

Annotated Bibliography

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Primary Sources

Chester Nez, Last of the Original Navajo Code Talkers of World War II. Photograph. WTKR. <https://www.wtkr.com/news/military/photos-chester-nez-last-of-original-navajo-code-talkers-of-world-war-ii-dies-at-93#id3>

This image is a primary source. The picture is of a younger Chester Nez, one of the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers. In his final years, Chester Nez did his best to tell the world about his work and the notable code created by some Navajos, which was used to win against the Japanese and Germans in World War II.

"Chester Nez: The Last of the Original Navajo Codetalkers." Video. Youtube. Posted by American Legion IQ, July 22, 2014. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JU7H4-OAs>.

This video from Youtube contains an interview with Chester Nez, one of the Original Navajo Codetalkers. This video is one of many interviews that was conducted to preserve the experiences of one of the original codetalkers. In this interview, Chester Nez reflects on his involvement in World War II and contributions to the code used by the code talkers.

Choate, John N. *Eleven Navajo Students [version 1]*, 1883. Photograph. Carlisle Indian Digital Resource Center. <http://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/images/eleven-navajo-students-version-1-1883>.

This image portrays eleven students at the Carlisle Indian School. My project on the Navajo Code Talkers touches on the boarding school phenomenon occurring on many reservations and this image will be a useful visual aid.

———. *Tom Torlino, 1882 and 1885*. Photograph. Carlisle Indigenous School Digital Resource Center. <http://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/images/tom-torlino-1882-and-1885>.

This specific image portrays how the Carlisle Indian School heavily altered a student who attended the school for only three years. The person is Tom Torlino, a Navajo native, who attended the school from 1882 to 1885.

Curtis, Kelsey. "Samuel Tom Holiday." Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/9/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Samuel Tom Holiday. In the interview, Samuel Tom Holiday explores his motivations in joining the marines as part of the Code Talkers program. In addition, he talks about his childhood and how World War II affected him.

Esticitty, Kee. "Kee Esticitty." Interview by Kelsey Foss. Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/8/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Kee Esticitty. Kee Esticitty, a former code talker for the Marines in World War II, recounts his past and informs the viewers about his involvement in the war and how training was.

Gulbranson, Shiloh. "Peter MacDonald." Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2013. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/14/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Peter Macdonald. In this video, Peter Macdonald informs viewers about his culture and the importance of fighting. In addition, he provides a verbal description of his time at war.

Gust, Emily. "Chester Nez." Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/10/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Chester Nez. As one of the original 29 Code Talkers, Chester Nez gives direct information to viewers on his experience in creating the code and living through war.

Johnston, Philip. *Technical Sergeant Philip Johnston Going on a Recruiting Tour of the Navajo Indian Reservation, October, 1942*. Photograph. North Arizona University: Cline Library. <https://archive.library.nau.edu/digital/collection/cpa/id/6339>.

This photo pictures Philip Johnston, the man behind the idea of using the Navajo language as the basis of a new code. Philip Johnston was on a recruiting tour of the Navajo Reservation to recruit some bilingual Navajos to be a part of a special sector of the Marines, which were the Navajo Code Talkers.

Navajo Code Talker in the South Pacific, November 1943. U.S. Marine Using Walky-Talky. Photograph. Navajo People.

http://navajopeople.org/photos/index.php/Navajo-Code-Talkers/Navajo-Code-Talker-in-the-South-Pacific-November-1943_-_U_S_-Marine-using-walky-talky.

This image depicts two code talkers using radio equipment, specifically a walkie-talkie to communicate. Code talkers used this equipment to send messages in a rapid manner and in order for them to not be intercepted, the Navajo Code Talkers used a secret code they created to stop unwanted listeners.

Navajo Code Talkers Henry Bake and George Kirk, Operating a Portable Radio Set in the South Pacific, 1943. Photograph. Native Voices.

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/exhibition/healing-ways/native-heritage/navajo-code-talkers/images/ob1039.html>.

This image depicts two Navajo code talkers in action during World War II. "This image appears on the official Navajo Code Talkers bronze medal, created to express formal appreciation and recognition of the Navajo Code Talkers by the United States government."

Navajo Code Talkers: In Formation at Camp Elliott, California. Photograph. NAU: Cline University. <https://archive.library.nau.edu/digital/collection/cpa/id/6318>.

