

303. Precedence (priority of transmission). - Transmission of MERINT reports shall be preceded by the word "MERINT" spoken three times OR by its alternate, the international "Urgency Signal". Additionally, the military precedence of "Emergency" shall be used if the report is addressed to military activities. Governmental precedence of "Rapid U.S. Government" for reports addressed to other U.S. Government activities, or Canadian "Rush", for reports addressed to Canadian Government activities shall be used:

Tabulation

Circuit clearance	MERINT MERINT MERINT
International Urgency Signal (Alternate)	XXX XXX XXX or PAN PAN PAN
Military Precedence	Y or Emergency
Commercial Class of Service Indicator	RAPID US GOVT for US Government activities or RUSH for Canadian Government activities (to be used only when refiled with commercial companies)

304. Contents of MERINT Reports. -

a. MERINT reports should contain the following as applicable in the order listed:

- (1) "MERINT will always be the first word of the text.
- (2) Name and call letters of reporting ship.
- (3) Object sighted. Give brief description of the sighting which should contain the following items as appropriate:
 - (a) Number of aircraft, vessels, missiles, submarines, etc.
 - (b) Category of object, general description, e.g., size and shape, type of propulsion, etc.
- (4) Ship's position at time of sightings.
- (5) Date and time of sighting (GMT)*
- (6) Altitude of object expressed as Low, Medium or High.
- (7) Direction of travel of object.
- (8) Speed of object.
- (9) Any observed identification, insignia, or other significant information. Every reasonable effort should be made to positively identify the object sighted.