

PATHFINDER

*a conversation with Buck Hilton
and other historical documents
about Native American veterans*

*edited and compiled
by WINSTON CRUTCHFIELD*

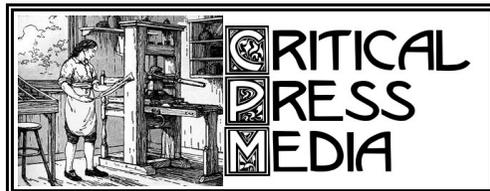




PATHFINDER

a conversation with Buck Hilton
and other historical documents
about Native American veterans

edited and compiled
by Winston Crutchfield



Cover and interior images courtesy of the US National Archives.
“20th Century Warriors” (1996) US Department of Defense.
“That Is the Way It Is” ©1998 Drucella Crutchfield.
“Native Americans in World War II” by Thomas Morgan excerpted from
“Army History: The Professional Bulletin of Army History” No. 35 (Fall
1995), pp. 22-27.
“Pathfinders Concept and Training” excerpted from “American
Airborne Landings in Normandy” (2009) Wikipedia: the Free
Encyclopedia.
“The 82nd Airborne During World War II” ©2009 Dominic Biello.
“Indians in the War” (1945) US Department of the Interior, Office of
Indian Affairs.
“Native American Medal of Honor Recipients” (2009) US Army Center
of Military History.
“Pathfinder: a conversation with Buck Hilton and other historical
documents about Native American veterans” ©2009 Winston
Crutchfield.

Critical Press Media
<http://criticalpressmedia.com>

All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced without
the written permission of the copyright owner.

CONTENTS

20 th Century Warriors	
<i>Native American Participation in the United States Military</i>	7
“That Is The Way It Is”	
<i>a conversation with Buck Hilton by Drucella Crutchfield</i>	17
Native Americans in World War II	
<i>by Thomas Morgan</i>	39
Pathfinders Concept and Training	53
The 82 nd Airborne	
During World War II	57
<i>by Dominic Biello</i>	
Indians in the War	65
Native American Medal of Honor Recipients	173

20th Century Warriors

Native American Participation in the United States Military

A Long Tradition Of Participation

American Indians have participated with distinction in United States military actions for more than 200 years. Their courage, determination, and fighting spirit were recognized by American military leaders as early as the 18th century.

I think they [Indians] can be made of excellent use, as scouts and light troops. --Gen. George Washington, 1778

Many tribes were involved in the War of 1812, and Indians fought for both sides as auxiliary troops in the Civil War. Scouting the enemy was recognized as a particular skill of the Native American soldier. In 1866, the U.S. Army established its Indian Scouts to exploit this aptitude. The Scouts were active in the American West in the late 1800s and early 1900s, accompanying Gen. John J. Pershing's expedition to Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa in 1916. They were deactivated in 1947 when their last member retired from the Army in ceremonies at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. Native Americans from Indian Territory were also recruited by Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and saw action in Cuba in the Spanish-American War in 1898. As the military entered the 20th century, American Indians had already made a substantial contribution through military service and were on the brink of playing an even larger role.

Contributions In Combat

It is estimated that more than 12,000 American Indians served in the United States military in World War I. Approximately 600 Oklahoma Indians, mostly Choctaw and Cherokee, were assigned to the 142nd Infantry of the 36th Texas-Oklahoma National Guard Division. The 142nd saw action in France and its soldiers were widely recognized for their contributions in battle. Four men from this unit were awarded the *Croix de Guerre*, while others received the Church War Cross for gallantry.

The outbreak of World War II brought American Indians warriors back to the battlefield in defense of their homeland. Although now eligible for the draft by virtue of the Snyder Act, which gave citizenship to American Indians in 1924, conscription alone does not account for the disproportionate number of Indians who joined the armed services. More than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, served with distinction between 1941 and 1945 in both European and Pacific theaters of war. Native American men and women on the home front also showed an intense desire to serve their country, and were an integral part of the war effort. More than 40,000 Indian people left their reservations to work in ordnance depots, factories, and other war industries. American Indians also invested more than \$50 million in war bonds, and contributed generously to the Red Cross and the Army and Navy Relief societies.

Battle-experienced American Indian troops from World War II were joined by newly recruited Native Americans to fight Communist aggression during the Korean conflict. The Native American's strong sense of patriotism and courage emerged once again during the Vietnam era. More than 42,000 Native Americans, more than 90 percent of them volunteers, fought in Vietnam. Native American contributions in United States military combat continued in the 1980s and 1990s as they saw duty in Grenada, Panama, Somalia, and the Persian Gulf.

Native Americans As Warriors

As the 20th century comes to a close, there are nearly 190,000 Native American military veterans. It is well recognized that, historically, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. The reasons behind this disproportionate contribution are complex and deeply rooted in traditional American Indian culture. In many respects, Native Americans are no different from others who volunteer for military service. They do, however, have distinctive cultural values which drive them to serve their country. One such value is their proud warrior tradition.

In part, the warrior tradition is a willingness to engage the enemy in battle. This characteristic has been clearly demonstrated by the courageous deeds of Native Americans in combat. However, the warrior tradition is best exemplified by the following qualities said to be inherent to most if not all Native American societies: strength, honor, pride, devotion, and wisdom. These qualities make a perfect fit with military tradition.

Strength

To be an American Indian warrior is to have physical, mental, and spiritual strength. A warrior must be prepared to overpower the enemy and face death head-on.

We honor our veterans for their bravery and because by seeing death on the battlefield, they truly know the greatness of life. --Winnebago Elder

American Indian soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen have fought heroically in all of this century's wars and armed conflicts. They have not only been formally recognized for their bravery through military decoration but through anecdotal observation as well.

The real secret which makes the Indian such an outstanding soldier is his enthusiasm for the fight. --U.S. Army Major, 1912

More important, however, is the warrior's spiritual strength. Many traditional cultures recognize that war disrupts the natural order of life and causes a spiritual disharmony. To survive the chaos of war is to gain a more intimate knowledge of life. Therefore, military service is a unique way to develop an inner strength that is valued in Native American society.

Having a strong sense of inner spirituality is also a part of the Indian character. Many Native Americans are raised on rural or remote reservations, an environment that fosters self-reliance, introspection, and a meditative way of thinking. These character traits can be very beneficial when adapting to the occasional isolation of military life in times of both peace and war.

Honor, Pride, Devotion

Warriors are honored - honored by their family and their tribe. Before going into service and upon their return, warriors are recognized by family and community. Recognition takes place through private family gatherings, or through such public ceremonies as tribal dances or intertribal ceremonies.

My people honored me as a warrior. We had a feast and my parents and grandparents thanked everyone who prayed for my safe return. We had a "special" [dance] and I remembered as we circled the drum, I got a feeling of pride. I felt good inside because that's the way the Kiowa people tell you that you've done well. --Kiowa Vietnam Veteran

Being a warrior in traditional American Indian society gives one a sense of pride and a sense of accomplishment at a time in life when self-esteem is just developing. Becoming a warrior brings status to young men and women in their culture. The ceremonies that honor the warrior create a special place in the tribe's spiritual world.

After I got home, my uncles sat me down and had me tell them what it [the war] was all about. One of them had been in the service in World War II and knew

what war was like. We talked about what went on over there, about killing and the waste, and one of my uncles said that God's laws are against war. They never talked about those kinds of things with me before. --Cherokee Vietnam Veteran

United States military service provides an outlet for Native Americans to fulfill a cultural purpose rooted in tradition -- to fight and defend their homeland. This purpose is particularly important since it comes when young people of the tribe are normally not old enough to assume a leadership role in their traditional culture. The cultural expectation to be a warrior provides a purpose in life and is an important step in gaining status in Native America culture.

When I went to Germany, I never thought about war honors, or the four "coups" which an old-time Crow warrior had to earn in battle....But afterward, when I came back and went through this telling of war deeds ceremony... lo and behold I [had] completed the four requirements to become a chief. --Crow World War II Veteran

Native American warriors are devoted to the survival of their people and their homeland. If necessary, warriors will lay down their lives for the preservation of their culture, for death to the American Indian warrior is but another step in the advancement of life. It is understood that the warrior's spirit lives on eternally. So, warriors do not fear death, but rather regard it as the ultimate sacrifice for their own and their people's continued survival.

Wisdom

The warrior seeks wisdom. Wisdom, as used in this context, means the sum total of formal learning and worldly experiences. In wartime, those Native Americans seeing heavy combat had to learn how to survive, often using skills that many unit commanders thought were inherent to the American Indian's cultural background. A Sac and Fox/Creek Korean veteran

remarked:

My platoon commander always sent me out on patrols. He . . . probably thought that I could track down the enemy. I don't know for sure, but I guess he figured that Indians were warriors and hunters by nature.

Many American Indians (as well as non-Indian volunteers) joined the military in World War I to satisfy their sense of adventure. Most had never left the confines of their hometown, much less marched on the battlefields of Europe. These experiences provided a wisdom through exposure to other people and cultures. This was sometimes threatening to the elders of a tribe, who feared that this newfound worldliness would cause unwanted change to their culture. Over time, however, this wisdom of worldly events and peoples was accepted by tribal leaders. Today, Native Americans are increasingly exposed to the non-Indian world through movies and television. Although the military is still an avenue for seeing the world, it has, in the latter half of the 20th century, also provided other types of wisdom. Military service offers excellent educational and job skill opportunities for Native American men and women who frequently come from educationally disadvantaged communities.

Wisdom can also be gained from interaction with others. Military policy in the 20th century has preferred assimilating the American Indian into regular units. Although some divisions had more Native American troops than others, there were never all-Indian units. This meant that Indians and non-Indians were placed in close-knit groups, perhaps each experiencing each other's culture up close for the first time.

There was a camaraderie [in the Air Force] that transcends ethnicity when you serve your country overseas in wartime. --Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Cheyenne Korean veteran

Similarly, intertribal relationships were developed, sometimes with a person who was a traditional "enemy." Many times these

intercultural and intertribal contacts broke through stereotypes and resulted in lifelong friendships, friendships that otherwise might never have been cultivated.

Thanks to my military service [in the Navy], I now have friends in 500 tribes. --Lakota Korean veteran

The Warrior Tradition Carries On

The requirements for successful military service -- strength, bravery, pride, and wisdom - match those of the Indian warrior. Military service affords an outlet for combat that fulfills a culturally determined role for the warrior. Therefore, the military is an opportunity for cultural self-fulfillment. By sending young tribal members off to be warriors, they return with experiences that make them valued members of their society. Finally, the military provides educational opportunities, which allow Native American veterans to return to their community with productive job skills to improve their quality of life.

With the 21st century on the horizon, the United States military can be expected to provide continuing opportunity for Native American men and women. For their part, Native Americans can be expected to carry on their centuries-old warrior tradition-serving with pride, courage, and distinction.

*Prepared for the United States Department of Defense
by CEHIP Incorporated, Washington, DC, in
partnership with Native American advisors, Rodger
Bucholz, William Fields, Ursula P. Roach.
Washington: Department of Defense, 1996.*

“That Is the Way It Is”
a conversation with Buck Hilton
by Drucella Crutchfield

“It was always a battle between us and the other peoples.”

A young Indian stands quietly looking over the creek. On the other side is fresh game, a hearty meal for a hard-working family. To the west there is farmland and a farmer waiting for such a hard-working family to do his bidding. It is honest work from daylight to dark with little pay. To the east is the school and an education to be gained but only through battle. Behind him, his native land offers a different opportunity—needing him and other young men like him.

The young Indian is John Franklin Hilton known to family and friends as Buck. The year is 1941, and the United States is on the brink of war. Seventeen-year-old Hilton is at a crossroads. He has a decision to make.

In keeping with the Native American tradition, in 1998, Buck Hilton consented to relate the oral history of his role in the Second World War, the events that led to his decision to enlist, and the life lessons gleaned from his experiences. Following is the original transcript of this oral history with very little editing. Those items in parenthesis are entered by the editor for the sake of clarity.

While Sgt. Hilton has given others brief insights into his history, this is the first complete interview he has granted,

and this one only as a favor to his long-time friend, Bill Crutchfield.

Hilton explains his reason for withholding interviews and adds a stipulation for granting this one-time discussion:
“There are a lot of things I did [in the war] that I am very ashamed of and I wish I had never done. I have 2 medals from France and 2 medals from Belgium. I am 74 years old, The Big Man only knows how long I am going to be here.

“What you do with this [conversation] is your business, as long as you don’t give it to somebody to sell to make money off – I don’t want that to happen – otherwise you do what you want to do with it. Any money to be made of it I want it to go to some Veteran’s organization.”

Buck Speaks, Day One

I was born Sept. 2, 1923 in a little place called Goldsboro, Texas, that is northwest Texas. There used to be a railroad there, but they moved that and there is no city there anymore.

Goldsboro does not exist anymore.

I was born in '23 there and my father was raising horses there. He was a full-blooded Comanche Indian; my mother and he had met somewhere along the way. After I was just a few months old, my people wanted to travel up and down the road and he wanted to stay at his ranch. So my mother went with my people and they separated.

My mother was Choctaw Indian. Way back there, my grandfather and his brother met these Choctaw women who were sisters, and they married each other. It caused great disturbances among the tribal people; they had to sort of hit the road and travel, and that is what they did during the real early years.

They traveled an area from Texas to Louisiana to Oklahoma to New Mexico and then back through Texas. They made this circle for many, many years, just moving and living up and down the

roads, the canal ditches and creeks and working for whoever they could work for until the Sheriff would come out and run them out of town. Then they would move on.

My grandfather and his brother were Indians also, so consequently my mother and my real daddy, his name was Trots-tall, separated. Somewhere along the line, my mother met this man by the name of Hilton. He was a fine, upstanding man, and he went to Waco, Texas and had my name changed by a judge there – I have records to prove all this – from Trots-tall to Hilton.

A big reason for this was that Indian kids going to school were a big problem. The other kids always wanted to fight them and do things to them and that was, I suppose, her [my mother's] reason for getting my name changed. She was only educated in her own way; she could read and write but that was about it.

Her name was Annie Leonard; she had to be about 14 years old when she had me. I was her only child. My first name was John Franklin; I was named after my grandparents and I have always been called Buck. I was in the second or third grade when she had my name changed.

We didn't really settle in Waco, just worked there a while; this was in the latter end of the 20's. Mr. Hilton was part Indian, and he traveled "the circle." My grandparents – some of them were Cherokee and Choctaw – but my grandparents could not stay in either of the tribes because they had married into a different tribe. That is what made them get on the road. They didn't banish them, but they would have done things to them.

We traveled these different states and even today some of the Indian people are still traveling and making "the circle". Back then they had particular places to camp, places where there was fresh water and where they could work for particular farmers until they would steal so much from the farmers that the Sheriff would come out and run them out. We had to fight all the kids all the time.

That is the kind of life we lived. They still travel like this; it is kind of a heritage, a process of feeling free, of doing what you want to do. I wish I could do it today; I would give anything if I

could do it. It hits me something fierce. I want to do it all the time.

My education was scattered; [I went to] public schools all over the state of Texas. Some of the schools would not let us in because they just did not want Indians around. By the time I hit the service, I had about an eighth grade education – which was more than normal for any of us. After I came back, I went to [Texas] A&M for awhile. I sent my daughter, my son, and my grandsons through [Texas] A&M.

I traveled until 1941; then war was declared. I was just barely 17. I volunteered for the army and was sent to Camp Bullis, somewhere near Dallas. It doesn't exist anymore.¹ I got into the service and that is where they introduced me to the army. The reason I volunteered for it was because we got free food, free medical attention, free clothing and a place to stay – and got paid for it which was far above anything we had ever done.

When I left [Camp Bullis], somebody had told us we got extra pay for getting into the paratroopers, which we did. We got \$50 a month more for jump pay. That was big money back then

I left Bryan and went to Blackland Air Force Base in Waco, Texas where they had a bunch of gliders, a glider detachment of paratroopers. At Blackland, it was a training camp for glider troopers and some paratroopers. I left there and went to Fort Polk, Louisiana where the 82nd Airborne Division was located at that time. While I was in Louisiana they decided to form the 101st. They took troops out of the 82nd and put them in the 101st to train [the new] division. I stayed in the 82nd; back then all paratroopers were volunteer.

One morning we got on a plane and landed in Fort Benning, Georgia where we all went through jump school. This was the early part of '42. After jump school, we went from there to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for further training. Back then training was pretty tough; they stressed physical conditioning and all that.

1 Hilton's recollection parallels a description of Camp Bullis, established in 1917 in Bexar County, Texas, for the purpose of training troops for war. Camp Bullis does still exist.

But we had always been used to hard work; I'd done a lot of running and walking, so it didn't bother me none.

They had several Indians in it at that time who had volunteered for the same reason that I had, simply because everything was free and we got that money. At that time the war was on and they were seeking everyone they could to be in the service. We were treated just like everyone else was in the service, but there were no blacks in the paratroopers at that time – none. They weren't allowed to be in that group.

After advanced training at Fort Bragg, we went to Camp Shanks, New York and got on a boat named *George Washington* – a troop transport. We landed in North Africa. I didn't know where we were going.

While in North Africa we made parachute jumps training against detachments against Gen. Rommel's Africa Corps. I was barely 18 by then. We had formed the 512th; this was The Pathfinders. We went over first with radios, lights, and signals where the main troops would jump. We would go in first and mark these areas off for our troops to land. At that time I was a buck sergeant of the 512th.

After North Africa, we parachuted into Sicily. After Sicily, we went back to North Africa. That was our main air base. At that time I was in "E Company" of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment. The Pathfinders was a division of this regiment. At that time we only had 36 men; it seems like they were all specially trained.

Then one morning we got on planes in North Africa and landed in Italy, parachuted into Italy. My particular regiment, the 504th, our own Navy tried to shoot us out of the sky going into Italy. The story goes that when our planes came over towing gliders and all, some trigger-happy guy in the Navy fired, and when he fired all of them fired. They actually shot some planes and gliders out of the sky.² I was already on the ground with the Pathfinders

2 High winds and inexperienced air crews caused gliders to drift into unexpectedly heavy anti-aircraft fire. Zuehlke, Mark. *Operation Husky*. Douglas & McIntyre. 2008. pg 127.

group when this happened because I went in first. We actually lost some of our regiment to our own Navy.

We got on boats and went up the coast and landed at Anzio, Italy. While I was at Anzio, our 1st Sergeant got killed and I was appointed 1st Sergeant of the “E Company” of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment. I was only 18 then.

For my next parachute jump we got on boats, went back to North Africa, and got on planes where we came back to Italy and parachuted at Salerno, Italy. All the planes went back to North Africa; the jump planes were C-47 transport planes, and that is where we always returned to.

Then one morning we got on a boat – I forget the name of it, it had a name of some British King or Queen – and we landed in England. It was an English boat. When we were there, we went to Nottingham, England and that is where we were stationed. We went through additional training there.

In the process I had gotten busted back down to buck private because me and another officer didn't get along so good. But I kept the same job, all they did was take the rank away but I still retained the same job. I tried to get busted before because 1st Sergeants, it seemed like they always was getting killed. But my job didn't change, so it didn't take me out of nothing.

Of course in that 1st Sergeant's job, you filled out the morning reports, sick call reports and duty rosters and all that. You fill out all these things, plus you do everything that the officers want done, carry the word down to the other side. Plus you keep your men straightened out. All this time I still had the Pathfinders group.

In Italy I got hit with some shrapnel before I went to England. It was in the Rapido River in a little boat; we had already landed. I was not taken out of duty. Back in those days you poured a little sulphur drug on it, wrapped it up and you kept going; we never had time to go to no hospital or nothing like that. Some shrapnel got into my left shoulder and a little piece got into the corner of my eye and my nose. I never let little things like that bother me.

We trained in England with the English Commandos and the First Allied Airborne Division which were British, French and different nationalities of paratroopers; there were all kind of crazy people in there, like the Gurkhas (Nepalese soldiers). These were a particular group of people who fought with all knives and nothing else; they were from Gurkha. They were attached to us along with a group of 480th French Foreign Legion troops.

[The Foreign Legion] were great fighters. They weren't French, but people from all over the world who joined that French Foreign Legion, mostly foreigners. Anyone could join the French Foreign Legion; they lived to fight. The crimes that they had committed – murder or anything else – would not be brought against them. That is what they did to escape; troops from all over the world did this. They even had Americans in there, Italians, Germans, Poles, Czechs, whatever. They were all running from something: some crime they had committed, an ill marriage, or a political thing. They were one of the greatest fighting units; they didn't have anything to lose.

Then along came the main invasion, Normandy. On the 5th – not the 6th, but the 5th – my group parachuted around Sainte Mere Eglise, France. At this time, I had been transferred from the 504th to the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment which was all still part of the 82nd Airborne. I still retained the same Pathfinders group, and had been promoted back to 1st Sergeant.

Before I left Italy, I was awarded the Bronze Star on the Rapido River Crossing, plus the Purple Heart. I picked up a Silver Star Medal and another Purple Heart at Ste. Mere Eglise, France. It was just from actions that took place; let's put it like that.

We fought our way from Ste. Mere Eglise, France to St. Lô France where we were loaded on planes and transported to Nottingham. The people were outstanding to us; [they were] fine people who would do anything for us. We lived in some of their houses; they fed us. They were just outstanding people. Most of the people had already lost parts of their families in war and I am sure they were looking to us to help save them.

Then one morning in Nottingham, we saddled up again after D-

Day. In my group, we left Nottingham by C-47 pulling gliders with paratroopers and equipment. We landed at the Remagen Bridge in Belgium. My particular group being the first group in we landed on the other side of the bridge, on the German side.

We came across the bridge to the East Side; just walked across it. Nobody attacked us; there was nothing there at the time. They had just dropped us. They were supposed to have dropped us on the other side of the river. We were ordered to capture the bridge, but at the time there were only a couple of German sentries and they got taken care of without any problem. Then we went back to the East side and waited for the main drop.

Well, the main drop happened and by that time the Germans had moved into that bridge area in force. We were doing pretty good just staying there. The Germans held the bridge real tight. Someone decided that our company should go back across the river in these boats made of canvas that you just pulled up. It had sort of a wood-planked floor and the sides were canvas; they had one oar for each boat which would hold about eight or ten men. So we paddled across that river using other boards that we found, rifle butts and our hands. A lot of us didn't make it. We had fire from the Germans all the time we were trying to get across it, but some of us did make it.

Then we fought our way back to the bridge again on the German side.

