

# **CLOSE AIR SUPPORT (CAS) THE “9 LINE” BRIEF INSTRUCTIONS**

## **1. IP/BP:** \_\_\_\_\_

IP (INITIAL POINT) or BP (BATTLE POSITION). For fixed-wing aircraft, the starting point for the run to the target. For rotary-wing aircraft, the area from which targets will be engaged.

## **2. HEADING:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OFFSET:** L \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_

Given in degrees magnetic. For fixed-wing aircraft this is the HDG from the IP to TGT given in degrees magnetic. For rotary-wing aircraft, this is the heading from the centre of the battle position to the target. An offset is given when needed to restrict attack aircraft manoeuvring due to enemy, WX, terrain, friendly fires, etc., or to control attack geometry. Offset direction indicates the side of the IP/BP target line the attacking aircraft can manoeuvre to position itself for the attack. However, an aircraft can proceed directly from the IP to target on the magnetic heading given in line 2 provided it does not violate the offset direction, if one is given.

## **3. DISTANCE:** \_\_\_\_\_

From the IP/ BP to the target. For fixed-wing aircraft the distance is given in nautical miles (NM) and should be accurate to a tenth of a NM. For example, 12.3 NM would be transmitted as “twelve point three.” For rotary-wing aircraft, this distance is from the centre of the battle position to the target expressed in meters and should be accurate to 5 meters.

## **4. TARGET ELEVATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

Expressed in feet above Mean Sea Level (MSL).

## **5. TARGET DESCRIPTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

The target description should be specific enough for the aircrew to recognize the target. The target should be described accurately and concisely. The description should aid the aircrew in anticipating visual cues for target acquisition.

## **6. TARGET LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

The location of the target can be given in several ways; 6-digit UTM grid coordinates, latitude and longitude, navigation aid fix, or visual description from a conspicuous reference point are all acceptable. Because multiple grid coordinate system datum is in use, the specific datum being referenced should be specified in the JTAR and, if required, clarified by the brief. Terminal controllers should include the 100,000 meter grid identification. For area targets, use the centre of the area or the location of the greatest concentration of enemy. For linear targets, use the ends of the target array.

## **CLOSE AIR SUPPORT (CAS) BRIEF THE “9 LINE” BRIEF (Continued)**

**7. MARK TYPE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **LTL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Type of mark to be employed--white phosphorous, illumination, IR pointer, laser, etc. If a laser designator is being employed, the four-digit laser code and the laser-to-target line are stated.

**8. FRIENDLIES:** \_\_\_\_\_

The location of friendly forces nearest the target is given. This position is referenced from the target—from the target to the position—and is expressed in a cardinal or semi cardinal direction and a distance in meters. If the friendly position is marked, identify the type of mark.

**9. EGRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

The cardinal or semi-cardinal direction to be used when departing the target and control points to use when exiting the terminal control arena. Unlike all other lines of the brief, the word “egress” is transmitted before giving egress instructions.

**REMARKS:** \_\_\_\_\_

The following information may be included if applicable:

- Troops in contact or danger close
- Airspace coordination: final attack heading (FAH) or altitude restrictions
- Threat
- SEAD support in effect
- Active gun target lines
- Ordnance requested
- Hazards
- Weather

## **CLOSE AIR SUPPORT (CAS) BRIEF THE “9 LINE” BRIEF (Continued)**

**TOT:** \_\_\_\_\_

OR

**TTT:** \_\_\_\_\_

The terminal controller will assign a TOT (time-on-target) or TTT (time-to-target).

- **TOT.** (GPS Default Method) Time-on-target is the specific time aircraft delivered ordnance will hit the target. The timing is based on a synchronized clock, GPS is the standard, that is used by all supporting arms agencies.
- **TTT.** Time-to-target uses a countdown timer rather than a universal clock. The terminal controller states the number of minutes and seconds to elapse from the time the countdown is started to the time aircraft delivered ordnance hits the target; the countdown is started with the word “HACK.”

For example, if the terminal controller were to say “six plus zero zero (6+00)...HACK,” ordnance should impact the target six minutes after the “HACK” was transmitted. Any other supporting arms/ ground elements involved in the mission must coordinate their timing from this countdown and “HACK.”