In this image, Navajo Code Talkers are shown in Formation at Camp Elliot. Navajo Code Talkers needed to go through basic training before learning their real

purpose: administering and using the Navajo Code that the original 29 created during battles to communicate instructions and other information.

Official Marine Corps Photo #83714. Photograph. HistoryNet.

<https://www.historynet.com/unbreakable-navajo-code.htm>.

This image shows the 29 Original Code Talkers. This photograph is of those chosen for the 382nd Platoon in the Marine Corps. They were chosen after a basic training period.

Pfc. Preston Toledo and Pfc. Frank Toledo, Navajo Cousins in a Marine Artillery Regiment in the South Pacific, Relay Orders over a Field Radio in Their Native Tongue. Photograph. CIA.

<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2008-featured-story-archive/navajo-code-talkers/>.

This image is a primary source. Depicted are two Navajo Code Talkers, incidentally cousins, who are using the Navajo Code and radio equipment to either decipher an encrypted message or code a message.

President Roosevelt Signing the Declaration of War against Germany, Dec. 11, 1941.

Photograph. Library of Congress. December 1941. <https://www.loc.gov/item/96522303/>.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the United States were faced with the ultimate decision of joining the second World War. In this image is then President Roosevelt signing the declaration of war against Germany.

Sandoval, Samuel. "Oral Histories: Navajo Code Talker Samuel Sandoval Interview." By George Colburn. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004.

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?459729-1/navajo-code-talker-samuel-sandoval-oral-history-interview>.

The person interviewed is Samuel Sandoval. In this interview Sandoval expresses his impression of joining the Marines as a Code Talker and how his family's emphasis on being a warrior impacted his decision to train to become a Code Talker. In addition, Sandoval includes his experience as a student in a boarding school where Navajo was forbidden.

Smith, Albert. "Oral Histories: Navajo Code Talker Albert Smith Interview Clip." By George Colburn. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004.

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?459727-1/navajo-code-talker-albert-smith-oral-history-interview>.

In the video, a man by the name Albert Smith is interviewed. The interviewer asks Albert Smith about the battle of Iwo Jima and how he felt being there as a Code Talker.

Smith, Samuel Jesse. "Oral Histories Navajo Code Talker Samuel Jesse Smith." Interview by George Colburn. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004.

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?459287-1/navajo-code-talker-samuel-jesse-smith-oral-history-interview>.

This video is an interview with Navajo Code Talker Samuel Jesse Smith. In this video, the code talker recounts the battle at Pearl Harbor.

Toledo, Bill. "Bill Toledo." Interview by Kyle Brown. Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/22/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Bill Toledo. In the interview, Bill Toledo informs his listeners about his past and the importance of code talking in World War II.

Tso, Samuel. "Oral Histories: Navajo Code Talkers – Samuel Tso." Interview. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?459728-1/navajo-code-talker-samuel-tso-oral-history-interview>.

An interview with Samuel Tso recounts how Tso's parents were so poor that they could not afford to take him back after sending him to a boarding school. Besides the history of his past, Samuel Tso tells the interviewer what led him to volunteer to join the Marines as a Navajo Code Talker.

———. "Samuel Tso: Code Talker, 5th Marine Division." Interview by Brandi Hayer. Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/27/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Samuel Tso. In the video linked to the website, Samuel Tso recounts his experience as a Code Talker during World War II. He includes his reasons for deciding to join the Marines and how he felt when he couldn't tell his family what he went through as a code talker.

U.S. Now at War with Germany and Italy; Japanese Checked in All Land Fighting; 3 of Their Ships Sunk, 2D Battleship Hit. Photograph. Air Force Historical Foundation. <https://www.afhistory.org/december-11-1941-2/>.

This image is a clip of a newspaper article from the New York Times on December 11, 1941. On that day, the Congress agreed to declare war on Germany and Italy after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, inevitably convincing the US to join the second world war.

Vandever, Joe, Sr. "Joe Vandaver Sr." Interview by Shannon Bolte. Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/12/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Joe Vandever Sr.. In the video, Joe Vandever Sr. recounts his experience serving as a code talker in World War II. In addition, he talks about his personal background and how he became part of the Navajo Code Talkers.

William Riley Johnston, Margaret Wray Johnston, Philip Johnston. about 1895 or 1896. Photograph. Northern Arizona University: Cline University. <https://archive.library.nau.edu/digital/collection/cpa/id/6428>.

