bandsmen [SAKM]
 SACC S A Cape Corps [SAKK];
 S A Concentration Camp (WWI);
 S A Coronation Contingent (1953)
 SACC SB S A Cape Corps Service Battalion
 [SAKK DB]
 SACD S A Convalescent Depot (No 1 at
 Alexandria, WWII)
 SACDC S A Coastal Defence Corps
 SACDLS S A Coastal Defence and Lighthouse
 Service
 SACHS S A Chaplains Service [SAKD]
 SACLB S A Church Lads Brigade
 SACM S A Corps of Marines (SACoM) (post
 WWII)
 SACMP S A Corps of Military Police [SAKMP]
 SACP S A Cape Police
 SACS S A Corps of Signals [SASK]
 SACSCRE S A Corps of Signals Company Royal
 Engineers (WWI, France)
 SACS (PS) S A Corps of Signals (Pigeon Service)

SACW Senior Aircraft Woman
 SADF S A Defence Force [SAW]
 SADF DG Cen SADF Dog Centre [Hondesentrum]
 SADF Eq Cen SADF Equestrian Centre [Berede
 Sentrum]
 SADFI S A Defence Force Institute [SA
 Weermaginstituut, SAWI]
 SADIC S A Defence Intelligence College
 (post 1994)
 S-Adm Skout-Admiraal [R Adm]
 SADSC S A Despatch Service (WWI)
 SAE S A Engineers (WWI)
 SAEC S A Engineers Corps [SA
 Geniekorps]
 SAEF S A Expeditionary Force (WWI)
 (SAOEF – Overseas)
 SAET S A Engineering Troop (SA Mounted
 Engineers)
 SAF S A Forces
 SAFA S A Field Artillery
 SAFAmb S A Field Ambulance
 SAFI S A Forces Institute (post 1994)
 SAFPTC S A Field Post & Telegraph Corps
 SAFT&PC S A Field Telegraph & Postal Corps (or
 PD = Postal Department; PO = Post
 Office; PU = Postal Unit)
 SAFSC S A Financial Services Corps
 SAGA S A Garrison Artillery
 SAGD S-A Geneeskundige Diens [SA
 Medical Service]
 SAGH S A General Hospital
 SAGK S-A Geniekorps [SAEC]
 SAH S A Horse (WWI, EA, 1st – 10th);
 S A Hospital (Richmond, UK, WWI)
 SAHA S A Heavy Artillery;
 S A Horse Artillery
 SAHB S A Horse Brigade (WWI)
 SAI S A Infantry [Zuid-Afrikaansche
 Infanterie]
 SAIC S A Infantry Corps [SAIK];
 S A Instructional Corps;
 S A Intelligence Corps (or SA Int C)
 [SA Inl K]
 SAIK S-A Infanteriekorps
 SA IND C S A Indian Corps [SA IND K]
 SA Inst C S A Instructional Corps
 SA Int C S A Intelligence Corps [SA Inl K]
 SA Intern C S A Internment Corps (WWII)
 SAIR S A Irish Regiment
 SAITB S A Infantry Training Brigade
 SAKD S-A Kapelaandiens [SACHS]
 SAKK S-A Kaapse Korps [SACC]
 SAKM S-A Korps van Musikante [SACB]
 SAKMP S-A Korps van Militêre Polisie [SACMP]
 SALH S A Light Horse
 SALM S-A Lugmag [SAAF]
 SALVK S-A Lêërvrouekorps [SAAWC]
 SAMC S A Medical Corps
 SAMCC S A Motor Cycle Corps (WWI)
 SAMDR S A Motor (Military) Despatch Riders
 SAME S A Mounted Engineers (WWI, EA,
 Nyasaland)

