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even though adequate oxygen is again being breathed by him.

paradrop, n. An airdrop by parachute. *Attrib.*, as in *paradrop delivery*, *paradrop mission*.

paradrop, v. tr. To drop something by parachute.

parafrag, n. Short for 'parachute fragmentation bomb.' *Attrib.*, as in *parafrag cluster*, *parafrag mission*.

parallax, n. The apparent displacement of an object, or the apparent difference in its direction of motion, if viewed first from one standpoint, then from another.

Parallax occurs, for example, in viewing a target from the position of the gun, then from the position of the sight. In air navigation, the parallax of a celestial body is observed in the difference between its angular altitude above the bubble horizon and the angular altitude above the celestial horizon. For most celestial bodies, this is negligible, but for the moon and sun it is of such magnitude as to require corrections in the reading of sextant altitudes.

parallel, n. Geography. Any of the lines considered to run parallel to the equator on the earth's surface, marking latitude.

parallel, a. 1. Of a unit or echelon: Having comparable status in one chain of command or service to that of another unit in another chain of command or service, as in 'a company in the Army is parallel to an AF squadron,' or 'the Air War College and Air Command and Staff College are parallel units in the Air University.' **2.** Of a chain of command: That runs to a source of command that is the same as that of another chain of command.

In sense 2, for example, the chain of command from Hq Fifth Air Force to FEAF Headquarters is parallel to that of Hq Twentieth Air Force to FEAF Headquarters.

parallel circuit. Electricity. An arrangement in which all the positive poles, electrodes, terminals, etc. are connected to one conductor, and all the negative components to another conductor.

parallel staff. A staff made up from different services or nations, in which one person from each service or nation is appointed to each position. Cf. *integrated staff*.

In this staff, more than one person normally occupies a position.

paramedic, n. A medical service person qualified to participate in parachute activities, esp. those involving rescue. See *pararescue, n.*

parameter, n. 1. A constant having a series of particular and arbitrary values, each value characterizing a member in a system or family of expressions, curves, surfaces, functions, or the like. **2. transf.** In psychological use, a criterion that has shifting values.

In sense 1, for example, if one should draw a cross section of an airfoil with a chord of an arbitrary length, then by using the same chord extended, should draw a series of cross sections of additional airfoils, each determined in its proportions by the particular length of the chord used, the chord would be a parameter. Similarly,

in a diagram of several circles, all centered upon the same point, the radii of these circles considered as a single radius having different values would be a parameter. Again, if a certain speed of an aircraft causes a certain wing flutter, and if a pattern of wing flutter can be ascertained by means of differences in speeds, then speed becomes a parameter.

parapack, n. 1. A package or bundle with a parachute attached for dropping from an aircraft.

2. Such a package or bundle without its parachute. *Attrib.*, as in *parapack parachute*.

paraphrase, v. tr. Specif. To change the phraseology of a message without changing its meaning.

pararescue, n. (parsq) Rescue by persons parachuted to the distressed person or persons; *specif.*, an operational procedure of the Air Rescue Service: See note. *Attrib.*, as in *para-rescue school*, *pararescue team*.

Pararescue by the Air Rescue Service is designed esp. for areas inaccessible to other modes of rescue. It involves air survey of the rescue sites, accurate parachute landings, emergency medical care, use of survival procedures, and evacuation either by air or surface.

parasite airplane. An airplane designed to be carried by, and launched from, a carrier aircraft in flight, and, in some instances, to be picked up again by the carrier aircraft in flight.

parasite drag. That part of the total drag caused by the skin friction and shape of the nonlifting surfaces of an aircraft, as those of the fuselage, nacelles, cooling ducts, antennas, etc.

Parasite drag is the total drag minus the induced drag and the profile drag. It is sometimes called 'structural drag.' See *profile drag*.

parasite fighter. A parasite airplane that serves as a fighter; esp. such an airplane carried by a bomber.

parasite resistance. Resistance to movement in an airplane caused by nonlifting components; parasite drag.

parasitic, a. Of structural parts or weights of an aircraft: That do not contribute to the lift or thrust.

parasol, n. 1. Air cover consisting of airplanes actually in the air. **2.** The type of wing on a parasol monoplane. *Attrib.*, as in *parasol construction*, *parasol wing*.

parasol monoplane. A monoplane having the wing mounted above the fuselage. See *high-wing monoplane*, esp. note.

paratroop, n. Used *attrib.* in sense: Of or pertaining to a paratrooper or paratroopers, as in *paratroop battalion*, *paratroop carrier*, *paratroop capacity* (in an aircraft), *paratroop drop*, etc.

paratrooper, n. A person in the parachute troops.

parce (auth abbr). 'Pay record.'

paren (auth abbr). 'Parenthesis.'

parent, n. attrib. 1. Of a unit or other organization: a. From which a unit or persons are placed on detached service, as in *parent organization*.