One of my men discovered a mass of wires going under the bridge on the German side and he put a gamma grenade and burned those wires up. A gamma grenade is an explosive fire grenade. Then some guys of the armored division, I think some tanks of the 9th Armored Division, came across the bridge. That is where I got an Oak Leaf Cluster for my Bronze Star.

We were all called back to base then, and got on planes and went to a Camp in France. It was a big rest camp, Reims, France. This was the first time we had a break to rest and get re-established, and we did further training. We were there about two or three weeks.

One morning it was cold, around the first part of December, and

we got on big trucks. My particular group went to St. Veith, France; that is when the Germans created “The Bulge” at Bastogne (in Belgium, right next to Luxembourg). St. Veith is 17 kilometers northeast of Bastogne (a big crossroads at St. Veith) and we held these crossroads. That is where the German troops would be coming in. We got orders to go to Bastogne. It was cold; snow was on the ground, the ground was froze. We were in Bastogne when Patton’s troops came in and relieved the people at Bastogne.

After the Bastogne campaign we went back to the rest camp in Reims, France and later we were loaded in the planes and parachuted across a big river, either the Rhine or the Ruhr – I can’t remember which. Then we fought our way from there by different routes to the Elbe in Germany. A long way on foot the whole time.

We went to Hitler’s fortress “The Eagle’s Nest”. There I received a medal, The Legion of Merit, legionnaire grade as I was not an officer. The Eagle’s Nest was held by an SS detachment, black-uniformed German paratroopers. It seemed like they were always the group who we had to fight against. They were Hitler’s personal body guards stationed at his castle. It had tunnels under it that were so wide you could drive up and down them in a jeep. Cemented off were little rooms built in the sides of them and these German soldiers were stationed around in these little rooms.

I took a jeep with a “57 gun” on it and drove up and down these little cement pathways and fired into these little rooms until we gained control of the whole thing. The German soldier would fire until all his ammunition was gone and then he would surrender. That was an M-57, a projector firing thing that looked like a stove pipe. You put a round in it and it shoots out the back about as hard as it does the front. They were mounted on some jeeps.

None of this action you did was voluntary, you did it because you happened to be the one at the time at that particular situation who was able to do it. If you knew how, that is what you did. I did it because I was trying to stay alive.

From The Eagle’s Nest, we continued on to the River Elbe and

somewhere between there we met the Russians on the River Elbe - and I suppose that ended all war with Germany – we crossed the river. I made one more parachute jump in Berlin after the war was over, just a show of force. At the time I was there, they had no fraternization with the Germans.

We were Eisenhower's personal guards for awhile after the war was ended. I thought he was an outstanding man. Then one morning we got on airplanes and they never had enough airplanes for all of us to fly back at once. My particular group got on B-17 flying bomber airplanes and we came back from Germany to France to England to Iceland to Greenland and Labrador and landed in Connecticut. We were picking up troops all the way home.

While we were in Connecticut, we went through a sort of debriefing for awhile. It lasted about two or three days and then I came back to Texas. I was home for about a 30 day leave when I got orders to report to a Camp in Florida.

We went through jungle training where they would take us out into the swamps with no food, with nothing at all, and we had to survive out there for a certain length of time. [We lived] off the land, eating whatever thing you could find to eat, every animal, birds. We eat everything but a crow or an owl.

While we were out there, they dropped a bomb, the big bomb on Hiroshima. We were supposed to parachute on to the coast of Japan opposite a Japanese division of extra mean fighters. But when they dropped the bomb, that stopped it all

I came home and was discharged at Ellington Air Force Base in Houston. My folks all lived in Bryan at that time. I started A&M college; at that time the army was paying. I took entomology and agronomy and graduated from the Police school. Then I got in on the Bryan Police Department. That was around '46 or '47. After working for the Police Department, I went to the Sheriff's Department where I worked for Mr. Hamilton, the sheriff. After I quit that, I was bailiff in 82nd District court under Judge McDonald. Meanwhile I worked with Department of Public Safety. I assisted them for about 16 years, and I still ride with

them two and three times a week.

I have married a lady from Lampassas, Texas. I met my wife when I was stationed in Blackland Air Force Base in Waco. They lived across the road from the camp. I was in a glider that crashed on her land one day and they all ran out to it. We got married when I came back from overseas at the end of 1945. We conversed with each other all the time I was in the service, mail-wise. Her name was Audrey Carroll at that time.

We have a son named Danny Hilton who graduated from A&M in '72. He went to work at Bell Telephone Company where he works today. He is in charge of this big building in Fort Worth. He is top man there.

I have a daughter named Judy – now Judy Herrod – she graduated from McKenzie-Baldwin. She lives here in Bryan now and is a retired housewife with two children. I have two grandchildren, P.J. and Rusty.

Rusty graduated from A&M and now he is attending Baptist Seminary College near Fort Worth for his Master's Degree. It took him two years to graduate from A&M in high honors, on the Dean's List. P.J. is in this school program where he can work and get ready for school and that is what he is doing today. He is still in high school.

I feel like the Big Man has smiled upon me and that is about it. I feel like my whole transaction of everything I have done, family wise and all, is the plan of The Big Man. I had nothing to do with it; I just went along with everything that He decides for me to do.

And I still believe that.

I don't take any kind of medicines of no kind, except what they give me down in Temple at the V.A. Hospital. I injured my knees real bad parachuting and they want to cut 'em off and give me new knees and I told them, "As long as I could crawl, I wouldn't do it." And I don't take no medicines at all; I have a strong belief, a feeling that I can heal myself and it is real successful. I don't feel pain like other people. I put it out of my mind; I don't feel it. I think there is something wrong with me that I don't feel it. That

helped me to keep going; you would be surprised at how it will help you. I have never told my family and [only told] very few other people.

There are a lot of things I did [in the war] that I am very ashamed of and I wish I had never done. I have two medals from France and two medals from Belgium. I am 74 years old, The Big Man only knows how long I am going to be here.

What you do with this [conversation] is your business, as long as you don't give it to somebody to sell to make money off – I don't want that to happen – otherwise you do what you want to do with it. Any money to be made of it I want it to go to some Veteran's organization.

I have never been late on any payments, most of the time I pay in advance. I have been out of work lots of times, but I still make my payments.

Buck Speaks, Day Two

They always called me Buck; I think that was a white man's imitation of an Indian name. My parents named me John Franklin after some of my grandparents.

We never had much fun when I was growing up. One of the best things I can remember was that we camped along creeks and rivers and streams, preferably where there was fresh springs. We worked for the local farmers around, the well established farmers, seems like most of them were German descent. We worked for them from dark to dark, then we always had trouble collecting money from them. They would always say that we owed them more than what we made.

Consequently, we would end up raiding their chicken houses, meat houses, and steal whatever we could just to live and eat. Of course that would work for a while and finally they would catch us and call the local sheriff out and he would run us out of the county. So we would go further down the road and go work for another, and that story would just make the whole circle like that.

Some of my bunch of people all during the circle of years, a lot of

them were picked up and sent to the penitentiary for different crimes. A lot of them was put in jail just for trying to survive and make a living and trying to get along with the local people we lived around, which consisted mostly of farmers. They had their own sheriffs and their own police departments.

It seemed like even the children when we were in school, first thing off the bat we were having to fight. We had to fight just to be there, and it got pretty hard for one of them to whip one of us because we fought hard. We came out on top as far as fights were concerned. But it was always a battle just between us and the other peoples. All of this went on for all these years.

Even today, they are still making these trips (the circle) but probably under better conditions and today instead of having just an old junk piece of cars, they have real late model cars and some of the finest house trailers ever built. Some of their children are attending colleges.

I have an uncle that lived in Oklahoma and owns a whole bunch of land up there that had a whole bunch of oil wells on it. He sent his children to Europe to school and he built a big two-and-a-half story house right next to his house. His house was a one room log cabin type with a fireplace on each end and a dirt floor. He still lived on that dirt floor and wore his clothes until they would rot on him, never would bathe or anything, stayed drunk all the time. And he built right next to it this big fine two story mansion for his wife and family.

He had all these oil wells around and he fenced off over 500 acres that he wouldn't let nobody in, wouldn't even let the cows in. He would go back there and stay two or three weeks at a time. We suspected that he had whiskey stills back there but we never could prove it.

He would go to town and people in town would sell him a new car, and he couldn't drive. They would drive it over there and park it. Vines and weeds would cover it up and he would just put his big X on the paper. Finally his family got together and had all these lawyers declare that he couldn't buy things like that. But still the people sold to him.

Of course he passed away. One of his children now is a senator for Oklahoma and another one is a judge. I've lost track of them since then.

He had all this land and they had discovered oil way back there. An oil company would come and tend to the wells, but he had herds of fine cows in there that grazed on the land. He would never let them drill on that 500 acres, never did. He had a big cyclone fence put around it, 10 feet tall. He wouldn't even let any of his kinfolks in.

I can look at all these memories, and say yes they were happy, who knows. Happiness is only a state of mind you know. You can make everything you have contact with a happy thing or an unhappy thing, it just depends on you. I've always been a positive thinker and take things from where you are.

Of course I've been fooled a lot.

That's about the only good memories that I can think of.

Because I was in the paratroopers, I always lean toward exciting things. I guess it was that reason why I was on the police department, the sheriffs' department and all. I guess some hidden thing told me that was some type of adventure. No doubt I gained that adventurous spirit from when I was a young child and traveling the circle.

Life was quite easy for us when we got in the army, everything was free. But it was definitely that us Indian-type people were fighting for our United States of America. Yessir not for no other reason; this was our land, our place, it belonged to us. Nobody was going to take it from us or tell us how to do what we did here. And it is still thataway for the people who live here.

I knew the Rudder family way back before the war ever started. We used to do some kind of tree surgery work, and we would go to Brady and do work around there for the Rudders and other people there. Consequently I got acquainted with him.

He lived in the city of Brady in a two story house. I could picture his house and everything right now. Then sure enough the war came along and I got into the paratroopers and Earl Rudder

became [officer] over the Rangers. Rudder's Rangers – just a group of men that came out of the jails and penitentiaries all over the state, and some probably from other states, that he enlisted into the army and if they lived through it they were free men when the war ended. They were usually the ones that led the way, usually the ones first in combat.

My Pathfinders group helped train the 2nd Ranger Battalion. They were one of the bunches that scaled this cliff in France on D-Day, but they had already fought in Sicily and Italy before that ever happened. They were just like a bunch of men – some were just fine outstanding men who were easy to work with and some of them a little harder. But we got along with them all because there was just certain things we did and certain things we didn't do.

At the Rapido River crossing, Rudder's Rangers were involved in that too, and Rudder pinned that Bronze Star on me. He happened to be the outstanding officer at that time. We had a formation and I wasn't the only one – we had several men who had earned medals also – and I just happened to be there at that time. And I don't see as I actually earned any of these decorations. I think they gave them to me because I happened to be there at the time that it happened. Because the people that really earned those decorations are still over there; they didn't get to come back.

There are things I've done [in the war] that I am not real proud of today that I sure would like to forget about. Yes, they were things I possibly had no choice but to do considering the situation. But in all the time I was in the service, me being the 1st Sergeant I would hear all the complaints that anybody would have, I don't ever remember of one of our men that was paratroopers ever being questioned as to whether he raped any of those people over there, stole from them or done anything that would be against the acts of war. If they would have done it, I would have been the first to know.

Now I went to jails, and got 'em out of jails for fights and getting drunk and these types of things. But not one time have I ever had

to go and even talk to one of them for these sexual acts that other soldiers did, because for that reason is why we were over there fighting, just for that thing. And I think [our men's] pride exceeded all that. The whole division was thataway. If I would have gotten a complaint I would have had to act on it by going to the next officer in advance and advising him of it.

I can say this about some of these people who come back from other wars all depressed and not able to handle it. I can say this – no doubt we went through things as bad as they ever dared to go through, not once but numerous times. We never had problems in those days of dope and narcotics. Now occasionally we would have a problem of drinking because we drank anything we could get our hands on or could make and became intoxicated. That was one of the things we expected but we handled it. We did not take no kind of dope or narcotics or smoke any kind of crazy stuff, because that would have only caused us to get killed. We wouldn't have been able to act and react like a normal soldier would. And I feel like the people in Vietnam and North Korea and over there that so much dope was available to them and probably that is how a lot of them got started on it. They were just being victims of being over there and the stuff was available to them. That is what fried their brain.

Now, about those who have just returned and have had a real hard time handling some of these acts of war: well, to begin with, those people want somebody to feel sorry for them. They should grow up and be a grown person and realize that these things happen in war and know it and see it as it is. [They should] not be saying “Oh, I saw this and I feel so bad because I saw this ... this happened with me.” That is a normal expected thing [in war] for these things to happen and they should not take it as “Oh, poor me.”

There were so many people that came back from there that was not affected by it, only these very few. If you will check into it, you are gonna find out that most of them are on dope, want somebody to feel sorry for them, or they are looking for some kind of government handout.

They could get their act together by looking at it and saying, "This is the realities of war." ... Now that happens to be the pure truth ... I just see things as they are.

I think the service is a great thing for young people to join and to get into, but they need to get into it for good honest reasons, stay off of dope and make good soldiers and good people. The educational system now is such that they could get money now and get real nice big educations with the army's help. It really fixes them for life if they get in there and stay clean and do a good job.

Of course there again, this country is the greatest country in the world, and to fight for this country is the greatest opportunity this country will ever have. I served with the Department of Public Safety. Most of them are young men who have good thoughts, good families and try to better themselves. And all of them actually want to help the people out here.

Well, I really like to come [to Bill Crutchfield's garage] because there is always people coming in with different problems and it seems like they discuss it with Bill. I sit there and also listen to that, not alternator problems, just general living problems. Sometimes things are enjoyable and you get a big laugh out of it, and sometimes it is pretty serious. Also, I am sort of mechanically minded and they bring out quite a few mechanical problems that if you listen close you can learn a lot. I solve some of their mechanical problems for them. And I like to hear them discuss it with Bill; technically he is real intelligent and he has a good mind.

You go to some other places where they have a bunch of men sitting around and they are talking about some woman experience they've had, or some bad experience they've had, or discussing how the weather is, how much money they've just made, or how much they've just lost, and you really gain no knowledge there. It is useless talk. You don't gain anything. You listen here and you get a lot of knowledge.

I've learned a long time ago that the sorriest person can come in here and he can teach me something; regardless of what it is, he

can teach me something. If I just listen I will learn 'til the day I die and so will all of us. None of us will ever really quit learning as long as we keep our brains active and not let it go dormant.

[I buy vehicles, put them together, make them run and re-sell them.] No, I don't sit around and say poor me. Although, I do get a government paycheck. I get a pretty good sized one; I didn't ask for it and I didn't put in for it. I guess they just looked my records up when I got discharged, they started sending it to me.

Of course I take it

Now every year I go to the VA Hospital in Temple. They give me a physical and they mail me medicines and I usually throw the medicine in the trash and that is the way it is. I do take an Anacin tablet every now and then.

I got married at the end of 1945. My wife's mother was a Cherokee woman, a little short, heavy set woman, dark complexioned, black hair, a fine outstanding lady. Her husband, Mr. Carroll, was about 6'2", curly red-headed, blue eyes, stayed drunk all the time and that was the story of his life

I've got a lot of money invested in [my wife]; I can't sell her, nobody don't want to buy her. *(Here, Buck speaks with a twinkle in his eye and his hand over his mouth as he chuckles at his own wit.)* So there I am – stuck with her. I've asked her several times to pay that money back and I might as well forget about that. I took her to Mexico one time and tried to sell her to those Mexicans; they got plum mad at me and tried to run me off cause she was too old and they wanted those 12 and 13 year old ones. So I couldn't get rid of her thataway. It looks like I am stuck with her. *(Buck gives a big smile as he says this.)*

Sometimes she gets mad. Yep, sometimes she gets real mad about [me joking on her like this]. She would like to get rid of me but she hasn't been able to find anybody who would take me. She has been a housewife all her life, took care of me and the kids. I had to have it, apparently. The fact is that I married this woman who would put up with me and help take care of my kids. And that's the way it was.

I guess the greatest contributing thing I have in having a long and happy marriage and life is believing in a Superior Being. Without the help of The Big Man, none of this or even me would be here today.

That is the greatest thing I think. I am not a real religious person, but I do realize that.

Out of all these people I've met I can't distinguish one as being lower than the other. Even to the lowliest tramp that I meet on the street I hold him as about as high as I do the highest one. I don't see no difference in them; they are a human being. Some of them may talk with a higher education, may have a big fine Cadillac and other people don't have nothing, but they are human beings and they are people. I can't classify one higher than the other or one even greater than the other.

When I was young my hair was black like a horse's mane, stiff and black. [My eyes are black, too,] but they are closer together. Some people's eyes are wide apart and some peoples' eyes are more narrow. Of course, all of us through life might do something that might distinguish us from being different from somebody else, but the real truth is, we are not.

We are all the same, and that is the way it is.

*Prologue, interview and transcription by
Drucella Crutchfield © 1998*

Native Americans in World War II

by Thomas D. Morgan

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "This generation has a rendezvous with destiny." When Roosevelt said that he had no idea of how much World War II would make his prophecy ring true. More than fifty years later, Americans are remembering the sacrifices of that generation, which took up arms in defense of the nation. Part of that generation was a neglected minority, Native American Indians, who flocked to the colors in defense of their country. No group that participated in World War II made a greater per capita contribution, and no group was changed more by the war. As part of the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of World War II, it is fitting for the nation to recall the contributions of its own "first citizens."

The Vanishing American

At the time of Christopher Columbus ' arrival in the New World, the Native American population living in what is now the United States was estimated at about one million. By 1880, only 250,000 Indians remained and this gave rise to the "Vanishing American" theory. By 1940, this population had risen to about 350,000. During World War II more than 44,000 Native Americans saw military service. They served on all fronts in the conflict and were honored by receiving numerous Purple Hearts, Air Medals, Distinguished Flying Crosses, Bronze Stars, Silver Stars,

Distinguished Service Crosses, and three Congressional Medals of Honor. Indian participation in World War II was so extensive that it later became part of American folklore and popular culture.

The Warrior Image

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor seemed to waken an ancestral warrior spirit in many Native Americans. Thousands of young Indians went into the armed forces or to work in the war production plants that abruptly emerged during military and industrial mobilization. A 1942 survey indicated that 40 percent more Native Americans voluntarily enlisted than had been drafted. Lt. Ernest Childers (Creek), Lt. Jack Montgomery (Cherokee), and Lt. Van Barfoot (Choctaw) all of the famed 45th "Thunderbird" Infantry Division-won Medals of Honor in Europe. Childers had first distinguished himself in Sicily, where he received a battlefield commission. Later in Italy, unaided and despite severe wounds, he destroyed three German machine gun emplacements. During the Anzio Campaign in Italy, Montgomery attacked a German strongpoint single-handed, killing eleven of the enemy and taking thirty-three prisoners. During the breakout from Anzio to Rome, Barfoot knocked out two machine gun nests and captured seventeen prisoners. Subsequently, he defeated three German tanks and carried two wounded men to safety. All of these exploits reinforced the "warrior" image in the American mind. Maj. Gen. Clarence Tinker, an Osage and a career pilot, was the highest ranking Indian in the armed forces at the beginning of the war. He died leading a flight of bombers in the Pacific during the Battle of Midway. Joseph J. "Jocko" Clark, the first Indian (Cherokee) to graduate from Annapolis, participated in carrier battles in the Pacific and became an admiral. Brumett Echohawk (Pawnee), a renowned expert in hand-to-hand combat, trained commandos.

A Tradition as Fighters

The Iroquois Confederacy, having declared war on Germany in 1917, had never made peace and so automatically became party to

World War II. The Navajo and other tribes were so eager to go to war that they stood for hours in bad weather to sign their draft cards, while others carried their own rifles so they would be ready for battle when they joined up. Unwilling to wait for their draft numbers, one-fourth of the Mescalero Apaches in New Mexico enlisted. Nearly all the able-bodied Chippewas at the Grand Portage Reservation enlisted. In a story that has been attributed to many other tribes as well, Blackfeet Indians mocked the need for a conscription bill. "Since when," their members cried, "has it been necessary for Blackfeet to draw lots to fight?"

The annual enlistment for Native Americans jumped from 7,500 in the summer of 1942 to 22,000 at the beginning of 1945. According to the Selective Service in 1942, at least 99 percent of all eligible Indians, healthy males aged 21 to 44, had registered for the draft. War Department officials maintained that if the entire population had enlisted in the same proportion as Indians, the response would have rendered Selective Service unnecessary. The overwhelming majority of Indians welcomed the opportunity to serve. On Pearl Harbor Day, there were 5,000 Indians in the military. By the end of the war, 24,521 reservation Indians, exclusive of officers, and another 20,000 off-reservation Indians had served. The combined figure of 44,500 was more than ten percent of the Native American population during the war years. This represented one-third of all able-bodied Indian men from 18 to 50 years of age. In some tribes, the percentage of men in the military reached as high as 70 percent. Also, several hundred Indian women served in the WACS, WAVES, and Army Nurse Corps.

The "Chiefs" Go to War

In spite of years of inefficient and often corrupt bureaucratic management of Indian affairs, Native Americans stood ready to fight the "white man's war." American Indians overcame past disappointment, resentment, and suspicion to respond to their nation's need in World War II. It was a grand show of loyalty on the part of Native Americans and many Indian recruits were affectionately called "chiefs." Native Americans responded to

America's call for soldiers because they understood the need to defend one's own land, and they understood fundamental concepts of fighting for life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness.

Even the clannish Pueblo tribe, whose members exhibited a historical suspicion of the white world, contributed 213 men, 10 percent of their population of 2,205, to the armed forces. Wisconsin Chippewas at the Lac Oreilles Reservation contributed 100 men from a population of 1,700. Nearly all the able-bodied Chippewas at the Grand Portage Reservation enlisted. Blackfoot Indians enlisted in droves. Navajo Indians responded by sending 3,600 into military service; 300 lost their lives. Many volunteered from the Fort Peck Sioux-Assinibois Reservation in Montana, the descendants of the Indians that defeated Custer. The Iroquois took it as an insult to be called up under compulsion. They passed their own draft act and sent their young braves into National Guard units.

There were many disappointments as well-intentioned Indians were rejected for the draft. Years of poverty, illiteracy, ill- health, and general bureaucratic neglect had taken its toll. A Chippewa Indian was furious when rejected because he had no teeth. "I don't want to bite 'em," he said, "I just want to shoot 'em!" Another Indian, rejected for being too fat to run, said that he had not come to run, but to fight.