The picture is of Philip Johnston, the man who thought to use a largely unwritten and unstudied language, the Navajo language, as the basis for a code that the enemy

could not break through.

World War II, 1941. Photograph. Facing History.

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/image/world-war-ii-1941>

This map shows the territories the Allied and Axis powers were stationed during World War II. The overall purpose of this map is to show that World War II was fought globally.

Secondary Sources

Carroll, Al. *Medicine Bags and Dog Tags : American Indian Veterans from Colonial Times to the Second Iraq War*. Edited by William A. Starna. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2008. <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/wra-ebooks/detail.action?docID=332868>.

This book covers "the story of these Native men and women whose military service has defended ancient homelands, perpetuated long standing warrior traditions, and promoted tribal survival and sovereignty."

This book focuses on Native American's re-inclusion into society with their code talking abilities during World War II, and how they began bringing up some of their lost culture back into the army.

"Code Talking: Intelligence and Bravery." Code Talking- Native Words Native Warriors.

<https://americanindian.si.edu/education/codetalkers/html/chapter4.html>.

In this website, the history of Native American Indian's contributions to World War I and II and importance of culture for Native warriors is shown with pictures and quotes. With the gallery, viewers can see the effects of boarding schools and code talkers at work. In addition, the information in the website is mostly derived from interviews with Comanche and Navajo warriors.

Fox, Margalit. "Words Washed from His Mouth Altered the War." *New York Times* (New York, NY), June 6, 2014, 1.

<https://search.proquest.com/docview/1941489998?accountid=49314>.

This article covers the death of Chester Nez and his work in creating the Navajo Code that "outwitted Japan". The writer reveals Chester Nez's personal thoughts on the concept of recruiting Navajo soldiers after years of America trying to erase their language.

Gyi, M. "The Unbreakable Language Code in the Pacific Theatre of World War II." *ETC: A Review of General Semantics* 39, no. 1 (Spring 1982): 8-15.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/42575905>.

This journal article stresses the importance of secret communication during World War II. Including the significance of how quickly a code has to be deciphered, this article covers how the Japanese were puzzled by the code created by Navajo Code Talkers for World War II.

"Jay Begaye - Navajo Code Talkers." Video. Youtube. Posted by Pow ow lyricz, January 6, 2010.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYMjw5NOGVk>.

The singer of this song, Jay Begaye, was born on the Navajo Reservation and is a singer, songwriter, painter, sculptor, and former radio contestant. This song is an ode to the Navajo Code Talkers and honors them for their work.

Marines March in New York Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 11, 2012. Photograph. Flickr.
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/nycmarines/8176630541>.

This image was taken at a Veteran's Day Parade on November 11, 2014 in New York. The man in the picture is not identified, but he wears a cap that reads "Navajo Code Talkers."

Meadows, William C. *Comanche Code Talkers of World War II*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002.
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/wra-ebooks/reader.action?docID=3443152&ppg=76>.

The book is a general source of the background about the Native American code talkers during World War II. This book includes a lot of letters used between the tribes and the military and statistics and the advantages the Navajo language had in being a language that was harder to figure out.

———. "They Had a Chance to Talk to One Another . . .": The Role of Incidence in Native American Code Talking." *Ethnohistory* 56, no. 2 (Spring 2009): 269-84.
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=cookie.ip.custuid&custid=infohio&db=aph&AN=37375172&site=ehost-live&scope=site>.

This journal article focuses on the role of incidence in Native American code talking. It includes the origins of the creation of code talking, a technique used by the Native American spies in World War II for the Allied Powers. This also includes the use of code talking during World War I where other countries saw the advantages of the use of a different language.

Navajo Codes: Name of Planes. Photograph.
<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2008-featured-story-archive/navajo-code-talkers/>.

The image is of a chart that has examples of the code. This specific chart has the names of the planes. On the left is what the decrypted meaning is, in the middle is the Navajo translation, and on the right is what the word means in Navajo.

Navajo Codes: Name of Ships. Photograph.
<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2008-featured-story-archive/navajo-code-talkers/>.

The chart in the image depicts some examples of the Navajo code. In this case, it gives the Navajo word that was used, the Navajo translation, and what it means in English.