SAMHS	S A Military Health Service (post 1994)	SAS	S A Railway Section S A Sharpshooters (WWI, France); S A Ship; Special Air Service (Rhodesia); Small Arms School (East Africa)
SAMIF	S A Mounted Infantry Force	SASC	S A Service Corps; S A Signal Corps [SASK]
SAMiIC	S A Military College	SASCMT	S A Service Corps Motor Transport
SAMH	S A Military Hospital	SASDF	S A Seaward Defence Force
SAMHS	S A Military Health Services (post 1994)	SASE	S A Service Engineers
SAMM	S A Military Mission (SA Mil Mis)	SAS&H	S-A Spoorweë en Hawens [SAR&H]
SAMNC	S A Merchant Navy College General Botha	SASK	S-A Seinkorps [SACS]
SAMP	S A Military Police	SASStC	S A Staff Corps
SAMPC	S A Military Police Corps [SAKMP]	SASupC	S A Supply Company (Corps) (WWI, GSWA)
SAMNS	S A Military Nursing Services	SA Sup SC	S A Supporting Services Corps [SA ODK]
SAMR	S A Mounted Rifles (or Regiment)	SASRFC	S A Squadron Royal Flying Corps (WWI, EA)
SAMR-FAB	S A Mounted Rifles – Field Artillery Brigade (WWI, GSWA)	SASSC	S A Special Service Corps (WWI)
SAMS	S A Medical Services	SASSFA	S A Special Service Corps Field Ambulance
SAN	S A Navy [SAV]	SATC	S A Tank Corps; S A Transport Corps (WWI)
SANC	S A Naval College	SATR	S A Tank Regiment (post 1994)
SANDC	S A National Defence College (post 1994)	SATSC	S A Technical Services Corps
SANDF	S A National Defence Force	SAU	Surface Attack Unit (SA Navy)
SANF	S A Naval Forces	SAV	S-A Vloot [SAN]
SANLC	S A Native Labour Corps	SAVC	S A Veterinary Corps
SANR	S A Navy Reserves	SAVR	S A Veteran Regiment (WWI, later PGR)
SANS	S A Naval Service; S A Nursing Services	SAVRP	S A Vehicle Reserve Park
SANWC	S A National War College (opened 28 January 2002, Thaba Tshwane)	SAW	S-A Weermag [SADF]
SAOC	S A Ordnance Corps [SAKD]	SAWAS	S A Women's Auxiliary Service
SAOD	S A Ordnance Depot	SAWI	S-A Weermaginstituut [SADFI]
SAODK	S-A Ondersteuningsdienskorps [SA Sup SC]	SAWSC	S A Water Supply Company
SAOEF	S A Overseas Expeditionary Force	SAWVA	S A Veterans' Association
SAP	S A Police (Battalion)	SBD	SAAF Base Depot
SAPB	S A Pioneer Battalion (EA; skilled artisans)	SC	Services School [Diensvakschool]; Southern Cape [SK]; Staff Captain; Staff Corps; Survey Company (SAEC)
SAPC	S A Pay Corps; S A Postal Corps	SCDA	Staff Captain Divisional Artillery [SKDA]
SAPD	S-A Polisiediens	SCF	Senior Chaplin to the Forces
SAPF	S A Permanent Force [SASM]	SCTS	Scouts
SAPGA	S A Permanent Garrison Artillery	SD	Special Duties
SAPK	S-A Pantserkorps [SAAC]	SDB	Spesiale Diensbataljon [SSB]
SAPO	S A Provisions Officer	SDF	Seaward Defence Force; Sudan Defence Force
SAPR	S A Pioneer Regiment	Sdlr	Saddler
SAPS	S A Police Service (post 1994)	SDO	Senior Disciplinary Officer; Signals Despatch Office [BVK]
SAPSD	S A Protection Support Detachment (Burundi)	SDP	Supply Dropping Point [VAP]
SAQSC	S A Quartermaster Service Corps	SDR	Special Despatch Rider
SAR	S A Railways; S A Rifles (WWI); S-A Ruitery [SA Horse]	SDS	Special Delivery Service (official documents only) [SRD]
SARCS	S A Red Cross Society	SDS	Signals Despatch Service [BVD]
SARFC	S A Royal Flying Corps	SEAC	South East Asia Command
SARG	S A Railway Gangers (WWI, GSWA)	Sec	Section
SAR&H	S A Railways and Harbours	Seineenh	Seineenheid [Sig Unit]
SARMT	S A Reserve Motor Transport (Company)	Sers	Sersant [Sgt]
SAROC	S A Railway Operating Company (WWI and WWII)		
SARODS	S A Railways Overseas Dominion Section (WWI, France)		
SARS	S A Rifles Scouts		