The Swastika Shadow Over Native Americans

World War II signaled a major break from the past and offered unparalleled opportunities for Indians to compete in the white man's world. Because the Choctaw language had befuddled German code-breakers in World War I, the German government feared the likelihood of Indian communications specialists as World War II loomed. During the 1930s, Nazi agents posing as anthropologists and writers on reservations tried to subvert some Indian tribes and learn their language. Pan-Nazi agitators from the German-American Bund tried to persuade Indians not to register for the draft. Third Reich Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels predicted Indians would revolt rather than fight Germany because

the Swastika was similar to an Indian mystical bird symbol depicting good luck.

Goebbels went so far as to declare the Sioux to be "Aryans," but the Indians knew that as a Mongoloid race, they would be enslaved by the Nazis. Fascist attempts to convert Indians to their cause not only met with failure, but it may have encouraged Indians to register for the draft in the large numbers they did. About 20 percent of the Indian population, 80,000 men and women, marched off to fight in the armed forces and at the home front against Adolph Hitler, a man they called, "he who smells his moustache." Benito Mussolini fared little better, as the Indians called him "Gourd Chin."

Indians saw the Axis Powers as a threat to their liberty, and the Indian tribes responded patriotically. The Chippewa and Sioux joined the Iroquois in declaring war on the Axis. Indians took extreme measures to get into the war. Illiterate Papago Indians memorized a few English phrases and learned to write their names when called to the induction centers. The Navajo, also rejected in large numbers for not speaking English, were extremely determined to serve. They organized remedial English training on their reservations to qualify for service in the armed forces.

The draft created a structure within which Indians and whites had to operate together for the defense of their country. The draft set Indians on a new course where they would be integrated into military life with their white counterparts . Their lives and their land-based society would never be the same. The Indians' success in weakening racial barriers in the armed forces during World war II presaged the rise of the Civil Rights movement later.

The Home Front

Well-known American humorist Will Rogers, a Cherokee from Oklahoma, said, "The United States never broke a treaty with a foreign government and never kept one with the Indians." Nevertheless, the government of the United States found no more loyal citizens than their own "first Americans." When President

Roosevelt mobilized the country and declared war on the Axis Powers, it seemed as if he spoke to each citizen individually. Therefore, according to the Indians' way of perceiving, all must be allowed to participate. About 40,000 Indian men and women, aged 18 to 50, left reservations for the first time to find jobs in defense industries. This migration led to new vocational skills and increased cultural sophistication and awareness in dealings with non-Indians.

The purchase of Treasury Stamps and Bonds by Indian tribes and individuals was considerable. By 1944, war bond sales to Indians had reached \$50 million. Indians also made generous donations to the Red Cross and other organizations, giving what they had. All of this from a minority group at the bottom rung of the economic ladder.

Some 2,500 Navajos helped construct the Fort Wingate Ordnance Depot in New Mexico, and Pueblo Indians helped build the Naval Supply Depot in Utah. Because of their hunting, survival, and navigational skills in the harsh regions of the north, Alaskan Indians were involved in territorial defense. The entire football team at the Santa Fe Indian School volunteered for the armed forces after the 1942 homecoming game.

Women took over traditional men's duties on the reservation, manning fire lookout stations, and becoming mechanics, lumberjacks, farmers, and delivery personnel. Indian women, although reluctant to leave the reservation, worked as welders in aircraft plants. Many Indian women gave their time as volunteers for American Women's Volunteer Service, Red Cross, and Civil Defense. They also tended livestock, grew victory gardens, canned food, and sewed uniforms. A wealthy Kiowa woman in Oklahoma sent a \$1,000 check to the Navy Relief signed with her thumbprint. Alaskan women trapped animals to earn war bond money. By 1943, the YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association) estimated that 12,000 young Indian women had left the reservation to work in defense industries. By 1945, an estimated 150,000 Native Americans had directly participated in industrial, agricultural, and military aspects of the American war effort.

The Indian Service sent 1,119 of its 7,000 employees into military service. Of these, 22 died, while 7 won Silver or Bronze Stars. In 1942, the Japanese captured 45 Aleuts on Attu. Only 24 returned from captivity in Japan, where they had worked in clay pits.

The federal government designated some Indian lands and even tribes themselves as essential natural resources, appropriating tribal minerals, lumber, and lands for the war effort. After the war, Native Americans discovered that their service for the war effort had depleted their resources without reward. Indian lands provided essential war materials such as oil, gas, lead, zinc, copper, vanadium, asbestos, gypsum, and coal. The Manhattan Project used Navajo helium in New Mexico to make the atomic bomb. The war effort depleted the Blackfeet's tribal resources of oil.

Tell it to the Marines

German soldiers during World War I had been befuddled by Indians who transmitted messages over field phones in the Choctaw language. The 32d Infantry Division, Third Army, used Indians from Michigan and Wisconsin to work with microphones and to transmit messages in the Louisiana Maneuvers of 1940. During World War II, the U.S. Marine Corps recruited Navajo Indians for the same purpose. Navajo marines used their language as a battlefield code that the Japanese never broke. The Navajo Code Talkers became the most celebrated and publicized of the radio units.

Marines were "elite" fighters and welcomed Indians because of their warrior reputation. The Navajo marines ended their ceremonial chants by singing the Marine Corps Hymn in Navajo. Their eloquence came naturally to Indians because theirs is an oral culture. Navajos formed special all-Navajo Marine Corps signal units that encoded messages in their native tongue. Taking advantage of the flexibility and range of the Navajo language, they worked out translations of military and naval terms so that orders and instructions could be transmitted by voice over the radio in a code the Japanese were never able to break. They were

used first in late 1942 on Guadalcanal. Special Code Talker units were eventually assigned to each of the Marine Corps' six Pacific divisions. By war's end, over 400 Navajo had served as Code Talkers. Untold numbers of Marines owe their lives to the Navajo Code Talkers.

Indians also excelled at basic training. Maj. Lee Gilstrap of Oklahoma, who trained 2 ,000 Native Americans at his post, said, "The Indian is the best damn soldier in the Army." Their talents included bayonet fighting, marksmanship, scouting, and patrolling. Native Americans took to commando training; after all, their ancestors invented it. One Sioux soldier, Kenneth Scisson of South Dakota, became an American commando unit's leading German-killer. On a single patrol, Scisson added ten notches to his Garand rifle. Native Americans endured thirst and lack of food better than the average soldier. They had an acute sense of perception and excellent endurance, along with superior physical coordination.

Indians first saw action in the Pacific theater. Over 300 Indians, including a descendant of the famed Apache chief Geronimo, took part in the defense of Bataan and Corregidor. Over 2,000 Indian farmers, workers, and businessmen in Oklahoma and New Mexico trained and fought as part of the 45th Infantry Division for 511 days of combat in Italy and Central Europe. The "Thunderbirds" had the highest proportion of Indian soldiers of any division, but Indians served conspicuously in the 4th and 88th Divisions, the 19th and 180th Infantry Regiments, and the 147th Field Artillery Regiment, and in sundry Oklahoma National Guard units.

For Native Americans, World War II signaled a major break from the past. Many Indians in the military made a decent living for the first time in their lives. By 1944, the average Indian's annual income was \$2,500, up two and one-half times since 1940. Military life provided a steady job, money, status, and a taste of the white man's world. Indians learned assertiveness they could use in their fight for equal rights after the war.

The Warriors and War Workers Return

The war, therefore, provided new opportunities for American Indians, and these opportunities disrupted old patterns. The wartime economy and military service took thousands of Indians away from the reservations. Many of these Indians settled into the mainstream, adapting permanently to the cities and to a non-Indian way of life. Moreover, thousands returned to the reservation even after they had proved themselves capable of making the adjustment to white America. Those who left traditional cultures did not necessarily reject their heritage. Instead, they forged a new Pan-Indian identity to cope with the differences they perceived between themselves and whites.

World War II became a turning point for both Indians and Caucasians because its impact on each was so great and different. Whites believed that World War II had completed the process of Indian integration into mainstream American society. Large numbers of Indians, on the other hand, saw for the first time the non-Indian world at close range. It both attracted and repelled them. The positive aspects included a higher standard of living, with education, health care, and job opportunities. The negatives were the lessening of tribal influence and the threat of forfeiting the security of the reservation. Indians did not want equality with whites at the price of losing group identification. In sum, the war caused the greatest change in Indian life since the beginning of the reservation era and taught Native Americans they could aspire to walk successfully in two worlds.

A good deal of credit must go to the Native Americans for their outstanding part in America's victory in World War II. They sacrificed more than most—both individually and as a group. They left the land they knew to travel to strange places, where people did not always understand their ways. They had to forego the dances and rituals that were an important part of their life. They had to learn to work under non-Indian supervisors in situations that were wholly new to them. It was a tremendously difficult adjustment; more than for white America, which had known modern war and mobilization before. But in the process, Native Americans became Indian-Americans, not just American Indians.

Lt. Col. Thomas D. Morgan, USA (Ret.), is a military operations analyst at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with a leading defense contractor. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, he was commissioned in the Field Artillery, and served on active duty at various assignments in the United States, Germany, Vietnam, Panama, and Belgium. He holds an M.P.A. degree from the University of Missouri and an M.A. degree in History from Pacific Lutheran University.

Army History: The Professional Bulletin of Army History No. 35 (Fall 1995), pp. 22-27

Chronology

- 1918 - Iroquois Indians declare war on Germany. Since they were not included in the 1919 Peace Treaty, they simply renewed their Declaration of War in 1941 and included Italy and Japan.
- 1919 - Indian soldiers and sailors receive citizenship.
- 1924 -The Snyder Act grants full citizenship to all American Indians.
- 1938 -Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) estimates number of potential registrants for a draft in case of war.
- 1939 - BIA updates male Indian age groups.
- Jun 1940-The Navajo tribe announces that any un-American activity among its people will be dealt with severely.
- Aug 1940- BIA Commissioner John Collier meets with Selective Service representatives to determine how to register Indians.
- Sep 1940- Congress passes Selective Service Act.
- Oct 1940 - Congress passes Nationalities Act granting citizenship to all Native Americans without impairing tribal authority.
 - - For the first time, American Indians register for the draft.
- Jan 1941- The Fourth Signal Company recruits thirty

Oklahoma Comanche Indians to be part of a special Signal Corps Detachment.

- Oct 1940- The armed forces have inducted 1,785 Native Americans.
- Dec 1941- There are 5,000 Native Americans in the armed forces when Japanese forces attack Pearl Harbor.
- Jan 1942 – According to Selective Service officials, 99 percent of all eligible Native Americans had registered for the draft. This ratio set the national standard for the nation.
- Jan 1942 - The Navajo Tribal Council calls a special convention to dramatize their support for the war effort; 50,000 attend.
- July 1942 - The Six Nations (Mohawks, Oneida, Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, 1942 and Iroquois) declare war on the Axis Powers.
- 1942-1943- The Army Air Corps runs a literacy program in Atlantic City, N.J., for native Americans who could not meet military literacy standards.
- Apr 1943- Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes announces that Indians have bought \$12.6 million in war bonds.
- 1944 - Over 46,000 Indian men and women have left their reservations for defense-related jobs.
- Nov 1944- Fifty tribes establish the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in Denver, Colorado.
- Jan 1945- John Collier resigns as Indian Commissioner after years of political controversy.
- 1946- The Truman Commission on Civil Rights urges more humanitarian consideration for Native Americans.
 - -Indian Claims Commission Act created by Congress to adjudicate Indian land claims in the aftermath of WWII.
- 1947 - Army Indian Scouts discontinued as a separate element of the U.S. armed forces.
 - They had last been used on border patrol duties.
- 1957 - Utah becomes the last state to permit Indians to vote.

Sources

- Billard, Jules B ., ed. *The World of the American Indian* (Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 1974).
- Bernstein, Alison Ricky. "Walking in Two Worlds: American Indians and World War Two," Ph.D. diss., Columbia University, 1986.
- Debo, Angie. *A History of the Indians of the United States* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1970).
- Dennis, Henry C., ed. *The American Indian, 1492-1970* (Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana Publications, Inc., 1971).
- Franco, Jere. "Native Americans in World War II," Ph.D. diss., University of Arizona, 1990.
- . "Loyal and Heroic Service: The Navajo and World WarII." *The Journal of Arizona History* 27(1986):391406.
- . "Bringing Them Back Alive: Selective Service and Native Americans." *The Journal of Ethnic Studies* 18 (1990):1-27.
- Holm, Tom. "Fighting a White Man's War: The Extent and Legacy of American Indian Participation in World War II." *The Journal of Ethnic Studies* 9(2) (1981):69-81.
- La Farge, Oliver. *The American Indian* (N.Y.: Golden Press, 1956).
- . "They Were Good Enough for the Army." *Harper's* (November 1947): 22-27.
- McCoy, Ron. "Navajo Code Talkers of World War II." *American West* 18(6) (1981): 67-73,75.
- Murray, Paul T. "Who is an Indian? Who is a Negro?" *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 95(2) (April 1987): 215-31.
- Nelson, Guy. *Thunderbird: A History of the 45th Infantry Division* (Oklahoma City, OK: 45th Infantry Division Association, 1970).

Pathfinders

Concept and Training



To assist the pilots of the troop carrier groups in locating the six drop zones and two landing zones in the darkness, each division formed a company of scouts referred to as "pathfinders". A school to train these troops and the air crews in the use of navigation aids was established by IX Troop Carrier Command in February 1944 at RAF North Witham in Lincolnshire, and 24 crews of the first 8 groups were detached to this school for the initial training class.

The school had 52 C-47 aircraft assigned to it, 11 of which had SCR-717-C search radar sets installed. On D-Day these aircraft were used as a provisional group to carry the pathfinder force into Normandy. The SCR-717, nicknamed the "belly button radar" by air crews because it protruded from the lower fuselage, was installed in 50 C-47s. It provided a crude radar map of terrain for navigation and also triggered the "BUPS" (Beacon, Ultra Portable S-band) radar marker carried by some pathfinders. With only 6 BUPS units available in Europe, and two of those on boats marking the route, the system was only used experimentally. The SCR-717 was in such limited supply that no more than two were available to any serial.

The 300 men of the pathfinder companies were organized into teams of 14-18 paratroops each, whose main responsibility would be to deploy the ground beacon of the Rebecca/Eureka transponding radar system, and set out holophane marking lights. The Rebecca, an airborne sender-receiver, indicated on its scope the direction and approximate range of the Eureka, a responder beacon. The paratroops trained at the school for two months with the troop carrier crews, but although every C-47 in IX TCC had a Rebecca interrogator installed, to keep from jamming the system with hundreds of signals, only flight leads were authorized to use it in the vicinity of the drop zones.

Despite many early failures in its employment, the Eureka-Rebecca system had been used with high accuracy in Italy in a night drop of the 82nd Airborne to reinforce the Fifth Army at Salerno. However a shortcoming of the system was that within two miles (3 km) of the ground emitter, the signals merged into a single blip in which both range and bearing were lost. The system was designed to steer large formations of aircraft to within a few miles of a drop zone, at which point the holophane marking lights or other visual markers would guide completion of the drop.

Each drop zone (DZ) had a serial of three C-47 aircraft assigned to locate the DZ and drop pathfinder teams, who would mark it. The serials in each wave were to arrive at six minute intervals. The pathfinder serials were organized in two waves, with those of the 101st Airborne arriving a half hour before the first scheduled assault drop. These would be the first U.S. and possibly the first Allied troops to land in the invasion. The three pathfinder serials of the 82nd Airborne were to begin their drops as the final wave of 101st Airborne paratroopers landed, thirty minutes ahead of the first 82nd Airborne drops.

Efforts of the early wave of pathfinder teams to mark the drop zones were partially ineffective. The first serial, assigned to DZ A, missed its zone and set up a mile away near St. Germain-de-Varreville. The team was unable to get

either its amber halophane lights or its Eureka beacon working until the drop was well in progress. Although the second pathfinder serial had a plane ditch in the sea en route, the remainder dropped two teams near DZ C, but most of their marker lights were lost in the ditched airplane. They managed to set up a Eureka beacon just before the assault force arrived but were forced to use a handheld signal light which was not seen by some pilots. The planes assigned to DZ D along the Douve River failed to see their final turning point and flew well past the zone. Returning from an unfamiliar direction, they dropped ten minutes late and one mile (1.5 km) off target. The drop zone was chosen after the 501st PIR's change of mission and was in an area identified by the Germans as a likely landing area. Consequently so many Germans were present that the pathfinders could not set out their lights and were forced to rely solely on Eureka, which was a poor guide at short range.

The pathfinders of the 82nd Airborne had similar results. The first serial, bound for DZ O near Sainte-Mère-Église, flew too far north but corrected its error and dropped near its DZ. It made the most effective use of the Eureka beacons and holophane marking lights of any pathfinder team. The planes bound for DZ N south of Sainte-Mère-Église flew their mission accurately and visually identified the zone but still dropped the teams a mile southeast. They landed among troop areas of the German 91st Division and were unable to reach the DZ. The teams assigned to mark DZ T northwest of Sainte-Mère-Église were the only ones dropped with accuracy, and while they deployed both Eureka and BUPS, they were unable to show lights because of the close proximity of German troops. Altogether, four of the six drops zones could not display marking lights.

The pathfinder teams assigned to Drop Zones C (101st) and N (82nd) each carried two BUPS beacons. The units for DZ N were intended to guide in the parachute resupply

drop scheduled for late on D-Day, but the pair of DZ C were to provide a central orientation point for all the SCR-717 radars to get bearings. However the units were damaged in the drop and provided no assistance.

Sources

- Balkoski, Joseph (2005). *Utah Beach: The Amphibious Landing and Airborne Operations on D-Day*. Stackpole Books. ISBN 9-78081-173-377-9.
- Buckingham, William F. (2005). *D-Day The First 72 Hours*. Tempus Publishing. ISBN 0-75242-842-X.
- Devlin, Gerard M. (1979). *Paratrooper – The Saga Of Parachute And Glider Combat Troops During World War II*. Robson Books. ISBN 0-31259-652-9.
- Flanagan, E. M. Jr (2002). *Airborne – A Combat History Of American Airborne Forces*. The Random House Publishing Group. ISBN 0-89141-688-9.
- Harclerode, Peter (2005). *Wings Of War – Airborne Warfare 1918–1945*. Weidenfeld & Nicolson. ISBN 0-30436-730-3.
- Huston, James A. (1998). *Out Of The Blue – U.S Army Airborne Operations In World War II*. Purdue University Press. ISBN 1-55753-148-X.
- Tugwell, Maurice (1978). *Assault From The Sky – The History of Airborne Warfare*. Westbridge Books. ISBN 0-71539-204-2.
- Warren, Dr John C. (1956). *Airborne Operations in World War II, European Theater*. Air University, Maxwell AFB: US Air Force Historical Research Agency. USAF Historical Study 97.
- Weeks, John (1971). *Airborne To Battle – A History Of Airborne Warfare 1918–1971*. William Kimber & Co Ltd. ISBN 0-71830-262-1.
- Wolfe, Martin (1993). *Green Light! A Troop Carrier Squadron's War from Normandy to the Rhine*. Center for Air Force History. ISBN 0812281438, 136.
- Photograph taken by Richard Chambers, March 4, 2006 of the Pathfinder patch worn by Pvt. William Wheeler, pathfinder of the 506th PIR.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_airborne_landings_in_Normandy

Creative Commons 3.0 License

The 82nd Airborne During World War II

by Dominic Biello



On 25 March 1942, the 82nd Infantry Division was reactivated at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana under the command of Major General Omar N. Bradley (left). On August 15, 1942, the Division took wings as The 82nd Airborne - becoming the U.S. Army's first airborne division - now commanded by Major General Matthew

B. Ridgway (below right).

At the same time, 82nd personnel also were used in the formation of a second airborne unit - the "Screaming Eagles" of the 101st Airborne Division.



In October, the 82nd was dispatched to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to pursue its new airborne training. On October 14, the 82nd absorbed the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which had formed on May 1 at Fort Benning, Georgia. By the time that they went overseas, the 82nd would consist of the 325th Glider Infantry Regiment and the 504th and 505th Parachute Infantry Regiments.

At Fort Bragg, the All Americans trained vigorously. These pioneering paratroopers stood up, hooked up and leaped from C-47 transport planes while the gliderborne troops were at work in the 15-man WACO-CG4A gliders - towed by the transport planes

In the spring of 1943, the 82nd All Americans became the first airborne division sent overseas. They left via troop ships from New England and landed in Casablanca, North Africa on May 10, 1943. From there, they moved by rail to Oujda and then by truck to Kairouan, Tunisia. That would be their departure point for the Division's first combat drop -

the invasion of Sicily.

Sicily - Operation Husky

Colonel James Gavin's 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) and the 3rd Battalion of the 504th PIR parachuted to take the high ground near Ponte Olivo airfield northeast of Gela, Sicily on July 9, 1943. Despite the wide scattering of the assault, the objectives were seized and the units linked up with the 1st Infantry Division the next day.

On July 11, 1943, the remaining Battalions of the 504th PIR were dropped in the vicinity of Gela with heavy losses from both the German and Allied (friendly fire) antiaircraft fire. Despite the heavy losses the division was moved up to the front by motor and reinforced by the 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division on July 12, 1943. The crossings of Fiume delle Canno were secured on July 18, 1943 and the division pushed along the coastal highway, seizing the Marsala-Trapani area of Sicily's western coast by July 23rd.

Salerno - The Oil Drum Drop

The Division's second combat operation was a night parachute drop onto the Salerno beachhead on September 13, 1943 in support of General Mark Clark's 5th Army which was in danger of being pushed back into the sea.

The 504th PIR was parachuted south of the Sele River near Salerno on September 13, 1943. In order to guide the C-47 pilots to the shrinking dropzone, oil drums filled with gasoline soaked sand were ignited every 50 yards when signaled. 1300 troopers landed that night infusing a new sense of confidence to the beleaguered soldiers of the 5th Army. The 505th PIR was dropped the following night near the same dropzone to reinforce the air assault. On September 15th the 325th Glider Infantry Regiment (GIR) was brought into the beachhead amphibiously to join the rest of the division.

Once the beachhead was secured, the 504th PIR & the 376th PFAB began an attack to recover Altavilla on September 16, 1943 and the division fought towards Naples which it reached on October 1, 1943 and moved in to the next day for security duty.

