

OPERATIONALLY SPEAKING (Cont.)

FACTS ABOUT THE PHONETIC ALPHABET AND THE NECESSITY FOR USING IT

THE PHONETIC ALPHABET

A	ALFA	G	GOLF	M	MIKE	S	SIERRA
B	BRAVO	H	HOTEL	N	NOVEMBER	T	TANGO
C	CHARLIE	I	INDIA	O	OSCAR	U	UNIFORM
D	DELTA	J	JULIET	P	PAPA	V	VICTOR
E	ECHO	K	KILO	Q	QUEBEC	W	WHISKEY
F	FOXTROT	L	LIMA	R	ROMEO	X	X RAY
		Y	YANKEE	Z	ZULU		

MEANING OF PHONETIC

- (1) of or pertaining to speech sounds and their production.
- (2) agreeing or corresponding to pronunciation.

The phonetic alphabet has been in use by radio operators since voice transmission was made possible. The present alphabet came into use with the formation of NATO. Many foreign languages experienced difficulty with the old alphabet of Able, Baker etc., so the new alphabet was adopted enabling pilots and radio operators of other countries to make themselves readily understood by all nations.

Shown below are outstanding examples of errors received in our Edmonton office. 'D' is taken as 'B', 'P' is taken as 'B', 'J' is taken as 'K', and so on down through the list. These errors will throw out our plotting sequence by quite a few miles, making the faulty reports virtually useless.

DKQL 5847 was received here as BKQL 5847
EKJP 3712 was received here as EKJB 3712
EKBL 3913 was received here as DKBL 3913
ELJA 0701 was received here as ELKA 0701
DLBA 4129 was received here as ELBA 4129

Please help us to omit further errors in Flash Messages by using the phonetic alphabet as shown at the head of the page.

P.S. If you are still using the old Flash Pad with "Time Delay" in column 5, you can receive the new pad by dropping us a line at the address shown on the inside front cover of the "Spotter".