SESK	Seineskadron [Signals Squadron]	SRV	Southern Rhodesia Volunteers (WWI)
SEO	Senior Engineer Officer	SS	Steam Ship
SFTS	Service Flying Training School	SSALO	Senior S A Liaison Officer
SFI	Sentrale Fototegniese Inrigting [CPE]	SSB	Special Services Battalion [SDB]
SFS	Special Forces School (post 1994, at Murrayhill)	SSC	Special Services Corps [SDK]
Sgt	Sergeant [Sers]	SSFA	Special Services Field Ambulance (WWI, SAMC)
SH	Stationary Hospital	S/Sgt	Staff Sergeant
SHST	Spoorweë, Hawens en Seetransport [RHST]	SSqn	Signals Squadron
SIB	Special Investigation Branch	SSM	Squadron Sergeant Major; Staff Sergeant-Major
Sig	Signal;	SSRB	Special Services Reserve Battalion
	Signaller (also Sigr)	SSS	Special Signal Service <i>Also</i> SSS/SACS;
SK	Suid-Kaapland [SC]		Support Supply Service (post 2000)
Sktr	Skutter [Rfn]	SSTO	Senior Sea Transport Officer
SL	Service Leave;	SSupO	Senior Supply Officer
	Sick Leave	S&T	Supply and Transport [K&T]
SLA	Supply Landing Airfield	STC	Signals Training Centre; Supply & Transport Corps
SLCoy	Search Light Company	STD	Supply and Transport Depot [KTD]
SLP	Supply Landing Point	STO	Sea Transport Officer
SLt	Sub Lieutenant [O Lt]	STS	Signals Training School (WWII)
SM	Staande Mag [PF]; Sergeant Major;	STSD	Supply and Transport Sub-Depot [KTSD]
	Sy Majesteit [His Majesty]	STT	School of Technical Training (SAAF)
SMA	Soutpansberg Military Area	SVS	Sentrale Vliegskool (Dunnottar; Langebaanweg) [CFS]
SMO	Senior Medical Officer	Svy Sqn	Survey Squadron [Opm Eskn]
SMS	Stokes Mortar Section (WWI, EA)	SVYS	Survey Squadron (45 or 46) [Opm Eskn; Opmetingseskadron]
SNAKE	Snake Valley	SWAI	South West Africa Infantry
SNLR	Service No Longer Required	SWAIB	South West Africa Infantry Battalion
SNO	Senior Naval Officer	SWANS	S A Women's Auxiliary Naval Service
S/Sgt	Staff Sergeant	SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organisation
SO	Staff Officer (Signals Officer)	SWATF	South West Africa Territory Force
SOMT	Staff Officer Motor Transport	SWKP	Swartkop (Air Base)
SOSH	Staff Officer Shipping and Harbours		
SOUIS	Staff Officer Union Imperial Service (WWI)	T	
SPECC	Specialist Contingent (SANDF service in the Democratic Republic of the Congo)	T	Temporary (rank)
SP Guard	State President's Guard [SP Wag]	TA	Tentative Allocation
SPC	Seychelles Pioneer Corps (1504 Company)	TAC	Training Areas Command (NMC, WII);
Spr	Sapper (SAEC)		Troops Ammunition Company
SQMS	Squadron or Staff Quartermaster Sergeant	Tac HQ	Tactical Headquarters
Sqn (Sq)	Squadron (Armour) [Eskadron] or (Air Force and Navy) [Eskader; Esk]	TAF	Tactical Air Force
Sqn Ldr	Squadron Leader	TAU	Tactical Airfield Unit [TVE]
SR	Southern Rhodesia	TB	Training Battalion
SRACR	Southern Rhodesia Armoured Car Regiment (WWII)	TBA	Tracing Bureau Austria (after WWII)
SRAF5	Southern Rhodesia Air Force Station (Cranbourne)	TBR Sq	Torpedo Bomber Reconnaissance Squadron
SRFO	Special Reserve of Flying Officers	TC	Telecommunications Centre [TS]; Traffic Control;
SRD	Supply Reserve Depot		Tunnelling Company (SAEC)
SRLO	Southern Rhodesia Liaison Officer	TCD	Transport Command Duties
SRMC	Southern Rhodesia Medical Corps	TCV	Troop Carrying Vehicle
SRMO	Southern Rhodesia Medical Officer	TD	Tegniese Dienste [TS]
SRP	Supply Refilling Point	TDF	Transkei Defence Force
SRRR	Southern Rhodesia Reconnaissance Regiment (Kenya 1941)	TDK	Tegniese Dienskorps [TSC]
SRS	Satellite Radar Station	TEIN	Teeninsurgensie (TIN) [COIN]