"Leg Infantry"

After Naples, the 504th PIR & the 376th PFAB were detached from the 82nd Airborne temporarily and fought as "leg infantry" through the hills of southern Italy as part of the 36th Infantry Division. On October 29th they capture Gallo. They then battled in the Winter Line commencing with attacks up Hill 687 on December 15th, 1943.



82nd Airborne General Staff circa Spring 1944 in England

(picture above: 82nd Airborne Div General Staff - England - Spring, 1944. They are (left to right) Front Row (Sitting): BG James M Gavin, Asst Div CO - MG Matthew B Ridgway, Div CO - Col Ralph P Eaton, Chief of Staff ; Back Row: (Standing) Capt Arthur G Kroos Jr., Aide-de-Camp - Lt Col Robert H Wienecke, Div G-3 - Lt Col Frederick M Schellhammer, Div G-1 - Lt Col Bennie A Zinn, Div G-4 and (Standing) Lt Col Whitfield Jack, Div G-2.)

On 9 December 1943 Colonel Gavin was promoted to Brigadier General and assumed the duties of the Assistant Division Commander of the 82nd Airborne while Lt Col Herbert Batchellor assumed command of the 505th. During the early months of 1944, units of the Division were moved to England as the allies were preparing for the assault on Western Europe. The 505th PIR again changed commanders on 22 March 1944 when Lt Col William Ekman assumed command. He would lead the 505th through the remainder of the war.

Anzio - Operation Shingle

On January 22nd & 23rd 1944, the 504th PIR, landed on the beach at Anzio and participated in heavy combat along the Mussolini Canal. It was their fierce fighting during this defensive engagement that earned the 504th PIR the nickname "Devils in Baggy Pants." The nickname was taken from an entry made in a German officer's diary.

D-Day - Operation Neptune

While the 504th was detached, the remainder of the 82nd was pulled out of Italy in December 1943 and moved to the United Kingdom to prepare for the liberation of Europe. With two combat jumps under its belt, the 82nd Airborne Division was now ready for the most ambitious airborne operation of the war, Operation Neptune -the airborne invasion of Normandy. The operation was part of Operation OVERLORD, the amphibious assault on the northern coast of Nazi-occupied France.

In preparation for the operation, the division was reorganized. Two new parachute infantry regiments, the 507th and the 508th, joined the division. However, due to its depleted state following the fighting in Italy, the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment did not take part in the invasion.

On June 5-6, 1944, the paratroopers of the 82nd's three

parachute infantry regiments and reinforced glider infantry regiment boarded hundreds of transport planes and gliders and, began the largest airborne assault in history. They were among the first soldiers to fight in Normandy, France.

The division dropped behind Utah Beach, Normandy, France between Ste Mere-Eglise and Carentan on June 6th, 1944. They were reinforced by the 325th GIR the next day. The division remained under strong German pressure along the Merderit River. Eventually, the 325th GIR crossed the river to secure a bridgehead at La Fiere on June 9th. It was during this action that Pfc Charles N. DeGlopper single-handedly defended his platoon's position and subsequently was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

The next day the 505th PIR captured Montebourg Station and on June 12th the 508th PIR crossed the Douve at Beuzeville-la-Bastille and reached Baupt. They established a bridgehead at Pont l'Abbe on June 19th. The division then attacked down the west coast of the Cotentin Peninsula and captured Hill 131 on July 3rd. The following day the 82nd seized Hill 95 overlooking La Haye-du-Puits.

By the time the All-American Division was pulled back to England on July 13, 1944, General James M Gavin had seen 33 days of bloody combat and suffered 5,245 paratroopers killed, wounded or missing. The Division's post battle report read, "...33 days of action without relief, without replacements. Every mission accomplished. No ground gained was ever relinquished."



Following the Normandy invasion, the 82nd became part of the newly organized XVIII Airborne Corps which consisted of the U.S. 17th, 82nd, and 101st Airborne Divisions. General Ridgway was promoted and assumed command of the XVIII Airborne Corps.

Meanwhile, Assistant Division Commander, General James Gavin (picture left) was also promoted and assumed

command of the 82nd Airborne.

Operation Market Garden

In September, the 82nd began planning for Operation Market Garden in Holland. The operation called for three-plus airborne divisions to seize and hold key bridges and roads deep behind German lines. The 504th now back at full strength rejoined the 82nd, while the 507th went to the 17th Airborne Division.

On September 17, the 82nd Airborne Division conducted its fourth combat jump of World War II into Holland. Fighting off ferocious German counterattacks, the 82nd captured the Maas Bridge at Grave, the Maas-Waal Canal Bridge at Heumen and the Nijmegen-Groesbeek Ridge. The next day attempts to take Nijmegen Highway Bridge failed.

On 20 September the 504th carried out a heroic assault crossing the Waal. With artillery support the first wave of the 504th assaulted, in twenty-six assault boats, under intense fire, taking 200 casualties in the process. Finally on D+4 the 504th finally secured their hold on the bridge, fighting off another German counterattack just before noon.

It was in this skirmish that Pvt. John Towle won the Medal of Honor. Its success, however, was short-lived because of the defeat of other Allied units at Arnhem. The gateway to Germany would not open in September 1944, and the 82nd was ordered back to France.

Battle of the Bulge - The Ardennes Offensive



Suddenly, on December 16, 1944, the Germans launched a surprise offensive through the Ardennes Forest which caught the Allies completely by surprise. The 82nd moved into action on December 17th in response to the German's Ardennes Counteroffensive and blunted General Von Runstedt's (picture left) northern

penetration in the American lines. On December 20th the 82nd attacked in the Vielsalm-St. Vith region and the 504th PIR took Monceau. This fierce attack forced the German units back across the Ambleve River the next day.

However, further German assaults along the Salm hit the 505th PIR in the Trois Ponts area on December 22nd and by December 24th the division lost Manhay. On December 25th, 1944 the division withdrew from the Vielsalm salient then attacked northeast of Bra on December 27th reaching Salm by January 4th, 1945.

On January 7th the 508th PIR Red Devil's launched an attack with the 504th in the vicinity of Thier-du-Mont where it suffered heavy casualties. The 508th was then withdrawn from the line and placed in reserve until January 21st when it replaced elements of the 2d Infantry Division.

On January 29, 1945 First Sergeant Leonard Funk, Jr. of Company C, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment won the Congressional Medal of Honor for action at Holzheim, Belgium. After leading his unit and capturing 80 Germans.

On February 7th, 1945 the division attacked Bergstein, a town on the Roer River. The 82nd crossed the Roer River on February 17th. During April, 1945 the division performed security duty in Cologne until they attacked in the Bleckede area and pushed toward the Elbe River. As the 504th PIR drove toward Forst Carrenzien, the German 21st Army surrendered to the division on May 2, 1945.

Occupation

Following the surrender of Germany, the 82nd was ordered to Berlin for occupation duty. In Berlin General George Patton was so impressed with the 82nd's honor guard he said, "In all my years in the Army and all the honor guards I have ever seen, the 82nd's honor guard is undoubtedly the best." Hence the "All-Americans" became known as "America's Guard of Honor."

JANUARY 12, 1946 - NEW YORK CITY



The 82nd Airborne Division marches in the World War II victory parade up 5th Avenue in honor of all the units that served during that conflict. It was a great day for the division to be honored as the representative unit. The units look snappy as one by one they pass in review.

(picture above: 82nd Airborne Div marching down 5th Avenue NYC 12 Jan 1946. Courtesy: Les Cruise 505 PIR H Company)

The 82nd returned to the United States January 3, 1946. Instead of being demobilized, the 82nd made its permanent home at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and was designated a regular Army division on November 15, 1948.

http://www.ww2-airborne.us/division/82_overview.html

by Dominic Biello © 2009

INDIANS IN THE WAR

*Gen. Hunt
Ed. McCann's
Capt. Paine
Table*



BURIAL OF A BRAVE

1945

The material in this pamphlet was collected for the 1945 Memorial Number of *Indians at Work*, before the magazine was discontinued because of the paper shortage. Many devoted workers spent much time and effort to get these stories, and the photographs which accompany the lists were loaned by the families of the boys whose names will be found here. We wish to express our gratitude to all of those who made this record possible.

The casualty lists and the lists of awards and decorations continue those begun in *Indians at Work* for May-June 1943 and carried on in the November-December 1943, May-June 1944, and September-October 1944 issues. They are not complete, and it is hoped that when the peace has come, the whole story of the Indian contribution to the victory may be gathered up into one volume.

Awards of the Purple Heart have not been indicated here because every soldier wounded in action against the enemy is entitled to the decoration, and the award should be taken for granted.

NOVEMBER 1945

United States Department of the Interior--Office of Indian Affairs
Chicago 54, Illinois

An non-circulating original copy of this publication is located in
the Navy Department Library Special Collection.

Haskell Printing Department
2-15-46--15,000

Indians in the War

1941-1945

In Grateful Memory
of
Those Who Died
In the Service of Their Country.
They Stand in the Unbroken Line
Of Patriots Who Have Dared to Die
That Freedom Might Live, and Grow,
And Increase Its Blessings.
Freedom Lives,
And Through it They Live--
In a Way That Humbles
The Undertakings of Most Men.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Indians in the War

Honor for Indian Heroism	71
<i>Awards for Valor (Lists)</i>	86
Ceremonial Dances in the Pacific by <i>Ernie Pyle</i>	93
A Choctaw Leads the Guerrillas	95
An Empty Saddle	98
<i>We Honor These Dead (Lists)</i>	99
Navajo Code Talkers by <i>MT/Sgt. Murrey Marder</i>	118
Indians Fought on Iwo Jima	124
<i>Wounded in Action (Lists)</i>	127
Indians Work for the Navy by <i>Lt. Frederick W. Sleight</i>	153
To the Indian Veteran	157
Indian Women Work for Victory	163
Prisoners of War Released	166
A Family of Braves	169
Indian Service Employees in the War	171



Cpl. Henry Bake, Jr., and Pfc. George H. Kirk, Navajo code talkers, operate a portable radio set on Bougainville. Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo.

Honor for Indian Heroism

The war has ended in victory for the United Nations, and after a troubled period of readjustment and reorganization, peace will come at last. The story of the Indians' contribution to the winning of the war has been told only in part, and new material will be coming in for many months. As one of the Sioux boys says, "As a rule nowadays the fellows don't go in for heroics." But already the Indian record is impressive. In the spring of 1945, there were 21,767 Indians in the Army, 1,910 in the Navy, 121 in the Coast Guard, and 723 in the Marines. These figures do not include officers, for whom no statistics are available. Several hundred Indian women are in the various branches of the services. The Standing Rock Agency, North Dakota, estimates that at least fifty girls from that jurisdiction are in uniform.

The Office of Indian Affairs has recorded 71 awards of the Air Medal, 51 of the Silver Star, 47 of the Bronze Star Medal, 34 of the Distinguished Flying Cross, and two of the Congressional Medal of Honor. There are undoubtedly many more which have not been reported. Many of these ribbons are decorated with oak leaf clusters awarded in lieu of additional medals. It is not unusual to see an Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, or twelve, or even fourteen.

The casualty lists are long. They come from theaters of war all over the world. There were many Indians in the prison camps of the Philippines after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor, and later there were many more on Iwo Jima and Okinawa. There were Indians in the 45th Division in Sicily and Italy. They were at Anzio, and they took part in the invasion on D-Day in Normandy. A Ute Indian, LeRoy Hamlin, was with a small troop which made the first contact with the Russians across the Elbe on April 25. Another Ute, Harvey Natchees, was the first American soldier to ride into the center of Berlin. Pfc. Ira Hayes, Pima, of the Marines, was one of the six men who raised the flag on the summit of Mt. Suribachi. Once in a while, an Indian diving into a foxhole when shells began to burst, would find himself face to face with another member of his race, and they would start talking

about Indian problems as they waited for the enemy fire to cease. When there was only one Indian in an outfit, he was inevitably called Chief, which amused him and perhaps pleased him a little.

The Indian people at home have matched the record of their fighting men. More than forty thousand left the reservations during each of the war years to take jobs in ordnance depots, in aircraft factories, on the railroads, and in other war industries. The older men, the women, and the children, who stayed at home, increased their production of food in spite of the lack of help. The Indians invested more than \$17,000,000 of restricted funds in war bonds, and their individual purchases probably amount to twice that sum. They subscribed liberally to the Red Cross and to the Army and Navy Relief societies. The mothers of the soldiers organized War Mothers clubs in their communities, and every soldier received letters and gifts while he was in the service. The clubs helped to entertain the boys who came home on furlough, and now that the war is over, they are making plans for war memorials in honor of the fallen.

Reflecting the heroic spirit of Indians at war in every theater of action, the list of those specially selected to receive military honors grows steadily. We shall never know of all the courageous acts performed "with utter disregard for personal safety," but the proved devotion of all Indian peoples on the home front and the conspicuous courage of their sons and daughters in the various services entitle them to share in common the honors bestowed upon the few here noted.

Congressional Medal of Honor

The blue star-sprinkled ribbon of the highest award of all is given for "conspicuous gallantry at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty." Relatively few of these medals have been given, and the nation may well be proud of the fact that two Indians thus far have won it. The story of Lt. Ernest Childers, Creek, was told in *Indians at Work* for May-June 1944; that of Lt. Jack Montgomery, Cherokee, in the January-February number, 1945.

Distinguished Flying Cross

The highest aviation honor is given for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight. The ribbon is blue, with a white-bordered red stripe in the center and white stripes near the ends. Thirty or more Indians have been awarded this medal thus far, and their stories have been told in various issues of *Indians at Work*.



T-Sgt. Harold E. Rogers, Seneca, with his flying mascot Mister.

Mention has already been made of Lt. William R. Fredenberge, Menominee, of Wisconsin, who wears this ribbon and also has the Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters. The citation for the DFC reads as follows:

"Lieutenant Fredenberg demonstrated superior skill in the execution of a dive-bombing attack upon a heavily defended marshalling yard wherein he personally destroyed three locomotives and thereafter in the face of heavy and accurate enemy fire remained in the target area strafing installations until his ammunition was exhausted. The outstanding flying ability and tactical proficiency which he exhibited on this occasion reflected the highest credit upon himself and his organization."

Sgt. Shuman Shaw, a full-blood Paiute from California, was wounded on his third mission as a tail-gunner on a B-24 Liberator, but he stayed with his guns and shot down two of the enemy, with three more probably destroyed. During his 22nd mission, while raiding strategic installations at Budapest, he was again seriously wounded. On both occasions he was given plasma. Sgt. Shaw has the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster.

Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross

Harold E. Rogers, Seneca from Miami, Oklahoma, was reported missing in action on July 3, 1944, when his plane failed to return from a mission over Budapest. Sgt. Rogers had flown 25 missions with the 8th Air Force in England, and then served as instructor in the United States for six months. He went back into action, this time with the 15th Air Force, based in Italy. He wore the Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, and the Distinguished Flying Cross. The Purple Heart was awarded to him posthumously. His wife, a Potawatomi from Kansas, who now lives in Hollywood, was a student at Haskell Institute with her husband and Sgt. Rogers was studying law at the time he entered the service. He also attended Sherman Institute and Riverside Junior College.

Silver Star to a Young Artist

A soldier who is cited for gallantry in action, when that gallantry does not warrant the award of a Medal of Honor or a Distinguished Service Cross, is given the Silver Star.

This decoration was awarded posthumously to Ben Quintana, a Keres, from Cochiti Pueblo. According to the citation, Ben was "an ammunition carrier in a light machine gun squadron charged with protection of the right flank of his troop which was counterattacked by superior numbers." The gunner was killed and the assistant gunner severely wounded. "Private Quintana," the citation continues, "refused to retire from this hazardous position and gallantly rushed forward to the silenced gun and delivered a

withering fire into the enemy, inflicting heavy casualties. While so engaged he was mortally wounded. By this extraordinary courage he repulsed the counterattack and prevented the envelopment of the right flank of his troop. Private Quintana's unflinching devotion to duty and heroism under fire inspired his troop to attack and seize the enemy strong point."



Pfc. Ben Quintana, gifted artist of Cochiti Pueblo, awarded the Silver Star posthumously for gallantry in action.

Photo by Harold D. Walter, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

With Ben Quintana's death the country has lost one of its most promising young artists. At the age of 15, he won first prize over 80 contestants, of whom 7 were Indians, for a poster to be used in the Coronado Cuarto Centennial celebration. Later, he won first prize and \$1,000 in an *American Magazine* contest in which there were 52,587 entries.

Silver Star for Sherman Graduate

Captain Leonard Lowry, a graduate of Sherman Institute, also wears the Silver Star. he was a first lieutenant at the time of the citation, which says: "He was advancing with an infantry force of 500 men when they were halted by the enemy and the leading elements were pinned down. It was imperative that this force get through. Lt. Lowry assumed command and directed temporary

security measures. He then organized a small combat patrol and personally led it in storming the enemy elements that were delaying the unit's advance." Capt. Lowry has been wounded several times.

Led the Way for Tanks

The Shoshones proudly claim Marine Pfc. Leonard A. Webber, of Fort Hall, Idaho, who received his Silver Star "for gallantry and intrepidity while serving with the Second Marine Division, during action against enemy Japanese forces on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands, from November 22 to November 23, 1943. During this period, when radio communication was out, he performed duties as runner between the tank battalion command post, tanks, and infantry front line positions, with utter disregard for his own personal safety in the face of heavy enemy gunfire. His skill and devotion to duty contributed greatly to the maintaining of communication of tank units. His conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

Later, for action in 1944, Leonard Webber, now a Corporal, received the Bronze Star. This decoration is awarded for meritorious or heroic achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. The citation for the Bronze Star reads:

"For meritorious achievement in action against the enemy on Saipan and Tinian, Marianas Islands, from 15 June to 1 August, 1944, while serving as a reconnaissance man in a Marine tank battalion. With aggressive determination and fearless devotion to duty Corporal Webber reconnoitered routes of advance for tanks in the face of intense enemy fire. On one occasion, he led a tank platoon over exceedingly dangerous and perilous terrain, while under heavy mortar and small-arms fire, to support the infantry advance and make it possible for his tank platoon to inflict severe casualties on the enemy. His

cool courage and outstanding ability contributed in a large measure to the success of the tank operation. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Silver Star for a Cherokee

The mother and father of Pvt. Blaine Queen received the Silver Star posthumously awarded to their son for heroism in action in Germany. Pvt. Queen, a Cherokee from North Carolina, was with a platoon engaged in sharp action with the enemy. They were under heavy fire from nearby enemy positions, and when their ammunition began to run dangerously low, Pvt. Queen volunteered to leave his foxhole and go for the needed supplies. As he ran he was mortally wounded, but in spite of his wound he kept on toward his destination until death overtook him.



The parents of Blaine Queen, Cherokee, receive his Silver Star.

A Potawatomi Leads the Way

Pfc. Albert Wahweotten, Potawatomi from Kansas, received the Silver Star from his commanding general last February in Germany. According to the citation, Pfc. Wahweotten, armed with an M-1 rifle and a bazooka, worked his way 200 yards beyond the front lines to a house occupied by the enemy. In spite of heavy

fire, he crawled to within ten yards of the house, which he set on fire with the bazooka. Then he went into the burning building and captured twelve Germans, eliminating the last enemy resistance in the town.

Initiative, Bravery, and Gallantry

An Iowa-Choctaw, also from Kansas, was another winner of the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the Germans. When his superior officer was disabled, Pfc. Thurman E. Nanomantube took over the duties of section leader of a heavy machine gun section, and with complete disregard for his own safety ran across fifty yards of open ground, swept by heavy fire, in order to help a gunner whose gun was not working properly. When the battalion was pinned down by artillery fire, he gave first aid to two wounded men and handled another skillfully in order to keep him from becoming the victim of combat exhaustion. The citation praises Pfc. Nanomantube for his initiative, bravery, and gallantry.

Decoration for a Papago

An engineers outfit, in combat for 165 continuous days on Luzon, needed the bulldozer which Pfc. Norris L. Galvez, Papago of Sells, Arizona, was driving up the road. Pfc. Norris was told that the Japs had two automatic weapons firing across the road ahead, but he decided that the bulldozer must go through and unhesitatingly drove the unprotected machine through the field of fire, an action which brought him a citation and the Silver Star.

Hero's Son Receives Medal

Alec Hodge is only six years old, but he knows what war means. He knows, too, the pride with which soldiers receive their medals, for on Alec's small chest was recently pinned the bronze Star posthumously awarded to his father, Pfc. Otto Hodge, a Yurok-Hoopa, who was killed in action in Italy. The youngster stood straight, as befits the son of a warrior, and listened to the words of the citation: "For heroic achievement in action against the enemy from September 10 to September 23, 1944."

Then he solemnly shook the proffered hand of brigadier General Oscar B. Abbott, who made the award. The ceremony was held at the Arcata Naval Auxiliary Air Station near Eureka, California, on April 6, 1945.

Alec has two uncles in the service. One, Fireman Henry Hodge, is on sea duty in the South Pacific, while the other, Pvt. James Hodge, is serving in Europe. Both uncles are graduates of Sherman Institute and are the sons of Mrs. Carrie Hodge of Trinidad, California.

Ordeal by Fire

The citation accompanying the Bronze Star Medal awarded to Pvt. Houston Stevens, Kickapoo from Shawnee, Oklahoma, reads:

"For heroic achievement near St. Raphael, France, on 15 August 1944. Struck by an aerial bomb as it neared shore during the invasion of Southern France, *LST* 282 was burning fiercely and ammunition aboard was exploding continuously. Unmindful of the intense heat and the exploding ammunition, Pvt. Stevens manned a 50-caliber machine gun located within ten yards of the explosion. Though his hair and eyebrows were singed by the spreading flames, he remained at his post and continued to fire the gun at the enemy plane. By his devotion to duty, Pvt. Stevens prevented additional damage by the plane. His action reflects credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

With the Famous Ivy Leaf

Sgt. Perry Skenandore, Oneida from Wisconsin, wears two rows of ribbons, as well as the blue bar for the Presidential Unit Citation. He has been awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, and the Soldier's Medal. His European theater ribbon carries three battle stars and the bronze arrow

which stands for the invasion of Normandy. Sgt. Skenandore is a member of the 4th Infantry Division, the Ivy Leaf, a fighting outfit which is described by a *Stars and Stripes* correspondent as follows:

"After 199 days, ending March 9, in continuous contact with the German army, the 4th Division closed a chapter that carried it through some of the most famous battles of the present war.