"Navajo Code Talkers and the Unbreakable Code." Central Intelligence Agency. Last modified November 6, 2008.
<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2008-featured-story-archive/navajo-code-talkers/>.

The website covers the history of the Unbreakable Navajo Code. Included in the page is the actual code used by the Navajo, Philip Johnston's input, and the honors the code talkers received as a result.

Parker, George P., Jr. "Representing a Navajo Code Talker before the VA." *GPSolo* 23, no. 5 (July/August 2006): 36, 53-53. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/23673056>.

This article is titled, "Representing a Navajo Code Talker Before the VA", and describes George P. Parker Jr's experience helping a World War II hero, Teddy Draper, and the knowledge he obtained from a Navajo Code Talker. This article covers Teddy Draper's clinically diagnosed PTSD from the war and his Purple Heart, which he was awarded with the help of George P. Parker Jr.

Purdum, Todd S. "Code Talkers' Story Pops up Everywhere: Navajo War Effort No Longer Unheralded." *New York Times* (New York, NY), October 11, 1999, A14.
<https://search.proquest.com/docview/110061218?accountid=49314>.

Focusing on the stories of the Navajo code talkers that were forced to keep quiet after the war, the article honors and commemorates those who had to suffer quietly. In this article, there is a lot of mention about the sudden interest in the code talkers globally. With new movies, documentaries, and interviews, the history of the code talkers is preserved and honored.

R., Marco. "Navajo Code Talkers Break 60 Years of Silence." *USA Today*, June 6, 2002, Life, 03d.
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=J0E269646224602&site=ehost-live&scope=site>.

This newspaper article narrates two Navajo Code Talkers conversing on the past and the present. In addition, the author includes a general description of why many Navajos decided to join the Marine Corps. While also dwelling on the past, the author writes of how some of the living Navajo Code Talkers deal with the remaining trauma they have from the war.

Riseman, Noah. *Defending Whose Country?: Indigenous Soldiers in the Pacific War*. Lincoln, NE: UNP, 2012.
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/wra-ebooks/reader.action?docID=1073754&ppg=1>.

This book specifically is about the role played by indigenous soldiers during the Pacific War. My focus for the project is the role Navajo Code Talkers played in World War II in the fight against the Japanese in communication. This book includes background information on the creation of the code and the discrimination many of the code talkers faced while serving.

Riseman, Noah Jed. "Regardless of History?": Reassessing the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II." *Australasian Journal of American Studies* 26, no. 2 (December 2007): 48-73. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41054076>.

This article covers the Native American's opposition, their motivations, and post-war discrimination. The article begins with a description about the 2001 ceremony honoring the Navajo Code Talkers. In addition, the article explores the idea that the military used the Native Americans as "tools" for war.

Sandoval, Samuel. "Oral Histories: Navajo Code Talker Samuel Sandoval Interview." By George Colburn. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?459729-1/navajo-code-talker-samuel-sandoval-oral-history-interview>.

The person interviewed is Samuel Sandoval. In this interview Sandoval expresses his impression of joining the Marines as a Code Talker and how his family's emphasis on being a warrior impacted his decision to train to become a Code Talker. In addition, Sandoval includes his experience as a student in a boarding school where Navajo was forbidden.

Smith, Samuel Jesse. "Oral Histories Navajo Code Talker Samuel Jesse Smith." Interview by George Colburn. C-SPAN. Last modified January 31, 2004. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?459287-1/navajo-code-talker-samuel-jesse-smith-oral-history-interview>.

This video is an interview with Navajo Code Talker Samuel Jesse Smith. In this video, the code talker recounts the battle at Pearl Harbor.

Toledo, Bill. "Bill Toledo." Interview by Kyle Brown. Navajo Oral History Project. Last modified January 1, 2012. <https://openriver.winona.edu/navajooralhistories/22/>.

This website has a video of an interview with Bill Toledo. In the interview, Bill Toledo informs his listeners about his past and the importance of code talking in World War II.

Weisiger, Marsha, and William Cronon. *Dreaming of Sheep in Navajo Country : Dreaming of Sheep in Navajo Country*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2009. <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/wra-ebooks/reader.action?docID=3444391&ppg=253>.

This book covers the infamous livestock re-education program of the 1930s. The author includes the causes of an influx of livestock and what the Navajo Nation Council is doing to "reduce their numbers of cattle and sheep and thereby protect the land from further damage." (4)