TF	Task Force [TM]; Territorial Force	UMDC	Union Military Discipline Code
TFDC	Test Flying and Development Centre (SAAF, Bredasdorp) [TVOS]	UMFF	Union Mobile Field Force
THA	Transvaal Horse Artillery	UMR	Umvoti Mounted Rifles
TIR	Tactical Intelligence Regiment (post 1994)	UMSO	Unit Military Staff Officer (post 2005)
TLH	Thring's Light Horse (WWI, Kroonstad)	UNAMSIL	United Nations Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone
TM	Taakmag [TF]	UNITA	Uniao Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola
TMBC	Trench Mortar Battery Company (WWI)	UNMEE	United Nations Mission in Ethiopia/Eritrea
TMI	Transvaal Mounted Infantry	UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
TO	Transport Officer	UNMIS	United Nations Mission in Sudan
TOBE	Taktiese Operasiebeheerenheid [TOCU]	UNMO	United Nations Military Observer
TOCU	Tactical Operation Control Unit [TOBE]	UNOCI	United Nations Operation in Cote d'Ivoire
TOT	Time Over or On Target	UNOMIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia
TP	Traffic Post	UNOMSIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
TPO	Travelling Post Office	UNRRA	United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (Austria, 1947)
T&R	Transport and Remounts (WWI)	UNTAG	United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (SWA)
Trg	Training [Opleiding]	UO	Unit Order
Trp (Tp)	Troop (Artillery) or Trooper	UOVSM	Universiteit van Oranje-Vrystaat Militêre Eenheid [UOFSMU]
TS	Technical Services [TD]; Telekommunikasiesentrum [TC]; Transvaal Scottish (1, 2 and 3 Battalions)	UPME	Universiteit van Pretoria Militêre Eenheid [UPMU]
TSA	Transvaalse Staatsartillerie	UPMU	University of Pretoria Military Unit [UPME]
TSC	Technical Services Corps [TDK]; Transvaal Signalling Corps	URL	Unrecorded Leave
TSD	Technical Stores Depot [TVD]; Transport Supply Depot	URTU	University Reserve Training Unit (post 2005)
TSTC	Technical Services Training Centre (post 1994)	US	Unit Staff (post 2005, Int, Pers, Log, etc.)
TV	Transvaal Volunteers	USEC	United States European Command
TVE	Taktiese Vliegveld-Eenheid [TAU]	UVM	Unieverdedigingsmag [UDF]
TVD	Tegniese Voorraaddepot [TSD]		
TVOS	Toetsvlieg- en Ontwikkelingsentrum [TFDC]		
U			
U	Union (of South Africa)	(V)	Volunteer [Vrywilliger]
UAS	University Air Squadron	VAD	Volunteer Aid Detachment
UBD	Union Base Depot	VAH	Volunteer Aid Hospital (WWI)
UBS	Unie Berede Skutters [Union Mounted Rifles]	Valsk	Valskerm [Parachute]
UCAC	Union Central Africa Contingent (WWI)	Valsk Sen	Valskermentrum [Para Cen]
UCAISC	Union Central Africa Imperial Service Contingent (WWI)	VDF	Venda Defence Force
UDF	Union Defence Force [UVM]	Vdg	Vaandrig [Ensign]
UDFI	Union Defence Force Institutes (YMCA and Toc H)	VDG	Venereal Disease Gonorrhoea
UDFO	Union Defence Force Order	VDS	Venereal Disease Syphilis
UDFS	Union Defence Force Staff	Vd	Veld [Field]
UDR	Union Dismounted Rifles (WWI)	Vd Wkp	Veldwerksplaas [Field Workshop]
UEAEF	Union East Africa Expeditionary Force	VE	Verplasingseenheid [MC Unit]
UIS	Union Imperial Service (WWI)	VES	Veterinary Evacuating Station
UK	United Kingdom [VK]	VHK	Verdedigingshoofkwartier [DHQ]
UL	Unattached List	VHLM	Vroue Hulp-Lugmag [WAAF]
		VK	Veldkornet (= Luitenant); Verkenningsskommando [RC]
		VKS	Verkenningsskommandoskool [RCS]
		VL	Vacation Leave
		VLHD	Vroue Landmag Hulpdiens [WAAS]
		VO	Veterinary Officer