"Starting on August 24 with the headlong rush into Paris, which they liberated the next day, the 4th's men never lost sight of the grey-uniformed Wehrmacht until they had it on the run towards the Rhine.

"Included in the nearly seven months of grinding up Nazi hordes were the mad dash across Northern France and Belgium; the liberation of such towns as Chauny, St. Quentin, St. Hubert, Bastogne, and St. Vith. The doughs never stopped their eastward drive until they had bowled through the Siegfried Line. the 4th Division was the first unit to enter German soil on September 11.

"History has recorded their successful but bloody Battle of the Huertgen Forest and their magnificent stand before the city of Luxembourg in those dark days of December, when, according to Lt. Gen. George Patton, Jr., 'a tired division halted the left shoulder of the German thrust into the American lines and saved the city of Luxembourg.'

"From this action the Ivy Leaf Division went over to the offensive, crossing the Sure River and eating into the bulge the enemy had built up. Switching to the St. Vith sector, they fought their way through the Siegfried Line in exactly the same place where they had pushed through in September. This made four times they had passed through the maze of steel and

concrete that was once considered almost impregnable."

Sgt. Skenandore has a good deal to tell about his division and its accomplishments against the Nazis, but little information about himself. The ribbons, however, speak for him.

Held the Lines

The Bronze Star Medal was awarded to Corporal Calvin Flying Bye, Sioux, of Little Eagle, South Dakota, "for heroic achievement in Germany on 29 and 30 November 1944. . . . During these two days, when his division attacked a fortified enemy town, communication lines between the forward observer and his battalion were severed. In spite of heavy enemy fire which was falling not more than 15 yards from him, he checked the lines and constantly maintained them without getting any sleep for 48 hours. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service."

An Alaskan Scores

Pfc. Herbert Bremner, Tlingit, of Yakutat, Alaska, has been given the Bronze Star for heroic action in Holland:

"While the Anti-Tank Platoon which was supporting the assault battalion was moving its weapons forward to engage four enemy tanks which were holding up the progress of the battalion, two of the prime movers were damaged by intense mortar and machine gun fire, and it was necessary to repair them before they could be used to move the weapons into position. Without regard for his personal safety, Private Bremner manned the machine gun, which was in an exposed position on top of one of the vehicles. His determined, accurate fire forced the enemy tanks to withdraw, thus permitting the battalion to advance to its objective. The high standard of courage of Private Bremner was a large factor in enabling the battalion to

gain its objective and is a distinct credit to this soldier and the military service."

Inspired His Comrades

Marion W. McKeever, Flathead, from Montana, was awarded the Bronze Star posthumously "for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy at Bougainville, Solomon Islands, on March 10, 1944. During a counterattack to destroy the enemy forces, when his platoon made an advance against enemy positions, Pvt. McKeever moved up aggressively to engage the enemy. Moving up as far as possible he crossed a machine gun lane and the enemy opened fire, killing him instantly. Because of his daring movement in spite of the heavy fire, he was one of the most forward men of the platoon. His action was cool and brave and was an inspiration to all who served with him."

The Bronze Star for an Infantryman

A posthumous award of the Bronze Star Medal was made to Cpl. Jack E. Mattz, Yurok-Smith River Indian from Grants Pass, Oregon. During an assault on enemy lines in Holland, Cpl. Mattz crept forward toward a dugout containing a large number of the enemy, killed several of them with his sub-machine gun, and when his ammunition ran out, accounted for the rest by using hand grenades. A few hours later he was killed by shell fire.

Saved by Partisans

Two Indian gunners with the 15th Air Force, based in Italy, had similar stories to tell of parachute jumps in Balkan territory. S-Sgt. Cornelius Wakolee, Potawatomi, from Kansas, was forced to bail out over Yugoslavia when his Liberator bomber was hit by heavy flak. He was reported missing on October 14, and returned to duty some six weeks later, after a long walk, guided across enemy-held territory by Yugoslav partisans. Some months afterward, T-Sgt. Ray Gonyea, from the Onondaga Reservation,

New York, made a similar jump and landed in a village held by the partisans, who helped him and his crew back to their base--after an hilarious celebration. Sgt. Gonyea holds the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and the Purple Heart. Sgt. Wakolee has three clusters to the Air Medal.

Purple Heart, Four Cluster

Danny B. Marshall, Creek, from Holdenville, Oklahoma, has evaded death dozens of times and has been wounded eight times. Five of his wounds required hospital treatment, but the other three times he had first aid and did not report at a hospital. He has been hit in the face, head, arms, leg, and back, and has the Purple Heart with four clusters, the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and five battle stars for service in Italy, including the Anzio beachhead and Rome, and the invasion of Southern France.

A Submarine Veteran

"The greatest thrill of all," said John Redday, Sioux, from South Dakota, "was to pass through the golden Gate and set foot again on American soil." This remark was made after 21 months' service in a submarine patrolling South Pacific waters. During this time the sub sank fourteen and damaged seven enemy vessels. Among them was one of Japan's largest freighters, which was destroyed by gunfire alone.

The thrills and dangers of submarine warfare were many, according to Redday. Once a sub-chaser, disguised as a transport, discovered them while they were surfaced, and depth charges fell all around them before they could submerge. The charges were so terrific that the overhead motors were sheared off. Another time an enemy destroyer caught their propguard with a grappling iron and pulled them forty feet toward the surface before they could get away. In escaping they dived far below normal depth and the pressure was so great that water leaked in from all sides.



John Redday

Redday was transferred to the Veterans' Hospital at Minneapolis a year ago because of tuberculosis, and is slowly improving in the free air of his homeland.

A Navajo Fights on Two Fronts

Dragging one wounded soldier, helping support another, his own back and legs torn by shrapnel, a twenty-year-old Navajo made his way across three hundred yards of knee-deep snow. Safe in his own lines again, he did not bother to go to the aid station. This is only one of the stories told about Sgt. Clifford Etsitty, a star patrol scout of the Western front. Another time he was within 30 yards of the enemy when a machine gun opened up on his patrol. "The Chief," as he is known in the Army, flattened out and with six shots finished the half-dozen Nazis who barred his way.

Etsitty received his first Purple Heart on Attu, where he killed 40 Japs in 20 days. This was night ambush detail. Clad in white snow suits, the soldiers lay in wait for enemies and picked them off as they approached. The cold, dangerous work ended when a bursting mortar shell smashed the Navajo's jaw and sent him to the hospital for seven months. As soon as he was discharged, he was sent to the 99th Division and continued his remarkable career on the German front.

Foresight and Sound Decision

The Bronze Star has also been received by Staff Sgt. David E. Kenote, Wisconsin Menominee, "for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in France, from 1 August 1944 to 31 October 1944. Sgt. Kenote inaugurated a system of stock records and a procedure for requisitioning which enabled the Adjutant General, Third United States Army, successfully to supply and distribute War Department publications and blank forms to Third Army troops. The foresight of this non-commissioned officer, and his careful planning and energetic execution achieved continuous supply during all phases of a rapidly moving operation. His plans were simple and workable, and his decisions were sound. The zealous devotion to duty of Sgt. Kenote reflects great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States."



Sgt. Jimmy Declay, Apache, stands guard at the gateway to Rome as the U.S. Army enters the city.

Awards for Valor

Congressional Medal of Honor

Lt. Jack C. Montgomery	Cherokee, Oklahoma
Lt. Ernest Childers	Creek, Oklahoma

Silver Star

S/Sgt. Francis B. Brave	Sioux, Oklahoma
Lt. William Sixkiller, Jr.	Cherokee, Oklahoma
Pfc. Warren Gullickson	Sioux, South Dakota
Pfc. James R. Alexander	Lummi, Washington
Cpl. Leonard Webber	Shoshone, Idaho
Lt. James Sulphur	Creek, Oklahoma
T/4 Rober K. Paul	Blackfeet, Montana
Sgt. Knowlton Merritt	Klamath-Modoc, Oregon
Sgt. Perry Skenandore	Oneida, Wisconsin
Pfc. Ben Quintana	Cochiti Pueblo, New Mexico
Cpl. Vincent Village Center	Sioux, South Dakota
T/Sgt. Joseph Lawrence	Sioux, South Dakota
Pfc. Francis Shaw	Paiute, Nevada
Pfc. Philip Kowice	Laguna Pueblo, New Mexico
Lt. Jack C. Montgomery	Cherokee, Oklahoma
Sgt. Bob Allen	Choctaw, Mississippi
Pvt. Blaine Queen	Cherokee, North Carolina
Pvt. Eugene Roubideaux	Sioux, South Dakota
Pfc. Alonzo Enos	Pima, Arizona
Pfc. Albert Wahweotten	Potawatomi, Kansas
Sgt. Clifford Etsitty	Navajo, New Mexico
Bert G. Eaglehorse	Sioux, South Dakota
Pfc. George W. Walker	Cherokee, North Carolina
Sgt. Leo Upshaw	Navajo, New Mexico
Pfc. Thurman E. Nanomantube	Iowa-Choctaw, Kansas
Pfc. Norris L. Galvez	Papago, Arizona

Awards for Valor

Air Medal

S/Sgt. Roger Worlee	Paiute, Nevada (9 clusters)
S/Sgt. Shuman Shaw	Paiute, California (3 clusters)
T/Sgt. Waldron A. Frazier	Sioux, South Dakota
S/Sgt. Cornelius L. Wakolee	Potawatomi, Okla. (3 clusters)
S/Sgt. Clifton J. Rabideaux	Chippewa, Minn. (5 clusters)
S/Sgt. Peter N. Jackson	Hoopa, California
T/Sgt. Oliver Gibbs	Chippewa, Minnesota (3 clusters)
Lt. Charles Smith	Bannock, Idaho
S/Sgt. Alfred Dalpino	Shoshone, Idaho (12 clusters)
Lt. John Cook	Mohawk, New York
T/Sgt. Orus Baxter, Jr.	Creek, Oklahoma
S/Sgt. Abe Zuni	Isleta Pueblo, N.M. (3 clusters)
T/Sgt. Forrest J. Gerard	Blackfeet, Montana
S/Sgt. Jesse LaBuff	Blackfeet, Montana (2 clusters)
Sgt. Floyd Monroe	Blackfeet, Montana (1 cluster)
Lt. Kenneth M. Lee	Sioux, South Dakota (1 cluster)
Pfc. Albert E. Fairbanks	Chippewa, Minnesota (1 cluster)
S/Sgt. Earl M. Thomas	Lummi, Washington (1 cluster)
Sgt. Cloyd I. Gooday	Apache, Oklahoma
T/Sgt. Kent C. Ware	Kiowa, Oklahoma (2 clusters)
Lt. Myers Wahnee	Comanche, Oklahoma (clusters)
S/Sgt. Fred B. Larmer	Sioux, South Dakota
Sgt. John C. Rustemeyer	Sioux, South Dakota
T/Sgt. Cleveland J. Bordeaux	Sioux, S. Dak. (4 clusters)
Sgt. Lawrence R. Morris	Iowa, Kansas
S/Sgt. John Lee Redeagle	Quapaw, Oklahoma
S/Sgt. Albert Lopez	Delaware, Oklahoma (1 cluster)

S/Sgt. Glenn Black	Quilleute, Washington (4 clusters)
Sgt. Joseph Black	Quilleute, Washington
Lt. John C. Dirickson	Osage, Oklahoma (1 cluster)
S/Sgt. Blaze Savage	Chippewa, Minnesota
S/Sgt. Archie Hawkins	Sioux, South Dakota
S/Sgt. Steve Brown	Paiute, Nevada
T/Sgt. Harold E. Rogers	Seneca, Oklahoma (9 clusters)
Lt. Charles E. Harris	Pawnee, Oklahoma (1 cluster)
S-Sgt. Robert C. Kirkaldie	Assiniboine, Montana (3 clusters)

Distinguished Flying Cross (British)

Lt. Gilmore C. Daniel (RCAF)	Osage, Oklahoma
---------------------------------	-----------------

Distinguished Service Order (British)

Lt. Gilmore C. Daniel (RCAF)	Osage, Oklahoma
---------------------------------	-----------------

Soldier's Medal

Sgt. Perry Skenandore	Oneida, Wisconsin
-----------------------	-------------------



*Pfc. James R.
Alexander*



S-Sgt. Albert Lopez



*Lt. Charles Edward
Harris*

Awards for Valor

Bronze Star Medal

Pfc. Herbert M. Bremner	Tlingit, Alaska
S/Sgt. David E. Kenote	Menominee, Wisconsin
Pfc. William A. Davis	Chippewa, North Dakota
Cpl. Samuel Powvall	Mission, California
Pfc. Bernard Tracy	Navajo, New Mexico
Pfc. Otto Hodge	Yurok, California
Cpl. Leonard Webber	Shoshone, Idaho
Cpl. Jimmy Begay	Navajo, New Mexico
Sgt. Louis Provost	Omaha, South Dakota
Pfc. Harvey Natchees	Ute, Utah
Pfc. Danny B. Marshall	Creek, Oklahoma
T/5 Calvin Daily	Otoe, Oklahoma
Pfc. Roy Toledo	Navajo, New Mexico
Walter Key Biye, AOM 2/c	Navajo, Arizona
Pfc. Augustine Smith	Paiute-Klamath, Oregon
S/Sgt. Walter J. Roberts	Seminole, Oklahoma
Cpl. Calvin Flying Bye	Sioux, South Dakota
Cpl. Bert Orben Good	Chippewa, Minnesota
T/5 Warren Adams	Blackfoot-Gros Ventre, Montana
Lt. Myron W. Anderson	Blackfoot, Montana
Pvt. Marion McKeever	Flathead, Montana
Sgt. Perry Skenandore	Oneida, Wisconsin
Pfc. Joe C. Lewis	Papago, Arizona
Cpl. Ramon Juan	Papago, Arizona
T/3 John E. Snyder	Seneca, New York
Pfc. John W. Kionut	Caddo, Oklahoma
Sgt. Lanert Brown Eyes	Sioux, South Dakota
Cpl. Garfield T. Brown	Sioux, South Dakota
Sgt. Norman Janis	Sioux, South Dakota
Pfc. Carl Broken Rope	Sioux, South Dakota

Donald O'Neal
 Sgt. Bert H. Jefferson
 Pfc. Leonard Johnny
 Pfc. August L. Smith
 Lt. James M. Ware
 Pvt. Lester D. Douglas
 Nat Becenti
 Sgt. Jose P. Benavidez
 Pfc. Harvey Walking Eagle
 Cpl. Jack E. Mattz
 Pvt. Houston Stevens
 Sgt. Leo Upshaw
 Sgt. Augustine Chico
 Cpl. Ralph Andres
 Cpl. Lyndreth Palmer
 Pvt. LeRoy Hamlin
 Pvt. Vance Broken Rope
 Pvt. Leonard White Bull
 Pvt. Alex Hernandez
 Pfc. Clyde Smith

Arapaho, Wyoming
 Lummi, Washington
 Nooksack, Washington
 Makah-Lummi, Washington
 Osage, Oklahoma
 Navajo, New Mexico
 Navajo, New Mexico
 Isleta Pueblo, New Mexico
 Sioux, South Dakota
 Yurok, California
 Kickapoo, Oklahoma
 Navajo, New Mexico
 Papago, Arizona
 Papago, Arizona
 Kiowa, Oklahoma
 Ute, Colorado
 Sioux, South Dakota
 Sioux, South Dakota
 Sioux, South Dakota
 Hualapai, Arizona



*Pfc. William A.
Davis*



*Pfc. Thurman
Nonomantube*



*S-Sgt. Archive
Hawkins*



Navajos dance on a beach in the Solomons. Photo U.S. Army Signal Corps.

Ceremonial Dances in the Pacific

(One of the last stories written by Ernie Pyle before his tragic death on Ie Island was about the Indians of the First Marine Division on Okinawa. It is reprinted here by permission of Scripps-Howard Newspapers and United Feature Syndicate, Inc. The ceremonial dances, according to Marine Combat Correspondent Walter Wood, included the Apache Devil Dance, the Eagle Dance, the Hoop Dance, the War Dance, and the Navajo Mountain Chant. Besides the Navajos, Sioux, Comanche, Apache, Pima, Kiowa, Pueblo, and Crow Indians took part in the ceremonies.)

By ERNIE PYLE

Okinawa--(By Navy Radio)--Back nearly two years ago when I was with Oklahoma's 45th Division in Sicily and later in Italy, I learned that they had a number of Navajo Indians in communications.

When secret orders had to be given over the phone these boys gave them to one another in Navajo. Practically nobody in the world understands Navajo except another Navajo.

Well, my regiment of First Division marines has the same thing. There are about eight Indians who do this special work. They are good Marines and are very proud of being so.

There are two brothers among them, both named Joe. Their last names are the ones that are different. I guess that's a Navajo custom, though I never knew of it before.

One brother, Pfc. Joe Gatewood, went to the Indian School in Albuquerque. In fact our house is on the very same street, and Joe said it sure was good to see somebody from home.

Joe has been out here three years. He is 34 and has five children back home whom he would like to see. He was wounded several months ago and got the Purple Heart.

Joe's brother is Joe Kellwood who has also been out here three years. A couple of the others are Pfc. Alex Williams of Winslow, Ariz., and Pvt. Oscar Carroll of Fort Defiance, Ariz., which is the capital of the Navajo reservation. Most of the boys are from around Fort Defiance and used to work for the Indian Bureau.

The Indian boys knew before we got to Okinawa that the invasion landing wasn't going to be very tough. They were the only ones in the convoy who did know it. For one thing they saw signs and for another they used their own influence.

Before the convoy left the far south tropical island where the Navajos had been training since the last campaign, the boys put on a ceremonial dance.

The Red Cross furnished some colored cloth and paint to stain their faces. They made up the rest of their Indian costumes from chicken feathers, sea shells, coconuts, empty ration cans and rifle cartridges.

Then they did their own native ceremonial chants and dances out there under the tropical palm trees with several thousand Marines as a grave audience.

In their chant they asked the great gods in the sky to sap the Japanese of their strength for this blitz. They put the finger of weakness on the Japs. And then they ended their ceremonial chant by singing the Marine Corps song in Navajo.

I asked Joe Gatewood if he really felt their dance had something to do with the ease of our landing and he said the boys did believe so and were very serious about it, himself included.

"I knew nothing was going to happen to us," Joe said, "for on the way up here there was a rainbow over the convoy and I knew then everything would be all right."

A Choctaw Leads the Guerrillas

In April 1945, after more than three years as a guerrilla leader in the Philippines, Lt. Col. Edward Ernest McClish came home to Okmulgee, Oklahoma, where his family, who had refused to believe him dead, waited for him. Some of his story has been told in *American Guerrilla in the Philippines*, by Ira Wolfert, and other details have been added in a report given to the Public Relations Bureau of the War Department by Col. McClish. It is an extraordinary tale of accomplishment against great odds.

Lt. Col. McClish, a Choctaw, who graduated from Haskell Institute in 1929 and from Bacone College two years later, was called to active duty in the National Guard in 1940, and early in 1941 he arrived in the Philippines, where he became commander of a company of Philippine Scouts. In August he went to Panay to mobilize units of the Philippine Army there, and as commander of the Third Battalion he moved his men to Negros, where they were stationed when the war broke out. Late in December they crossed by boat to Mindanao, and there all the Moro bolo battalions were added to McClish's command.

The Japanese did not reach Mindanao until April 29, 1942, shortly before the American capitulation on Luzon, and Col. McClish's men fought them for nearly three weeks. When forces on the island finally surrendered, McClish, a casualty in the hospital, some distance from headquarters, was fortunately unable to join his men. Instead of capitulating he began to organize a guerrilla army.

By September 1942, he had an organization of more than 300 soldiers, with four machine guns, 150 rifles, and six boxes of ammunition. Some American and Filipino officers had escaped capture and joined the staff. In the early stages of the organization, McClish got word of a Colonel Fertig, of the Army Engineers, who was working along similar lines in the western part of Mindanao, and he managed to reach Fertig by travelling in a small sailboat along the coast. The two men decided to consolidate their commands, and Colonel Fertig asked McClish to

organize the fighting forces in the four eastern provinces of the island as the 110th Division.

Organization was at first very difficult. Independent guerrilla bands had sprung up all over the island, some of them composed of robbers and bandits who terrorized the villages. Some were anti-American, says Colonel McClish. Most of them lacked military training and education. But slowly the work proceeded. The bandits were disarmed and jailed; the friendly natives were trained, and young men qualified to be officers were commissioned. By the spring of 1943 McClish had assembled a full-strength regiment in each of the three provinces, a fourth had been started, and Division headquarters staff had been completed.

Simultaneously with the military organization, civil governments were set up in each province. Wherever possible, the officials who had held jobs in pre-war days were reappointed, provided that they had not collaborated with the Japanese. Provincial and municipal officials worked hand in hand with the military, and helped greatly to build up the army's strength.

Because of the shortage of food, reports Colonel McClish, a Food Administrator and a Civil and Judicial Committee were appointed to begin agricultural and industrial rehabilitation. Army projects for the production of food and materials of war were begun throughout the Division area, and all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 50 were required to give one day's work each week to one of these projects. They raised vegetables, pigs, poultry, sugar cane, and other foods. The manufacture of soap, alcohol, and coconut oil was started. Fishing was encouraged. In some of the provinces food production was increased beyond the peacetime level. The civilians realized that they were part of the army, and that only a total effort could defeat the enemy.

The public relations office published a newspaper, and headquarters kept in communication with the regiments in each province by radio, by telephone (when wire was available), or by runner. The guerrillas acquired launches and barges which had been kept hidden from the Japanese, and these were operated by home-made alcohol and coconut oil. Seven trucks provided more

transport, but it was safer and easier to use the sea than the land. In order to maintain their motor equipment, they "obtained" a complete machine shop from a Japanese lumbering company in their territory.

From September 15, 1942, to January 1, 1945, while McClish's work of organization and administration was continuing, his guerrilla forces were fighting the Japanese, and more than 350 encounters--ambushes, raids on patrols and small garrisons, and general engagements--were listed on their records. One hundred and fifteen men were killed and sixty-four wounded. Enemy losses were estimated at more than 3000 killed and six hundred wounded. The guerrillas finally made contact with the American forces in the South Pacific and supplied them with valuable information about the enemy which was extremely helpful when the time for the invasion of the Philippines came at last. They did their part in bringing about the final victory in the Pacific.

An Empty Saddle



"If I should be killed, I want you to bury me on one of the hills east of the place where my grandparents and brothers and sisters and other relative are buried.

"If you have a memorial service, I want the soldiers to go ahead with the American flag. I want cowboys to follow, all on horseback. I want one of the cowboys to lead one of the wildest of the T over X horses with saddle and bridle on.

"I will be riding that horse."

Such were the written instructions left by Pvt. Clarence Spotted Wolf, full-blood Gros Ventre, with his tribesmen. He was killed December 21, 1944, in Luxembourg.

Pvt. Spotted Wolf was born May 18, 1914. He entered the service in January, 1942, and a year later was transferred to a tank battalion. He went overseas in August, 1944.

On January 28, in Elbowoods, North Dakota, the memorial service he had foreseen was held in his honor. It was an impressive ceremony. The Stars and Stripes presided over the winter-bare hills where Clarence Spotted Wolf's family and friends carried out his wishes. There were soldiers; there were cowboys; and his own saddle had been placed on the T over X horse, which was led in the procession. It is pleasing to fancy the spirits of brave warriors long departed watching benignly from the Happy Hunting Grounds.

As for the empty saddle--who knows?

(Pvt. Clarence Spotted Wolf, pictured)

We Honor These Dead

Arizona

Lonnie Allen	Apache (San Carlos)	Pacific
Adam Harney	Apache (San Carlos)	France
Ernest Stanley	Apache (San Carlos)	Luxembourg
Johnnie Goodluck	Navajo	France
Haskell A. Osife	Pima	
Antony Jose	Pima	
Joe Terry	Pima	
Willacot Anton	Pima	
Robert E. Allison	Pima	
Joshua Morris	Pima	
Leander Shelde	Pima	
Joseph Thomas	Pima	
Percy Osife	Pima	
Fred Washington	Pima	
Phillip Largo	Pima	
Thomas Throssell	Papago	U.S.A.
Alfred Perkins	Pima	Leyte
Alfred Ferguson	Maricopa	France
Frank Banashley	Apache (Fort Apache)	Luzon
Thomas Altaha	Apache (Fort Apache)	Italy
Ralph Aday	Apache (Fort Apache)	Germany
Norman Puhuquaptewa	Hopi	Luxembourg
Walter Nelson	Navajo	Luzon
Stetson Pahayeoma	Hopi	Leyte
Walter Keyannie	Navajo	Luxembourg
Kayah Gale	Navajo	Pacific
Harold Poncho	Hopi	France
Clarence Beeson	Hopi	Germany
Allen Honawahoya	Hopi	Pacific

Roy Hoachtewa	Hopi	Philippines
Alfonso Zeyouma	Hopi	U.S.A.
Eugene Mansfield	Hopi	U.S.A.
Alton Kidde	Apache (San Carlos)	Pacific
Evans Reede	Apache (San Carlos)	New Britain
Frank Reede	Apache (San Carlos)	Luzon
Edmund Smith	Navajo	Germany
Silas Lefthand	Navajo	Luzon
Fred R. Loukai	Navajo	Burma
Felix Ashley	Navajo	Pacific
Sam J. Earl	Navajo	Luzon
Antonio J. Alvarez	Papago	France
Alonzo Antone	Papago	Belgium
Ventura B.	Papago	Italy
Venito M. Condio	Papago	Luzon
Austin Francisco	Papago	Luzon
Lawrence Garcia	Papago	Italy
Joe Gonzales	Papago	Luzon
Joe C. Lewis	Papago	Luzon
Dennis Manuel	Papago	Pacific
Fred James	Pima	Pacific
Henry Isaac Norris	Papago	England
Joseph Hendricks	Papago	Luzon
Stephen Thomas Carrillo	Papago	Okinawa
Johnston Peters	Pima	Germany
Edward Harris	Papago	Okinawa
Raymond T. Carrillo	Papago	Okinawa
Alfred Tsosie	Navajo	Bougainville
Elwood King	Navajo	Iwo Jima
Joe Singer	Navajo	Philippines
Tom Singer	Navajo	Peleliu
Walter Key Biye	Navajo	Pacific



Adam Harney



Thomas Throssell



Reginaldo Helms

California

Reginaldo Helms	Mission (Soboba)	Belgium
John P. Emeterio	Sacramento	Belgium
Otto Hodge	Yurok	Italy
Baron D. Risling	Hoopa	U.S.A.
Romaldo Natt	Yurok	Italy
Joe Blacktooth	Mission (Pala)	Japan
Augustine Quevas	Mission (Santa Ysabel)	Japan
Lee M. Angel	Mission (Mesa Grande)	Germany
Gilbert Cleland	Mission (Mesa Grande)	Germany
George Estrada	Mission (Mesa Grande)	Saipan
Steve Levi	Mission (Torres-Martinez)	Saipan
Merced Norte	Mission (Los Coyotes)	France
Gene Pablo	Mission (Santa Ysabel)	Pacific
Philip Peters	Mission (Pauma)	U.S.A.
Fred Rodriguez	Mission (Rincon)	Germany
Bob Smith	Mission (Mesa Grande)	Germany
Wilfred Ward	Mission (La Jolla)	Germany
William Besoain	Karok	
Melvin Cadoza	Hoopa (Smith River)	Saipan
Henry Davis	Hoopa (Weott)	
John Duncan	Hoopa (Wailaki)	Holland
Charles L. Henderson	Hoopa (Mattole)	

James Ladd	Klamath	Italy
Eugene Lewis	Yurok	Iwo Jima
Jack Mattz	Yurok	Holland
Leonard W. Mosely	Hoopa (Eel River)	
Floyd Pilgrim	Klamath	
Arthur Case, Jr.	Karok	

Colorado

Albert Box	Ute	Leyte
Wilbur Washington	Ute	Italy
Elmer Lewis	Navajo	

Idaho

James Burt	Shoshone	Luzon
Howard Cutler	Shoshone	Atlantic
Stanley George	Shoshone	Europe
Matthew Honenah	Shoshone	Europe
Nelson Ingawanup	Shoshone	Europe
James Mosho, Jr.	Shoshone	Europe
Adolph Alexie	Couer D'Alene	Okinawa

Kansas

William Lasley	Potawatomi	Italy
Herbert H. DeRoin	Iowa	France
Paul G. Wamego	Potawatomi	Germany
Edgar H. Goslin	Kickapoo	Pacific



Stephen Thomas Carrillo



Ernest Stanley



Daniel McKenzie

Minnesota

Daniel McKenzie	Chippewa	Holland
James L. Johnson	Chippewa	France
Jacob Anderson	Chippewa	France
Adolph King	Chippewa	France
Lewis E. Taylor	Chippewa	Germany
George Sheehy	Chippewa	Italy
Francis S. Bushman	Chippewa	Manchukuo
James I. Cook	Chippewa	Luzon
George Kelly	Chippewa	France
Peter Morgan	Chippewa	France
Vincent Zimmerman	Chippewa	Europe
John S. Mercer	Chippewa	Germany
Joseph Weaver	Chippewa	Belgium
Ralph Robinson	Chippewa	Germany
Richard Johnson	Chippewa	Africa
Jesse J. Tibbetts	Chippewa	English Channel
Sylvester Charboneau	Chippewa	At Sea
Lyman Tanner	Chippewa	Luzon
Richard Boshey	Chippewa	Belgium
Wesley Eagle	Chippewa	Pacific
William Potter	Chippewa	Italy
Robert TeJohn	Chippewa	Luzon
Hubert Williams	Chippewa	Belgium
Richard Sailor	Chippewa	France
Martin E. Simons	Chippewa	Pacific
Robert Belland	Chippewa	Italy
Eddie Brown	Chippewa	Italy
George Brunette	Chippewa	U.S.A.
Dominic Misquadace	Chippewa	
Lawrence Carl	Chippewa	Luzon
Dean Ottershaw	Chippewa	Pacific

Clifford John Antell	Chippewa	Pacific
	Mississippi	
Bob Allen	Choctaw	Solomons
Gibson T. McMillan	Choctaw	Luzon
Emmett Jackson	Choctaw	Germany
Able Sam	Choctaw	Germany
John Day Isaac	Choctaw	U.S.A.
Raymond Martin	Choctaw	Germany
	Montana	
Murry L. Williamson	Blackfeet	Luzon
Fredrick Bauer, Jr.	Sioux	Luzon
Sam Dives Backwards	Cheyenne	Luzon
George B. Magee, Jr.	Blackfeet	France
Wilbur Spang	Cheyenne	U.S.A.
Daniel L. Pablo	Flathead	Germany
Warren L. Gardipe	Flathead	Philippines
Leonard R. Jette	Flathead	
Joseph O. Pronovost	Flathead	Pacific
William Pronovost	Flathead	
Louis C. Charlo	flathead	Iwo Jima
Oswald A. Felsman	Flathead	France
Pascal Bohn	Flathead	Belgium
Julian A. Pablo	Flathead	Philippines



Lawrence Carl



Murry Williamson



Sam Dives Backwards

Clarence L. Marengo	Flathead	Italy
Elmer C. Ladue	Flathead	
Fredrick E. Kasko	Flathead	
Isaac Matt	Flathead	Germany
Elvin Matt	Flathead	Germany
Harvey W. Ducharme	Flathead	Germany
Francis Heavyrunner	Blackfeet	France
Eugene Horn	Blackfeet	Leyte
William Wolftail	Blackfeet	France
Fred De Roche	Blackfeet	Belgium
Patrick Reevis	Blackfeet	Luzon
William Allison, Jr.	Blackfeet	Germany
Charles Stewart	Blackfeet	Pacific
Roger K. Paul	Blackfeet	France
Melvin Rides at the Door	Blackfeet	Germany
Joseph Long Knife	Assiniboine	Luzon
Benjamin Chopwood	Assiniboine	Italy
Pius Wing	Assiniboine	France
Richard King, Jr.	Assiniboine	France
Murphy Gunn	Assiniboine	Pacific
	Nebraska	
Thomas H. Harrison	Winnebago	France
	Nevada	
Seymour Arnot	Washoe	Pacific
Stanley Winnemucca	Paiute	
Francis Shaw	Paiute	Africa
Henry West, Jr.	Paiute	
Scott Green	Paiute	
Arthur F. Jones	Paiute	Africa
Mike Drew	Paiute	Italy
Edward Joe	Washoe	Peleliu
Sidney Jack	Paiute	Europe

Clarence Hanks	Paiute	Europe
Warren Wilson	Paiute	Pacific
	New Mexico	
James Romero	Laguna Pueblo	
Alex Fragua	Jemez Pueblo	France
Pablo Fragua	Jemez Pueblo	
Ben Quintana	Cochiti Pueblo	Philippines
Anthony Mitchell	Navajo	France
Osborne Sam	Navajo	
Jack Antonio	Acoma Pueblo	Germany
Jose R. Lucero	Isleta Pueblo	
Alfonso G. Nahkai	Navajo	Palau Islands
Aghe Beligoody	Navajo	France
Silas Yazzie	Navajo	Italy
Jim Tom	Navajo	France
David Harvey	Navajo	Germany
Bernard Dolan	Apache (Mescalero)	Belgium
Martin Aragon	Laguna Pueblo	France
Kee Y. Chico	Navajo	France
Earl Ayze	Navajo	France
Vincent Wemytewa	Zuni	Germany
Harry White	Navajo	Italy
John C. Nelson	Navajo	Leyte
Paul G. Chaves	Acoma Pueblo	
Jose Cruz Duran	San Felipe Pueblo	
Jose C. Tenorio	San Felipe Pueblo	Pacific
Raymond Rosetta	Santo Domingo Pueblo	
Richard Jamon	Zuni	Luzon
Joe Ben	Navajo	Luzon
Hilario Armijo	Jemez Pueblo	Germany
Cypriano Herrera	Tesuque Pueblo	Europe
Jimmie Weahke	Zuni	Italy



Louis M. Charlo



Patrick Reevis



*Francis
Heavyrunner*

John Wesley Romero	Laguna Pueblo	Belgium
Harley Kantenna	Zuni	Italy
Paul Kinlahcheeny	Navajo	Iwo Jima
Jose E. Lopez	Santa Ana Pueblo	
George Vicenti	Apache (Jicarilla)	Romania
Frank Lucero	Laguna Pueblo	Pacific
Jose Chewiwi	Isleta Pueblo	Europe
Jose Romero	Santa Ana Pueblo	Pacific
Vicenti Mirabal	Taos Pueblo	Germany
Sam Morgan	Navajo	Iwo Jima
Edgar Lunasee	Zuni	Philippines
Jose F. Mirabal	Santa Clara Pueblo	
Mariano Pacheco	Laguna Pueblo	Italy
Paul Fernando	Laguna Pueblo	Germany
Joe B. Garcia	Santo Domingo Pueblo	Europe
Ted Bird	Santo Domingo Pueblo	Germany
Jimmy Rodriguez	Laguna Pueblo	
Marce L. Korris	Santo Domingo Pueblo	Okinawa
Harold White	Navajo	Italy
Sidney David	Navajo	Philippines
Jay Delawashie	Navajo	Philippines
John Martin	Navajo	Philippines

New York

Collins Moses	Seneca	Germany
Henry Powless	Onondaga	Tarawa
Sylvester Thompson	Mohawk	France
Silas William Chew	Tuscarora	Europe
Ernest Printup	Tuscarora	Europe
Archie Oakes	Mohawk	Europe
Louis Barnes	Mohawk	France
Andrew Cook	Mohawk	Manila
Francis Jock	Mohawk	At Sea
Clarence Carnon	Tonawanda-Seneca	At Sea
John Seabrean	Tonawanda-Seneca	Sicily
Carroll Patterson	Tonawanda-Seneca	France
Kenneth Fatty	Onondaga	France
Linas Snow	Seneca	France
Roland Redeye	Seneca	
Harlan Laye	Seneca	Germany
Francis Waterman	Onondaga	Tarawa
Kenneth Parker	Seneca	
Raymond John	Seneca	
Frank Doxtator	Seneca	

North Carolina

Mark J. Rattler	Cherokee	Pacific
Isaac Ross	Cherokee	Pacific
Vernon Sneed	Cherokee	Germany
Enos Thompson	Cherokee	Luxembourg
William Taylor, Jr.	Cherokee	Pacific
Adam West Driver	Cherokee	Iwo Jima
Jeremiah Toineeta	Cherokee	Germany
Blaine Queen	Cherokee	Germany
Richmond Lambert	Cherokee	Germany
Edward Hardin	Cherokee	Pacific

Clarence Murphy
Joshua Shell

Cherokee
Cherokee

U.S.A.
Okinawa



Blaine Queen



Adam West Driver



Johnnie Buckner

North Dakota

Donald Hosie	Arikara	Holland
Philip Lohnes	Sioux (Fort Totten)	New Britain
Clarence Spotted Wolf	Gros Ventre	Luxembourg
Leonard Red Tomahawk	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Leyte
William A. Davis	Chippewa	New Guinea
Joseph R. Agard	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Marianas
Wallace J. Demery	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Ireland
Louis Calvin Noel	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Belgium
Matthew American Horse	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Earle Defender	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Italy
Joseph Goudreau	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Paul Yankton	Sioux (Fort Totten)	France

Oklahoma

Harold E. Rogers	Seneca	Europe
Grant Gover	Pawnee	France
Dennis W. Bluejacket	Shawnee-Cherokee	Europe
George Choate, Jr.	Cheyenne-Arapaho	
Charles Edward Harris	Pawnee	France

Reuben Mashunkashey	Osage	Luxembourg
Moses Red Eagle	Osage	Italy
Mathson Whiteshield	Cheyenne-Arapaho	
Jim N. Chuculate	Five Civilized Tribes	Luxembourg
Charles E. Sam	Five Civilized Tribes	Belgium
Zack L. Smith	Ponca	Germany
George D. Coons	Pawnee	Germany
Cornelius Hardman, Jr.	Ponca	Luxembourg
James L. Douglas	Creek	Philippines
David Cross, Jr.	Caddo-Cheyenne	Philippines
Wesley Osage	Cheyenne	Pacific
Cyrus Packer	Cheyenne	Europe
Kingsley Allrunner	Cheyenne	U.S.A.
Wayne Beartrack	Cheyenne	U.S.A.
Nelson Bearbow	Cheyenne	U.S.A.
Levi Hosetosavit	Comanche	France
Rayson Billy	Choctaw	Sicily
Davis Pickens	Choctaw	Sicily
Dan Roebuck	Choctaw	Africa
Lewis E. Wade	Choctaw	Germany
John Floyd Wall	Choctaw	Pacific
Edmond Perry	Choctaw	
John Carney	Choctaw	
Johnson Harjo	Seminole	France
Charles W. Imotichey	Chickasaw	Italy
Hershel L. Malone	Chickasaw	England
Orus Baxter, Jr.	Creek	Germany
James Sulphur	Creek	France
Willie Scott	Creek	France
Charles G. Keighley	Osage	Germany
Own Mombi	Choctaw	Germany
Whitney Holata	Seminole	England

Sam Fixico	Seminole	Mediterranean
Johnnie Buckner	Creek	Pacific
James Paul Fireshaker	Ponca	Okinawa
John Wallace	Choctaw	Africa
Andrew Brokeshoulder	Choctaw	Sicily
T.P. Hattensty	Choctaw	Anzio



Cornelius Hardman



Grant Gover



James Sulphur

Billie Jack	Choctaw	New Guinea
Paul B. Blanche	Choctaw	
Osborne L. Blanche	Choctaw	Japan
Ray Bohanon	Choctaw	Europe
Aaron Cusher	Choctaw	
Hanson H. Jones	Choctaw	
Walter D. McClure	Choctaw	
Aaron Watkins	Choctaw	
LeRoy McNoel	Choctaw	
Marion Ruling Harris	Sac and Fox	Tinian
Andrew Warrior	Shawnee	
Lee Edward Ahchekeo	Sac and fox	Pacific
Thomas P. Carter	Sac and Fox	
Paul K. Stevens	Kickapoo	Europe
Donald Beaver	Caddo	Europe

Raymond Brown	Wichita	Europe
Thomas Chockpoyah	Comanche	Europe
Matthew Hawzipta	Kiowa	Germany
Melvin Myers	Comanche	Europe
Lyndreth Palmer	Kiowa	Europe
Louis Rivas	Comanche	Europe
Ben Trevino, Jr.	Comanche	Europe
Gilbert Vidana	Comanche	Europe
Joe Guoladdle	Kiowa	Pacific
Nathaniel Bitseedy	Kiowa-Apache	U.S.A.
Dan Madrano, Jr.	Caddo	Europe
Forrest Tabbyyetchy	Comanche	U.S.A.
Mont Bruce Williams	Caddo	U.S.A.
John Stevens	Choctaw	Europe
Lewis Mitchell	Creek	Atlantic
Joseph J. King	Ottawa	Germany
Johnnie F. Gokey	Sac and Fox	Luzon
Joseph G. Bratton	Osage	Pacific
Bennett H. Griffin	Osage	France
Clabe C. Mackey	Osage	Germany
Joseph L. LaSarge	Osage	Italy
Harold L. McKinley	Osage	Philippines
Rudolph McKinley	Osage	France
Frank Riddle, Jr.	Osage	Pacific
Milton Otis Ririe	Osage	Panama
Harold B. Smalley	Osage	Pacific
Eugene E. Slaughter	Osage	Pacific
Clarence Tinker, Jr.	Osage	Mediterranean
Robert E. Warrior	Osage	France
Elmer C. Weinrich	Osage	Germany
William Silas Coons	Pawnee	Italy
Charles G. Red Bird	Cheyenne	Pacific

William Sixkiller, Jr.	Cherokee	Saipan
Henry W. Conowoop	Comanche	Luzon
Floyd Primeaux	Ponca	

Oregon

Raymond L. Enouf	Klamath	Pacific
Roscoe Dick	Warm Springs	Philippines
Gilbert Yahtin	Warm Springs	Belgium
Wesley Morrisette	Walla Walla	Italy



James L. Johnson



Lewis E. Taylor



*Vincent Village
Center*

South Dakota

Guy L. Archambeau	Sioux (Yankton)	U.S.A.
Daniel L. Quickbear	Sioux (Rosebud)	Africa
Joseph Running Horse	Sioux (Rosebud)	Peleliu
Raymond Lodge Skin	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Warren C. Bonnin	Sioux (Yankton)	Guam
Floyd Bear Saves Life	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Philip G. Atkinson	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Reuben E. Redfeather	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Stanley C. Rogers	Sioux (Rosebud)	Luzon
Ole J. Johnson	Sioux (Sisseton)	Germany
James L. Janis	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Luxembourg
Waldron Frazier	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	U.S.A.