VOE	Vliegveldonderhoudseenheid [AMU]	WR	War Records;
VOG	Voor Onderhoudsgebied [Forward Maintenance Area]		Witwatersrand Rifles (1 and 2 Battalions)
VOS	Vliegopleidingskool [FTS]	WR/DLR	Witwatersrand Rifles / De La Rey Regiment (amalgamated regiments)
VP	Vulnerable Point [KP]	Wrn	Weerman [Pte]
VPE	Veldposeenheid [FPU]	WRTD	Welgedacht Reception & Training Depot (Area)
VPK	Veldposkantoor [FPO]	WS	War Substantive (Rank)
VRD	Vehicle Reserve Depot	WSC	Water Supply Company (SAEC)
VRK	Veld-Registerkantoor [FRO]	WT	Wireless Telegraphy
VRP	Vehicle Reception Park [at Geneifa, Egypt, WWII]; Vehicle Reserve Park [Voertuigreserwepark]	WTC	Wireless Telegraph Company
		WTS	Water Treatment Section (SAEC); Women's Transport Service (East Africa)
V&RS	Veterinary and Remount Squadron	WTS(EA)	Women's Territorial Service (East Africa)
VSV	Verdediging-Skietvereniging [DRA]	WWCP	Walking Wounded Collecting Post
VTH	Voortrekkerhoogte or VH (ex Robert's Heights, now Thaba Tshwane)	Wynbg	Wynberg
VTM	Vredestaakmag [PTF]	X	
VTS	Vlugtoetsentrum [FTC]	XPW	Ex-Prisoner of War
VVD	Vloot-Voorradedepot [NSD]	Y	
VVE	Vliegtuigversieningseenheid [ASU]	YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
VW	Verdedigingswet [Defence Act, 1912]	YPLT	Ysterplaat
VWD	Vloot-Wapendepot [NAD]	YTB	Youth Training Brigade (changed to Battalion)
W		Z	
WAAF	Women's Auxiliary Air Force [VHLM]	Z	Code for an airfield
WAAS	Women's Auxiliary Army Services [VLHD]	ZA	Zuid-Afrikaansche
WAF	West African Forces	ZA	Zuid-Afrikaansche Berede Skutters
WAFF	West African Field Force	ZAFS	Zwartkop Air Force Station
WAL B FRT	Walvis Bay Fortress (WWII)	ZAI	Zuid-Afrikaansche Infanterie (WWI)
WAMPC	Women's Auxiliary Military Police Corps	ZAMK	Zuid-Afrikaansche Mediese Korps (WWI)
WANS	Women's Auxiliary Naval Service (also SWANS)	ZAS	Zwartkop Air Station
W&PC	Workshop and Park Company (SAEC)	ZAR	Zuid-Afrikaansche Ruiters (WWI) [SAH]
WBS	Water Boring Section (SAEC)	ZAVA	Zuid-Afrikaansche Veldartillerie (WWI, GSWA, EA)
WCmd	Witwatersrand Command	ZDF	Zimbabwe Defence Force
WELG	Welgedacht (NMC training camp near Springs)	ZMR	Zululand Mounted Rifles
WEO	Women's Emergency Organisation (Kampala)	ZPD	Zone Postal Depot
WET	War Establishment Tables	2iC	Second in Command
WKLF	Waterkloof	2 nd Cpl	Second Corporal (WWI)
Wkp	Werksploas [Wks]	2 nd Lt	Second Lieutenant
Wks	Workshop [Wkp]	* Cit Bat	Citizen Battery (WWI; GSWA, 6 th – CFA, 7 th – NFA, 8 th – THA, 12 th – Natal & Police)
WL	Wagon Line	** SAI	SA Infantry (WWI; 1 st – 4 th in France; 5 th – 12 th in East Africa)
WLake	Westlake	Note	Afrikaans or English equivalents are in [] Explanatory notes are in ()
Wnd	Wounded		
WNLSC	Women's National Land Service Corps (WWI)		
WO I	Warrant Officer I (Regimental Sergeant Major)		
WO II	Warrant Officer II (Company or Battery or Squadron Sergeant Major) [2 ^{de} K/AO]		
WOAS	Wounded on Active Service		
WOM	Wireless Operator Mechanic		
WP	Water Point		
WPR	Western Province Rifles (WWI)		

Guide to further abbreviations

Commando Unit names included the town name, e.g. Ermelo Commando, Sandton Commando.

Area Command Headquarter names included the region, e.g. Eastern Province [OP], Natal, Northern Transvaal [N Tvl], North West [NW], South West Africa [SWA], Southern Cape [SK], Western Province, Witwatersrand [Wits].

Director designation – there were /are many areas of directorate responsibility which are prefaced either as "D Eng" or "D of E" for "Director of Engineers", "D Sigs" or "D of S" for "Director of Signals", "D of W" for Director of Works" and others.

Staff Officer designation – there were many areas of responsibility assigned to staff officers in the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General's organisations such as SO Camps, SO Demobilisation, SO Export Supplies, SO Movements, SO Prisoners of War and others. Division and brigade organisations had staff officer postings such as SO Operations, SO Intelligence, SO Personnel and others.

Air Force Specific

The abbreviation is generally preceded by a number.

The unit designation can be 'Brigade' or 'Squadron'.

AC Sqn	Army Co-operation Squadron
BF Bde	Bomber Force Brigade
B/R Bde	Bomber-Reconnaissance Brigade
FF Bde	Fighter Force Brigade
Met Sec	Meteorological Section
Ph & Svy Sqn	Photographic and Survey Squadron
Res Air Force Sqn	Reserve Air Force Squadron
Tp C&S Sqn	Troop Carrying and Supply Squadron

Artillery Specific

The abbreviation is generally preceded by a number.

The unit designation can be 'Brigade (Bde)', 'Regiment (Regt)' or 'Battery (Bty)'.

Generally the unit designation is followed by 'SAA' (South African Artillery).

AA Bty	Anti Aircraft Battery
A Tk Bty	Anti Tank Battery
Fd Bty	Field Battery
Lt Bty	Light Battery
Lt AA Bty	Light Anti Aircraft Battery
Med Bty	Medium Battery

Engineer Specific

The abbreviation is generally preceded by a number.

The unit designation can be 'Regiment (Regt)', 'Company (Coy)', 'Squadron (Sqn)' or 'Troop (Tp)'.

Generally the unit designation is followed by 'SAEC' (South African Engineers Corps).

Anti Gas Lab	Anti Gas Laboratory
Bor Sec	Boring Section
Chem Coy	Chemical Company
Fd Coy	Field Company
Fd Pk Coy	Field Park Company
Fd Sqn	Field Squadron
Fd Svy Coy	Field Survey Company
For Coy	Forestry Company
Quar Coy	Quarrying Company
Rd Constr Coy	Road Construction Company

Signals Specific

The abbreviation is generally preceded by a number.

The unit designation can be 'Division (Div)', 'Brigade (Bde)', 'Regiment (Regt)', 'Company (Coy)', 'Squadron (Sqn)', 'Troop (Tp)' or 'Section (Sec)'.

Generally the unit designation is followed by 'SACS' (South African Corps of Signals).

DR Sec	Despatch Rider Section
Ln Sec	Line Section
Ln Maint Sec	Line Maintenance Section
Op Sec	Operating Section
Ry Tel Op Sec	Railway Telegraph Operating Section
Tech Maint Sec	Technical Maintenance Section
W Sec	Wireless Section

Service Number Codes

A code is included at the end of the service number allocated to an individual from post World War II to 1994. This two-letter code indicates the status of service of the individual concerned.