Stanley Goodbird	Sioux (Sisseton)	Africa
Joseph Supangi	Sioux (Sisseton)	France
William Keoke	Sioux (Sisseton)	Italy
Louis LaBelle	Sioux (Sisseton)	France
Arthur F. Sanders	Sioux (Sisseton)	France
Norman Redthunder	Sioux (Sisseton)	Germany
Jacob Wood	Sioux (Sisseton)	Europe
Alexander DuMarce	Sioux (Sisseton)	Biak Island
Robert Lee White	Sioux (Sisseton)	U.S.A.
Charles Under Baggage, Jr.	Sioux (Pineridge)	France
Elmer A. Feather	Sioux (Sisseton)	Luzon
William Bird Horse	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe
George D. LaPlant	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Levi Traversie	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Art Blue Arm	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Fred Colombe	Sioux (Rosebud)	Luzon
Winfield Loves War	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe
Joseph Hairychin	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Pacific
Thomas Crow Necklace	Sioux (Standing Rock)	France
William Flying Horse	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Luzon
Vincent Village Center	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Belgium
Aaron G. Bettelyoun	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Holland
Louis Raymond Cottier	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Leyte
Clement Crazy Thunder	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Iwo Jima
Matt Good Shield	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	New Guinea
Jacob Herman, Jr.	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Holland
James LaPointe, Jr.	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Francis Leon Killer	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Chester Maple	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Leroy No Neck	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Holland

Norman Portwood	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	English Channel
Earl J. Two Bulls	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Leyte
Thomas Waters	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Luzon
Chester Afraid of Bear	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	U.S.A.
George Ladeau	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	U.S.A.
Pierre Pau Lee	Sioux (Yankton)	U.S.A.
Leonard Q. Smith	Sioux (Yankton)	Pacific
Albert Chief Eagle	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	U.S.A.
Silas Running Eagle	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	U.S.A.
James L. DeMarsche	Sioux (Rosebud)	Tarawa
Roy A Brandon	Sioux (Rosebud)	Guam
Earl J. Dion	Sioux (Rosebud)	Africa
William J. Dion	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Lorenzo W. Collins	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Howard Brandon	Sioux (Rosebud)	Iwo Jima
William Dempsey Austin	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Jesse Cuny	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Charles Swimmer	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Luzon
Joe Kitto	Chippewa	Belgium
Lester Red Boy	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Vincent Fast Horse	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific



Waldron Frazier



*Charles Under
Baggage, Jr.*



Felix Ashley

Utah

Nelson Tonegates	Ute	Germany
Ansel G. Wanzitz	Ute	France

Washington

Samuel C. Abrahamson	Colville	Manila
Charles Schultz, Jr.	Lummi	France
Richard Wood	Clallam	Germany
Roy Knight	Swinomish	Belgium
John Bobb	Swinomish	Germany
Melvin Ross	Muckleshoot	Italy
Jartin James	Snoqualmie	Luzon
John H. Kittles	Lummi	Italy
Herman John	Nisqually	Belgium
Norman Simmons	Quinaielt	Okinawa
Harry J. Cheholtz	Toholah	Philippines

Wisconsin

Richard J. Ackley	Chippewa	Italy
Matthew Johnson	Winnebago	Europe
Joseph Graverette		Belgium
Robert Duffy	Chippewa	
Joseph Matchoma	Menominee	France
Donald J. Brisk	Oneida	France
Robert A. Cornelius	Oneida	Germany
Melvin Jordan	Oneida	Germany
Marvin Johns	Oneida	France
Joseph Ninham	Oneida	
Joseph J. White	Winnebago	France
Milan St. Germaine	Chippewa	France
Thomas Soldier	Menominee	France
Arnold Tepiew	Menominee	Burma
Joseph Komanekin	Menominee	France
James C. Ford, Jr.	Chippewa	Italy

Alpheus Decorah
George N. Johnson
Edmund Cornelius

Winnebago
Winnebago
Oneida

Pacific

Wyoming

Claude Goggles
Chester Arthur
William Trosper
John L. Brown
Lee Wadda
Laverne Wagon
Richard Pogue
Sidney Bush
George Antelope

Arapaho
Arapaho
Arapaho
Arapaho
Shoshone
Shoshone
Shoshone
Shoshone
Arapaho

Leyte
Belgium



Charles Schultz



Joseph White



John H. Kittles

Navajo Code Talkers

by
W/T Sgt. Murrey Marder
Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

Reprinted by permission of The *Marine Corps Gazette*

Through the Solomons, in the Marianas, at Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and almost every island where Marines have stormed ashore in this war, the Japanese have heard a strange language gurgling through the earphones of their radio listening sets--a voice code which defies decoding.

To the linguistically keen ear it shows a trace of Asiatic origin, and a lot of what sounds like American double-talk. This strange tongue, one of the most select in the world, is Navajo, embellished with improvised words and phrases for military use. For three years it has served the Marine Corps well for transmitting secret radio and telephone messages in combat.

The dark-skinned, black-haired Navajo code talker, huddled over a portable radio or field phone in a regimental, divisional or corps command post, translating a message into Navajo as he reads it to his counterpart on the receiving end miles away, has been a familiar sight in the Pacific battle zone. Permission to disclose the work of these American Indians in marine uniform has just been granted by the Marine Corps.

Transmitting messages which the enemy cannot decode is a vital military factor in any engagement, especially where combat units are operating over a wide area in which communications must be maintained by radio. Throughout the history of warfare, military leaders have sought the perfect code--a code which the enemy could not break down, no matter how able his intelligence staff.

Most codes are based on the codist's native language. If the language is a widely-used one, it also will be familiar to the enemy and no matter how good your code may be the enemy eventually can master it. Navajo, however, is one of the world's

"hidden" languages; it is termed "hidden," along with other Indian languages, as no alphabet or other symbols of it exist in the original form. There are only about 55,000 Navajos, all concentrated in one region, living on Government reservations and intensely clannish by nature, which has confined the tongue to its native area.

Except for the Navajos themselves, only a handful of Americans speak the language. At the time the Marine Corps adopted Navajo as a voice code it was estimated that not more than 28 other persons, American scientists or missionaries who lived among the Navajos and studied the language for years, could speak Navajo fluently. In recent years, missionaries and the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs have worked on the compilation of dictionaries and grammars of the language, based on its phonetics, to reduce it to writing. Even with these available it is said that a fluency can be acquired from prepared texts only by persons who are highly educated in English and who have made a lengthy study of spoken and written Navajo.

One of the reasons which prompted the Marine Corps to adopt Navajo, in preference to a variety of Indian tongues as used by the AEF in the last war, was a report that Navajos were the only Indian group in the United States not infested with German students during the 20 years prior to 1941, when the Germans had been studying tribal dialects under the guise of art students, anthropologists, etc. It was learned that German and other foreign diplomats were among the chief customers of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the purchase of publications dealing with Indian tribes, but it was decided that even if Navajo books were in enemy hands it would be virtually impossible for the enemy to gain a working knowledge of the language from that meager information. In addition, even ability to speak Navajo fluently would not necessarily enable the enemy to decode a military message, for the Navajo dictionary does not list military terms, and words used for "jeep," "emplacement," "battery," "radar," "antiaircraft," etc., have been improvised by Navajos in the field.

The adoption of code talkers by the Marine Corps stemmed from a request for Navajo communicators by Maj. Gen. Clayton B.

Vogel, then Commanding General, Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet. A report submitted with his request said a Navajo enlistment program would have full support of the Tribal Council at Window Rock, Arizona, Navajo Reservation.

Acting on this request the Marine Corps' Division of Plans and Policies in March 1942 sent Col. Wethered Woodworth to make a further report on the subject, and a test was made at the San Diego, Calif., Marine Base to determine the practicality of Navajos as code talkers.

The test revealed that the Navajos who volunteered for the experiment could transmit the messages given, although with some variation at the receiving end resulting from the lack of exact words to transmit specific military terms. For example, "Enemy is pressing attack on left flank" would come out "the enemy is attacking on the left."

Proper schooling in military phraseology, it was believed, could correct this variation, and the following month the Marine Corps authorized an initial enlistment of 30 Navajos to ascertain the value of their services.

The enlistment order required that recruits meet full Marine Corps physical requirements and have a sufficient knowledge of English and Navajo to transmit combat messages in Navajo. The recruits were to receive regular Marine training, attend a Navajo school at the Fleet Marine Force Training Center, Camp Elliott, Calif., and then receive sufficient communications training to enable them to handle their specially qualified talent on the battlefield.

All the recruits spoke the same Navajo basically, but there were certain word variations. In Navajo, the same word spoken with four different inflections has four different meanings. The recruits had to agree on words which had no shades of interpretation, for any variation in an important military messages might be disastrous. As might be expected in any group of youths, they were not equal in education or intelligence. Some of the military terms were very complex to the unschooled; all had to be able to understand them thoroughly in order to translate them into their native language. Some were not easily adaptable to

communications work. It was difficult in several instances for non-Navajos to instruct the recruits in Marine Corps activities; a few marine instructors were unable to cope with the typical Indian imperturbability.

On the other hand, many of the recruits were well-educated, intelligent and quick to learn. A number had worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as clerks, and almost all the Navajos had the highly developed Indian sensory perceptions.

There were some recruits like PFC Wilsie H. Bitsie, whose father is district supervisor of the Mexican Springs, N. Mex., Navajo District. Bitsie became an instructor in the Navajo School at Camp Elliott for a time, and helped work out the much needed military terms. He went on to join the marine Raiders and at New Georgia his Navajo ability helped the Raiders maintain contact with the Army command at Munda while the marines knocked out Japanese outposts in the jungle to the north.

Other code talkers went with the Third Marine Division and the Raiders to Bougainville. There some manned distant outposts, maintaining contact in Navajo by radio. It was found best to have close friends work together in teams of two, for they could perfect their code talk by personal contact.

The men in their units learned that in addition to their language ability the Navajos also could be good marines. They could do their share of fighting and they made good scouts and messengers.

There had been concern in some quarters that dark-skinned Navajos might be mistaken for Japs. In the latter days of the Guadalcanal action one Army unit did pick up a Navajo communicator on the coastal road and messaged the marine command: "We have captured a Jap in marine clothing with marine identification tags." A marine officer was startled to find the prisoner was a Navajo, who was only bored by the proceedings.

The code talkers went on into more campaigns, proving their ability, and the Navajo quota in the Marine Corps rose from 30 to 420. At their TBXs they transmitted operational orders which

helped us advance from the Solomons to Okinawa.

It was found that the Navajos are not necessary at levels lower than battalions. For messages between battalions and companies the extra security is not required and speed is the paramount issue.

The III Amphibious Corps reported that the use of the talkers during the Guam and Peleliu operations "was considered indispensable for the rapid transmission of classified dispatches. Enciphering and deciphering time would have prevented vital operational information from being dispatched or delivered to staff sections with any degree of speed."

At Iwo Jima, Navajos transmitted messages from the beach to division and Corps commands afloat early on D-day, and after the division commands came ashore, from division ashore to Corps afloat.

Last April authority was granted to establish a re-training course for Navajos at FMFPac. Under this plan, five code talkers are taken from each division to attend an intensive 21-day course which gives emphasis to plane types, ship types, printing and message writing, and message transmission. These Navajos then return to their divisions to instruct the remaining men. It is emphasized that code talkers work out successfully only where interest is shown by the command and where training continues between operations.

As for the Navajos themselves, they probably are not any more enthusiastic about the concentrated schooling than most young marines would be about schooling, for they are amused at being regarded as different from other marines.

On rare occasions, though, they do lapse into some typical Indian gyrations. Ernie Pyle, in one of his last dispatches from Okinawa, described how the First Division's Navajos had put on a ceremonial dance before leaving for Okinawa. In the ceremony, they asked the gods to sap the strength of the Japanese in the assault.

According to a later report, when the First Division met the strong opposition in the south of Okinawa, one marine turned to a

Navajo code talker and said,

"O.K., Yazzey, what about your little ceremony? What do you call this?"

"This is different," answered the Navajo with a smile. "We prayed only for an easy landing."

Indians Fought on Iwo Jima

Many Indians participated in the famous action on Iwo Jima. The most celebrated of these is Pfc. Ira H. Hayes, a full-blood Pima from Bapchule, Arizona, one of three survivors of the historic incident on Mount Suribachi, when six Marines raised the flag on the summit of the volcano, under heavy enemy fire. He served on Iwo Jima for 36 days and came away unwounded. Previously he had fought at Vella La Vella and Bougainville. Because of the nation-wide attention won by Rosenthal's dramatic photograph of the flag-raising, symbol and expression of the invincible American spirit, Hayes and his two comrades, Pharmacist's Mate John Bradley and Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon, were brought back to this country to travel extensively in support of the Seventh War Loan. In the photograph on the opposite page, Hayes is pointing out his position in the flag-raising patrol.

On May 1st, more than 1000 Indians of the Pima tribe gathered at Bapchule to pay honor to their fellow tribesman and to celebrate his safe return. A barbecue feast, under a canopy of brush, was followed by an impressive religious ceremony, with prayers led to Protestant and Catholic missionaries and songs by several church choirs. Mrs. Hayes, Ira's mother, asked two of the girl soloists to sing the hymn, "He Will Deliver."

The National Congress of American Indians gave a luncheon in honor of Hayes and his comrades in Chicago on May 19, at which a brief speech by Hayes was broadcast. At this meeting he was made first commander of the American Indian Veterans' Association. Pharmacist's Mate Bradley stated in an interview that Hayes was "a marked man on the island because of his cool level-headedness and efficiency." He refused to be leader of a platoon, according to Bradley, because as he explained, "I'd have to tell other men to go and get killed, and I'd rather do it myself." When he and the two others were ordered home to take part in the War Loan campaign, Hayes was reluctant to leave his fighting comrades, and, after a few weeks in the United States, requested that he be returned to overseas duty, where he felt he would be of greater value to his country.

A second Indian, Louis C. Charlo, Flathead, from Montana, climbed Mount Suribachi with a Marine patrol shortly after the flag was raised on its summit. He was killed in action not long afterward, fighting to keep the Stars and Stripes on the mountain. Louis was the grandson of Chief Charlo of Nez Perce war fame, a leader who maintained his friendship with the white people throughout those trying times.

Among Indians listed as wounded on the island are Pfc. Ray Flood, Sioux, from Pine Ridge; Verne Ponzo, Shoshone, Fort Hall; Orville Goss, Sidney Brown, Jr. and Richard J. Brown,; Robert Spahe, Jicarilla Apache; Thomas Chapman, Jr., Pawnee, and William M. Fletcher, Cheyenne, from Oklahoma; Joseph R. Johnson, Papago, Arizona; Pfc. Glenn Wasson and Pfc. Clarence L. Chavez, Paiute, Nevada; and Richard Burson, Ute, from Utah. Killed were Pvt. Howard Brandon, Rosebud Sioux; Pfc. Clement Crazy Thunder, Pine Ridge Sioux, whose photograph appeared in the May-June 1943 issue of *Indians at Work*; Pfc. Adam West Driver, Cherokee, from North Carolina; Pvt. Eugene Lewis, Yurok, California; and Paul Kinlahcheeny, Navajo. Leland Chavez, S 1-c, Paiute, Nevada, is reported missing in action.

Sgt. Warren Sankey, Arapaho, from El Reno, Oklahoma, was one of the crew which first knocked out a Japanese tank on Iwo Jima.



Pfc. Ira H. Hayes. (Official Marine Corps Photo.)

Two Flathead Indian brothers, Daniel and John Moss, Marines from Arlee, Montana, met unexpectedly on Iwo Jima, and both came safely through the fighting. Their father, Henry Moss, served with the Marines in the First World War.

One of four survivors of his company is Pvt. Clifford Chebahtah, Comanche, of Anadarko, Oklahoma. Pvt. Chebahtah was injured on Iwo Jima and was granted a two weeks' furlough at home.

"I was lying in a foxhole when I saw our boys raise the flag on the top of the volcanic mountain of Suribachi, and cold shivers ran down my spine," he said.

Wounded in Action

Paul Hendricks	Papago	Germany
Manuel Kisto	Papago	Germany
Fernando Lopez	Papago	Europe
Nelson Lopez	Papago	Belgium
Nolia Lopez	Papago	Belgium
Hanson Norris	Papago	France
Raymond Norris	Papago	Germany
Louis Ortegas	Papago	France
Ralph Patricio	Papago	Holland
Ignacio B. Santos	Papago	France
Rovelto Siquieros	Papago	Germany
Victor B. Stevens	Papago	Germany
Jose V. Wilson	Papago	Italy
Patrick J. Franko	Papago	France
Joseph R. Johnson	Papago	Iwo Jima
Burton A. Narcho	Papago	Guam
Manuel T. Lucas	Papago	Germany
Andrew J. Mendez	Papago	Germany
Augustine Chico	Papago	New Guinea
Francisco S. Jose	Papago	New Britain
Henry Harvey	Papago	New Britain
Alonzo Enos	Pima	New Guinea
Jose Patricio	Papago	Pacific
Robert Perry Reede	Apache (San Carlos)	Germany
George Smith	Apache (San Carlos)	New Guinea
Laurie Tungovia	Hopi	Italy
Andrew Nutima	Hopi	
Harry Chinn	Apache (San Carlos)	Luxembourg
Roger Dickson	Apache (San Carlos)	Belgium
George Stevens	Apache (San Carlos)	France

Clark Tungovia	Hopi	Luzon
Louis M. Valdez	Papago	France
William Brown	Apache (San Carlos)	Germany
Chester Buck	Apache (San Carlos)	Luzon
Jose Bush	Apache (San Carlos)	Germany
David Miles	Apache (San Carlos)	France
Patrick Morgan	Apache (San Carlos)	North Africa
Stanton Norman	Apache (San Carlos)	Belgium
George Patten	Apache (San Carlos)	Luzon
Womack Pavatea	Hopi	Germany
Sylvester Mahone	Hualapai	France
Wallace Querta	Hualapai	Saipan

California

Shuman Shaw	Paiute	Europe
Benjamin D. Oscar	Yurok	Holland
Walter Campbell	Pomo	France
Samuel Powvall	Mission	Germany
William I. Reed	Yurok	Pacific
Kenneth Frank	Yurok	Pacific
Harvey McCardie	Hoopa	
Cornelius Morehead	Hoopa (Smith River)	
Eldred Norris	Yurok-Hoopa	
Albert Richards, Jr.	Hoopa (Eel River)	U.S.A.



Manuel Lucas



George Stevens



Womack Pavatea

Fred W. Scott	Hoopa	
Albert Bartow	Klamath	
Clarence Bennett	Hoopa (Salmon River)	
Leon Chase	Klamath-Hoopa	
Shan Davis	Klamath	Italy
Vernon Davis	Klamath-Hoopa	
Wilfred Ferris	Klamath	
Benonie Harrier	Karok	
Adolph Brown	Mission (Baron Long)	Germany
Martin Brown	Mission (Baron Long)	Germany
Theodore Chutnicut	Mission (Los Coyotes)	Pacific
William Coleman	Mission (Campo)	Germany
Lester Elliott	Mission (Manzanita)	Germany
Pablo Largo	Mission (Campo)	Italy
Frank Laws	Mission (Morongo)	Pacific
Thomas Laws	Mission (Morongo)	Pacific
Pat Leo	Mission (Santa Ysabel)	Germany
Peter Leo	Mission (Santa Ysabel)	Germany
Donald Jamieson	Mission (Rincon)	Okinawa
Marcus Paipa	Mission (Santa Ysabel)	Pacific
Antonio Ento	Mission (Campo)	Italy
Frank Subish	Mission (Mesa Grande)	Germany
Kenneth Nombrie	Torres-Martinez	Italy
Florian Lyons	Mission (Pala)	Germany
Carmel Valenzuela	Mission (Soboba)	Pacific
Senon Arenas	Mission (Cahuilla)	Germany
	Colorado	
Anthony Burch	Ute	Belgium
Allen Carel	Ute	Holland
John Werito	Navajo	Pacific
Curtis Toledo	Navajo	Pacific
Raymond Lopez	Navajo	Pacific

Idaho

Lawrence Bagley	Shoshone	Europe
Eldon Blackhawk	Shoshone	Europe
Waimmie Chedahap	Shoshone-Bannock	Europe
Kenneth Cosgrove	Shoshone-Bannock	Europe
Roger E. Galloway	Shoshone	Europe
Franklin Hootchew	Shoshone-Bannock	Europe
Orlin Judson	Sioux	Europe
Kenneth Kutch	Shoshone-Bannock	Pacific
Herbert LeClair	Shoshone	Europe
Thomas LaVatta	Shoshone	Europe
Layton Littlejohn	Bannock	Europe
Steve Perdash	Shoshone	Europe
Verne Ponzo	Shoshone	Iwo Jima
John B. Riley	Shoshone	Pacific
Jarvis Roubidoux	Shoshone	Pacific

Kansas

Milton LaClair	Potawatomi	France
James Kagmega (Kegg)	Potawatomi	France
Orlando P. Green	Potawatomi	Germany
Elwin Shopteese	Potawatomi	France
Edward Rice	Potawatomi	Pacific

Louisiana

Abel John	Coushatta	Pacific
Ira B. John	Coushatta	Pacific
Solomon Batiste	Coushatta	Pacific
Albert Williams	Coushatta	Europe
Newton Williams	Coushatta	Europe
Gilbert Abbey	Coushatta	Pacific

Michigan

Irving J. Theodore	Saginaw	Pacific
Thurlow McClellan	Ottawa-Chippewa	Palau



Shuman Shaw



Joseph R. Johnson



Verne Ponzio

Minnesota

Daniel Bellanger	Chippewa	France
John Northrup	Chippewa	France
Eugene Johnson	Chippewa	Cassino
Jimmie Lussier	Chippewa	
Harry Fairbanks	Chippewa	France
William Jourdain	Chippewa	
Maurice Kelley	Chippewa	Germany
Stanley Nordwall	Chippewa	
Johnson Roy	Chippewa	Germany
Simon Desjarlait	Chippewa	Belgium
Delmar Needham	Chippewa	
George L. Mason	Chippewa	Germany
Wallace D. Stewart	Chippewa	France
William Good	Chippewa	Germany
Raymond F. Roberts	Chippewa	France
Robert King	Chippewa	France
Harry Smith	Chippewa	France
Frank N. Lajeunesse	Chippewa	Normandy
Frank A. Toutloff	Chippewa	Pacific
George H. Trombley	Chippewa	Luzon
Edward George Burns	Chippewa	Guam
Herbert Beaulieu	Chippewa	Germany

Albert Whitecloud	Chippewa	New Guinea
Louis Livingston	Chippewa	Leyte
John Davis	Chippewa	France
James Deschamps	Chippewa	France
Mark Naganub	Chippewa	
Jeffrey Duhaimé	Chippewa	
Stephen Zimmerman	Chippewa	Leyte
Lloyd Paro	Chippewa	Germany
Andrew Amyotte	Chippewa	
William Amyotte	Chippewa	
Eugene Amyotte	Chippewa	
Burdette Shearer	Chippewa	Germany
Louis Dunn	Chippewa	Germany
Phillip Roy	Chippewa	Luzon
Everett Ojibway	Chippewa	Germany
Eugene Savage	Chippewa	Germany
Gerald Sheehy	Chippewa	Italy
Clifford Danielson	Chippewa	Italy
Robert Wendling	Chippewa	Germany
Eugene Howes	Chippewa	Italy
William Howes	Chippewa	Pacific
Mississippi		
Frank Billy	Choctaw	Pacific
Bethany Morris	Choctaw	Europe
Hudson Tubby	Choctaw	Europe
Willie Thompson	Choctaw	Europe
Sidney Wilson	Choctaw	Europe
J.C. Willis	Choctaw	Mediterranean
John Lee Gibson	Choctaw	Europe