<i>Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
BT	Citizen force compulsory service
BV	Citizen force volunteer
BZ	Active citizen force reserve
CA	Civilian: permanent GSPF
CB	Civilian: temporary GSPF
CS	Secretariat: ex SANDF members
HW	Auxiliary service
KV	Commando volunteer
MG	MSD initial phase (Military skills development)
NA	National archive
PE	Permanent force permanent capacity
PF	Flexible service system: medium term
PR	Permanent force temporary SA citizen
PV	Flexible service system: short term with pension
RF	Permanent force reserve
RR	Reserve forces: controlled reserve
BY	Part-time forces honorary appointment
CF	Civilian: sessions/casual
MC	Core service system
MR	Core service system: reserve
MP	Core service system: 1 year

German Prisoner of War Camp

Abbreviations

Dulag	Transfer Camp
Front Stalag	Camp in Enemy Occupied Territory
Kommando	Detachment or Section of main camp
Marlag	Naval Camp
Milag	Merchant Seaman's Camp
Oflag	Officer's Camp
Stalag	"Stammlager" – Other Rank's Camp
Stalag Luft	Air Force Camp

Awards and decorations

With post nominal letters

AAD	Ad Astra Decoration
AFC	Air Force Cross
AFM	Air Force Medal
ARRC	Royal Red Cross – Associate
BEM	British Empire Medal
CA	Crux Aeronautica (Air Force Cross)
CB	Companion of Bath
CBE	Commander of the Order of the British Empire
CC	Crux Curationis (SA Medical Services Cross)
CGH	Castle of Good Hope Decoration (never awarded)
CGM	Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Navy or Air Force)

CH	Order of Companion's of Honour (Gen. Smuts was the only SA recipient)
CM	Crux Militaria (Army Cross)
CMG	Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George
CN	Crux Navalis (Navy Cross)
CVO	Commander of the Royal Victorian Order
DCM	Distinguished Conduct Medal
DFC	Distinguished Flying Cross – British and American (Korea)
DFM	Distinguished Flying Medal
DSC	Distinguished Service Cross
DSM	Distinguished Service Medal
DSO	Distinguished Service Order
DTD	Dekoratie voor Trouwe Dienst

DTM	Danie Theron Medal
DVR	Van Riebeeck Decoration
DWD	De Wet Decoration
ED	Efficiency Decoration
GBE	Knights Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire
GM	George Medal
HC	Honoris Crux
HCD	Honoris Crux Diamond
HCG	Honoris Crux Gold
HCS	Honoris Crux Silver
IDS	Indian Distinguished Service Medal (only one South African received it)
ISO	Imperial Service Order
JCD	John Chard Decoration (from 1952)
JHM	Jack Hindon Medal
KBE	Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire
KCB	Knight Commander of the Bath
KCMG	Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George
KCVO	Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order
LWD	Louw Wepener Decoration
LWM	Louw Wepener Medal
MBE	Member of the Order of the British Empire
MC	Military Cross
MID	Mentioned in Dispatches
MM	Military Medal
MMM	Military Merit Medal
MSM	Meritorious Service Medal
MVO	Member (4 th Class) of the Royal Victorian Order
NB	Nkwe ya Boronse – Bronze Leopard (after April 2003)
NG	Nkwe ya Gauta – Golden Leopard (after April 2003)
NS	Nkwe ya Selefera – Silver Leopard (after April 2003)
OBE	Officer of the Order of the British Empire
OM	Order of Merit (Gen. Smuts was the only SA recipient)
PB	iPhrothiya yeBhronzi - Bronze Protea (after April 2003)
PG	iPhrothiya yeGolide - Golden Protea (after April 2003)
PMD	Pro Merito Decoration
PMM	Pro Merito Medal
PS	iPhrothiya yeSiliva - Silver Protea (after April 2003)
PVD	Pro Virtute Decoration
PVM	Pro Virtute Medal
RRC	Royal Red Cross - Member
SSA	Star of South Africa

SSAS	Star of South Africa Silver
SD	Southern Cross Decoration
SM	Southern Cross Medal (from 1952)
VC	Victoria Cross
VD	Volunteer Decoration
VRM	Van Riebeeck Medal

Service Records Medal Abbreviations – not post nominal letters

ASM	Africa Service Medal
BW	British War Medal, 1914-20
EM	Efficiency Medal
V	Allied Victory Medal, 1914-19
WM	War Medal, 1939-45

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