William Good



Raymond F. Roberts



Sam Spottedeagle

Montana

Max Small	Cheyenne	
Edward Sam Bixby	Cheyenne	
Dale Spang	Cheyenne	
Jasper Tallwhiteman	Cheyenne	
Ben Bearchum	Cheyenne	
Robert Bigback	Cheyenne	
Russell Fisher	Cheyenne	
Elmore Limberhand	Cheyenne	
Arthur Youngbear	Cheyenne	
George Nequette	Blackfeet	Europe
John McKay	Blackfeet	Italy
Frank Baker	Blackfeet	Italy
John A. Gobert	Blackfeet	Leyte
Clarence Cadotte	Blackfeet	Europe
Harry Schildt	Blackfeet	Pacific
Orville Goss	Blackfeet	Iwo Jima
Sidney Brown, Jr.	Blackfeet	Iwo Jima
Stanley Bird	Blackfeet	Philippines
Eugene Heavyrunner	Blackfeet	Philippines
Samuel Spottedeagle	Blackfeet	Philippines
Emil Bearchild	Blackfeet	
Richard J. Brown	Blackfeet	Iwo Jima

Warren Oliver Clark	Flathead	Pacific
Henry Lozeau	Flathead	Pacific
Peter Stiffarm	Gros Ventre	France
Calvin Bigby	Assiniboine	Germany
Rufus Bradley	Gros Ventre	Pacific
August Decelles, Jr.	Gros Ventre	Pacific
Charles Decelles	Gros Ventre	Iwo Jima
Billie Snell	Assiniboine	Saipan
Thomas Joseph Bell	Gros Ventre	Pacific
Bert Larsen	Gros Ventre	France
Thomas Ball	Assiniboine	Italy
Nebraska		
Elwood Harden	Winnebago	France
Nevada		
Dickson Hooper	Shoshone	Italy
Carl Dick	Shoshone	Germany
Raymond Blackhat	Shoshone	Germany
Pacheco Gibson	Shoshone	Guam
New Mexico		
Hiram R. Brown	Acoma Pueblo	
Francis J. Johnson	Acoma Pueblo	
Manuel R. Cata	San Juan Pueblo	
Regorio Calabaza	Santo Domingo Pueblo	
Dempsey Chapito	Zuni	
Arsenio Sanchez		
Cyrus Mahkee	Zuni	Guam
Jose B. Valdez	Isleta Pueblo	
Jose P. Lucero	Jemez Pueblo	
James Mitchell	Navajo	France
Richard H. Marmon	Laguna Pueblo	Germany
Ted Shashewannie	Zuni	
James D. Sice	Laguna Pueblo	

William J. Naranjo
Ned Arviso

Navajo

Sicily
Marianas



Thurlow McClellan



Daniel Bellanger



Elwood Harden

Walter H. Kokie	Laguna Pueblo	Europe
Frank Romero	Taos	Europe
Ignacio Trujillo	Jemez Pueblo	Europe
Fred Zuni	Isleta Pueblo	Europe
John Kayate	Laguna Pueblo	Europe
Frank Lujan	Taos	Europe
Clifford Etsitty	Navajo	Attu, Germany
Nevin H. Eckerman	Laguna Pueblo	
Sefferino Juancho	Isleta Pueblo	Europe
David W. Tsosie	Navajo	Saipan
Sam P. Poplano	Zuni	France
Steve Chee	Navajo	Europe
Joe Chavez	Acoma Pueblo	Europe
Manuel Lamy	Zuni	Europe
Tommy Maria	Laguna Pueblo	Europe
Joe Pacheco	Santo Domingo Pueblo	Europe
Carlos Lawsayatee	Zuni	Europe
Ben D. Laate	Zuni	Europe
Joe Leekity	Zuni	Europe
Jose Jaramillo	Isleta Pueblo	Europe

Jose P. Cordova	Taos	Pacific
Wayne Dez	Navajo	Pacific
Andres Chino	Acoma Pueblo	Europe
Joe A. Sanchez	San Felipe Pueblo	Europe
Jimmy Begay	Navajo	Italy
Walter Balatchu	Apache (Mescalero)	Belgium
Charlie Cachucha	Apache (Jicarilla)	Belgium
David Muniz	Apache (Jicarilla)	Europe
Robert Spahe	Apache (Jicarilla)	Iwo Jima
David Velarde	Apache (Jicarilla)	Europe
Vicenti Veneno	Apache (Jicarilla)	Europe
Thomas Vigil	Apache (Jicarilla)	Bougainville
Manuel Holcomb	Santa Clara Pueblo	Germany
Bennie R. Yazzie	Navajo	Germany
Pete Candelario	San Felipe Pueblo	Europe
Jose L. Zuni	Isleta Pueblo	Europe
Arthur E. Tsyitee	Zuni	Austria
Fedelino Sanchez	Santa Ana Pueblo	Europe
Ventura S. Howeya	Acoma Pueblo	Europe
Clemente Fragua	Jemez Pueblo	Europe
Phillip L. Martinez	Acoma Pueblo	Europe
Monico M. Garcia	Acoma Pueblo	Europe
Juan A. Jaramillo	Isleta Pueblo	Philippines
James S. Ortiz	San Juan Pueblo	Philippines
Joseph Aragon	Laguna Pueblo	
Stewart Batala	Laguna Pueblo	Pacific
Joseph R. Kowemecewa	Laguna Pueblo	Europe
Lawrence Archuleta	San Juan Pueblo	Europe
Juan D. Pino	Zia Pueblo	Europe
Ivan C. Hatti	Zuni	Europe
Dan Simplicio	Zuni	Europe
Simon Wallace	Zuni	Pacific

Duncan Suitza	Zuni	Europe
Telesfor Tsethlika	Zuni	Europe
Frank Trujillo	Taos Pueblo	Pacific
Ben House	Navajo	Pacific



*Edward John
Northrup*



Clifford Etsitty



Russell Deserly

New York

Arthur Lazore	Mohawk	France
Leonard Beaubien	Mohawk	France
Francis Billings	Mohawk	France
William Cook	Mohawk	Palaus
Stanley Connors	Mohawk	France
Louis Martin	Mohawk	Europe
Wilford Smith	Tonawanda-Seneca	
Orlando Scorgg	Tonawanda-Seneca	France
Warren Spring	Tonawanda-Seneca	
Eugene Reuben	Tonawanda-Seneca	
Cortland Luna	Tonawanda-Seneca	
Marvin Crouse	Onondaga	
Randall Poodry	Tonawanda-Seneca	Tunis
Edward Black	Onondaga	France
Vincent Printup	Tuscarora	
Harrison Henry	Tuscarora	

William Mt. Pleasant	Tuscarora	
Frederick Schanandoah	Onondaga	Italy
Chapman Schanandoah	Onondaga	Atlantic
Clifford Crouse	Seneca	France
Delbert Crowe	Seneca	Luzon
Carl Johnson	Seneca	Normandy
Willard Jacobs	Seneca	Luzon
Donald Black	Seneca	Brazil
Wilbur Shongo	Seneca	Pacific
Merle Warner	Seneca	Italy

North Dakota

Russell F. Deserly	Arikara	France
Albert Archambault	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Anzio
Herbert Buffalo Boy	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Holland
Lawrence Bearsheart	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Normandy
Patrick Blackcloud	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Betio Island
Leslie Shields	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Atlantic
Sidney Cottonwood	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Joe Ramsay	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Garfield Antelope	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Leyte
Gilbert Goodiron	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Italy
George Goodwood	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe

Oklahoma

Rudolph Allen	Tonkawa	Europe
Oland Kemble	Ponca	France
Levi Horsechief	Pawnee	Europe
Marcellus Choteau	Kaw	Philippines
Gale New Moon	Ponca	Europe
Lawrence Good Fox, Jr.	Pawnee	Europe
James Armstrong, Jr.	Caddo-Cheyenne	Pacific
Francis Bates	Arapaho	Europe
Harold S. Beard	Cheyenne-Arapaho	Aleutians

Rubin Bent	Quapaw-Cheyenne	Europe
Oliver Black	Cheyenne	Europe
Richard Boynton, Jr.	Cheyenne-Arapaho	Europe
Roy Bullcoming	Cheyenne	Europe
Richard Curtis, Jr.	Cheyenne	Mediterranean
William M. Fletcher	Cheyenne	Iwo Jima
Paul Goodbear	Cheyenne	Europe
John Greaney, Jr.	Cheyenne	Pacific
Charles F. Gurrier	Sioux-Cheyenne	Pacific



William Cook



*Lawrence
Bearsheart*



Henry N. Greenwood

Warren L. Hawk	Cheyenne	Kiska
James Holland, Jr.	Arapaho	Pacific
Darwin Lone Elk	Cheyenne	Pacific
Henry Mann	Cheyenne	Holland
Edward B. Mule	Cheyenne	Europe
Roy Night Walking	Cheyenne	Europe
Lee Old Camp, Jr.	Cheyenne-Arapaho	Pacific
Willie Orange	Cheyenne	Pacific
William F. Pawnee	Arapaho	Europe
David Penn	Cheyenne	Europe
Philip Strongwolf	Cheyenne	Europe
Elmer C. Surveyor	Cheyenne	Europe

George Swallow	Cheyenne	Europe
Everett Sweezy	Arapaho-Oneida	Europe
William Tallbird, Jr.	Cheyenne	Europe
Harvey West	Cheyenne	Pacific
Solus B. Lewis	Creek	Europe
Isaac McCurtain	Choctaw	Europe
Luther King	Choctaw	Sicily
Richmond J. Larney	Seminole	France
Houston Palmer	Creek	Anzio
Jacob Fish	Five Civilized Tribes	Huertgen Forest
Chester Underwood	Five Civilized Tribes	Germany
Henry N. Greenwood	Chickasaw	Italy
Tom Fixico	Creek	Sicily, Italy
Joe Fixico	Creek	France
John P. Lowe	Creek	Anzio, France
Jack Bruner	Creek	Italy
Danny Marshall	Creek	France, Italy
Munzie Barnett	Creek	Germany
Sampson Harjo	Creek	France
Martin Mitchell	Creek	Pacific
William M. Beaver	Creek	France
Sam McCann	Choctaw	France
Daniel Phillips, Jr.	Creek	France
Franklin Gritts	Cherokee	Pacific
Cornelius L. Wakolee	Potawatomi	Italy
Jack Montgomery	Cherokee	Italy
Calvin Dailey	Otoe	France
Robert Hoag	Caddo-Delaware	Italy
Robert L. Templeton	Pawnee	Leyte
Jesse B. Thompson	Choctaw	
James R. Hattensty	Choctaw	Italy
Solomon Roberts	Choctaw	Germany

Esra H. Wallace	Choctaw	
J.D. Walker	Seminole	Europe
Miller Yahola	Seminole	Europe
Johnson Davis	Seminole	Belgium
Amos Davis	Seminole	France
Harding Bog Bow	Kiowa	Germany
Edward M. Rodgers	Quapaw	Kwajalein
Rudolph Akoneto, Jr.	Kiowa	Europe
Raymond Arkeketa	Kiowa	Pacific
Kenneth Aunquo	Kiowa	Pacific
Hubert Dennis Beaver	Delaware-Shawnee	Pacific
Samuel W. Chaat	Comanche	Europe
Clifford Chebahtah	Comanche	Iwo Jima
Edward Clark	Comanche	
Leonard Cozad	Kiowa	Europe



William A. Harris, Jr.



Sam McCann



Tom Fixico

Hugh Doyebi	Kiowa	Bastogne
Noah Horsechief	Wichita	
Lamont Howry	Comanche	Europe
Rickey Kaulaity	Kiowa	Europe
Samuel Kaulay	Kiowa	Aleutians
William Kaulay	Kiowa	Europe
Robert Komesataddle	Kiowa	Pacific

Waynen L. Miller	Wichita	Europe
Wilson B. Palmer	Kiowa	Tarawa
Wilbur Parker	Comanche	
Frederick E. Parton	Caddo	Europe
Pascal C. Poolaw	Kiowa	Europe
Melvin G. Queton	Kiowa	Pacific
Virgil Queton	Kiowa	Europe
Winston Rose	Wichita	
don Shemayme	Caddo	Europe
Claude Shirley	Caddo	Europe
Chester Silverhorn	Kiowa	Europe
Reuben Topaum	Kiowa	Europe
Kent C. Ware	Kiowa	Europe
Pressley Ware	Kiowa	
Robert Yeahpau	Kiowa	Europe
Raymond Woodard	Apache	Europe
Thomas Chapman, Jr.	Pawnee	Iwo Jima
Samuel Battiest	Choctaw	Germany
Samuel Marshall	Creek	Europe
Robert H. Colbert, Jr.	Creek	Europe
Andrew Roberts	Pawnee	Europe
Jacob Moses	Pawnee	Europe
Jesse Howell	Pawnee	U.S.A.
James G. Cleghorn	Otoe	
Edison DeRoin	Otoe	Africa
Calvin Arkeketa	Otoe	Europe
Jimmy Black	Otoe	
Ernest Black	Otoe	
Jonas Hartico	Otoe	
Rufus Jeans	Otoe	
Bill Pipestem	Otoe	
Pershing White	Otoe	

Theodore Buffalo	Otoe	Italy
Ernest J. Kekahbah	Kaw	Italy
William A. Harris, Jr.	Pawnee	Italy, Germany

Oregon

John Sampson	Cayuse-Umatilla	France
Edson Chiloquin	Klamath-Modoc	
Roland Jackson	Klamath-Paiute	
LeRoy A. Moore	Klamath-Modoc	
Marvin J. Walker	Klamath	
John Jackson, Jr.	Klamath	

South Dakota

Theodore Taylor	Sioux (Flandreau)	New Guinea
Ralph Gullickson	Sioux (Flandreau)	Aachen
Warren Gullickson	Sioux (Flandreau)	Leyte
Woodrow Keeble	Sioux (Sisseton)	North Africa
Francis Adams	Sioux (Sisseton)	Italy
Joseph Gray	Sioux (Sisseton)	Germany
Leroy Heminger	Sioux (Sisseton)	France
Nathan Wilson	Sioux (Sisseton)	Germany



Houston Palmer



Joe Fixico



Harding Big Bow

Floyd P. Deegan	Sioux (Sisseton)	Palaus
Herman Thompson	Sioux (Sisseton)	Philippines
Louis M. DeCoteau	Sioux (Sisseton)	Germany

Louis Provost	Omaha	Belgium
Leo Shot With Two Arrows	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Enoch Bald Eagle	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Edward Eagle Boy	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Philip Elk Head	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Joe Paul Fourbear	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Joe Gray	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Robert C. Hale	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
James Hand Boy	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Charles Hiatt	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Lawrence Horn	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Clifford Iron Moccasin	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Charles Kessler	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
George Knife	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Charles Lafferty	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Levi LeBeau	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Louis LeCompte	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Roy R. Smith	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Sampson One Skunk	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Ziebach Thompson	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Cecil Curley	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Garnet Black Bear	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Robert Manley	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Aloysius A. Fielder	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Earl Kessler	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Douglas Collins	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Philip LaBlanc	Sioux (Cheyenne River)	
Floyd Jackson	Sioux (Rosebud)	Cologne
Edwin Demery	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Johnson Twohearts	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Africa
Walter Tiger	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Philippines
Joseph Lawrence	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe

Ambrose Antelope	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
John Bearing	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Pacific
Frank Vermillion	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Italy
William Marshall	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Abraham Long Chase	Sioux (Standing Rock)	At sea
Sidney Eagle Shield	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Philippines
Alex Village Center	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Pacific
Peter Taken Alive	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Pacific
Ambrose Dog Eagle	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Anzio
Joseph Flying Bye	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe
Joseph Cadotte	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Europe
Calvin Flying Bye	Sioux (Standing Rock)	Germany
Joseph Angel	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
John Bearnose	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Philippines
Carl C. Bettelyoun	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Everett Bettelyoun	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Joseph Bettelyoun	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Waldron Bettelyoun	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Henry Black Elk	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Moses Blindman	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Ernest Blue Legs	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Burma
Owen Brings	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Carl Broken Rope	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy



Miller Yahola



Louis Provost



Frank N. Lajeunesse

Vance Broken Rope	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Lanert Brown Eyes	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Morris Bull Bear	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Moses Bullman	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Leo F. Cottier	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Adolph Eagle Louse	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Philippines
Edison Fire Thunder	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Roy Flood	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Iwo Jima
Blair Gray Grass	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Adam Gay	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Joshua Gay	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Alex Hernandez	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Alphonso Hernandez	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Vincent Hunts Horses	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Theodore Iron Teeth	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Norman Janis	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Burma
Richard Janis	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Douglas Larabee	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Aloysius Little Whiteman	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Walter Martinez	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Luxembourg
Floyd Merrival	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Chester Mills	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Peter Nelson	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Ernest Peck	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Clarence Pumpkin Seed	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Stephen Red Bow	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Homer Red Eyes	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Stanley Red Wing	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Floyd Russell	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Collins Sharpfish	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Hobert Shot to Pieces	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Ellis Shoulder	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany

Martin Slow Bear	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Loyal E. Stover	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Edward Spotted Bear	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Joseph Tapio	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Atlantic
Leroy Tenfingers	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Theodore Tibbetts	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Calvin J. Tyon	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Luzon
Roy White Butterfly	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Leonard White Bull	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Italy
Levi Yellow Boy	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Eugene Young	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Walter Bossingham	Sioux (Rosebud)	Europe
Daniel L. Bordeaux	Sioux (Rosebud)	Europe
Marvin Thin Elk	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Albert Wright	Sioux (Rosebud)	Pacific
Thomas Yellow Boy	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Belgium
Guy White Horse	Sioux (Rosebud)	
Leonard Bordeaux	Sioux (Rosebud)	Pacific
Gabe Neiss	Sioux (Rosebud)	Aleutians
Clarence Cordry	Sioux (Rosebud)	Pacific
Jerome White Horse	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Claude DeCory	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Laverne Jackson	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Eugene E. Roubideaux	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Michael Bordeaux	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Elmer Brandon	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Wilbur Blacksmith	Sioux (Rosebud)	Peleliu
George F. Flammond	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
William C. Gunhammer	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Joseph J. Peneaux	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany



Floyd P. Deegan



Lanert Brown Eyes



Eugene Roubideaux

William Lambert	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Hubert C. McCloskey	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Stephen Moccasin	Sioux (Rosebud)	Belgium
Harold Whiting	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Barney Peoples	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Antoine C. Yellow Robe	Sioux (Rosebud)	Pacific
Richard Larvie	Sioux (Rosebud)	
Floyd LaPointe	Sioux (Rosebud)	France
Gilbert Crow Eagle	Sioux (Rosebud)	Belgium
Herbert DeCory	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Francis Menard	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Aloysius Larvie	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Chester Blue Horse	Sioux (Rosebud)	Luzon
Floyd J. Moore	Sioux (Rosebud)	Luzon
Louis G. LaPlant	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Calvin Larvie	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Felix Knife	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Joseph Waln	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Titus White Lance	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
Leonard L. Cordry	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Nelson B. Cordry	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Jonas J. Swift	Sioux (Rosebud)	Italy
William K. Haukaas	Sioux (Rosebud)	Okinawa

Roger Chasing Horse	Sioux (Rosebud)	
Kenneth M. Ellston	Sioux (Rosebud)	Germany
Philip Good Buffalo	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Ben Marshall	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	France
Wilbert Means	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Seth Irving	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Pacific
Huron Red Dog	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Okinawa
Albert Returns From Scout	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Delmar Richard	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Clement Salway	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Edison Richard	Sioux (Pine Ridge)	Germany
Leland L. Standing	Sioux (Yankton)	
Henry W. Hare	Sioux (Yankton)	Germany
Robert Arpan	Sioux (Yankton)	Corregidor
Rudolph Arpan	Sioux (Yankton)	Corregidor
Smith Jandreau	Sioux (Yankton)	Germany
Eli D. Hope	Sioux (Yankton)	Italy
Louis Weston	Sioux (Yankton)	Germany
Ulysses J. Little Elk	Sioux (Yankton)	Luzon
Basil Heth	Sioux (Yankton)	Europe
Clarence Packard	Sioux (Yankton)	Belgium
Joseph Cournoyer	Sioux (Yankton)	Germany

Utah

Sammy Arrats	Ute	Tarawa
Richard Burson	Ute	Iwo Jima
Alfred Parriette	Ute	Pacific
Harvey Natchees	Ute	Belgium
Henry Drye	Paiute	Italy

Washington

James Wilson	Swinomish	New Guinea
Harold Jackson	Clallam	
James R. Alexander	Lummi	France



Joseph Woln



John Pershing Lowe



Johnson Roy

Howard A. George	Lummi	Germany
Benjamin W. Hillaire	Lummi	Germany
Anthony Jefferson	Lummi	France
Bert H. Jefferson	Lummi	Philippines
Forrest L. Kinley	Lummi	Philippines
Charles Owens		Europe
Bernard Bumgarner	Quinaielt	Europe
William Hicks	Quinaielt	Europe
Emanuel S. Alfred	Suquamish	Europe
Leonard Lawrence	Suquamish	Anzio
Charles Lawrence	Suquamish	France
Steven E. Williams	Tulalip	Philippines
Roy Smith	Makah	Europe
Frank H. Smith	Makah	Europe
Antonio Rogers	Chehalis	Germany

Wisconsin

Ervin Doxtator	Oneida	
Dean King	Oneida	Belgium
Joseph H. Metoxen	Oneida	France
Eastman Skenandore	Oneida	Leyte
Ernest Skenandore	Oneida	Belgium
Aaron L. Smith	Oneida	Belgium
Casterson Swamp	Oneida	

Warren Swamp	Oneida	Italy
Abraham Webster	Oneida	
Raymond D. Deer	Winnebago	
Daniel Snowball	Winnebago	
Andrew Thundercloud	Winnebago	Pacific
Murray Whiterabbit	Winnebago	
Norman Winneshiek	Winnebago	
Charles Beauprey	Menominee	Europe
Frank Dodge	Menominee	Europe
Joseph Duquain	Menominee	Europe
Gust Kinney	Menominee	Europe
Mose Neosh	Menominee	Europe
Lloyd Gauthier	Menominee	Europe
John O'Kachecum	Menominee	Europe
Joseph L. Pecore	Menominee	Europe
John Shawanopenass	Menominee	Europe
Joseph Smith	Menominee	Europe
Mitchell Sturdevant	Menominee	Europe
Edward Tucker	Menominee	Europe
Benedict Warrington	Menominee	Europe
Gilbert Waupoose	Menominee	Europe
James Zhuckkahosee	Kickapoo	Europe
Lloyd Tourtillot	Menominee	Philippines
Peter A. Tucker	Menominee	Philippines
Earl J. Pecore	Menominee	Pacific
George Tomow	Menominee	Pacific
Dave Wheelock	Menominee	Pacific

Wyoming

Ralph W. Plume	Arapaho	Europe
Jesse Miller	Arapaho	Europe
Frank A. Aragon	Arapaho	Pacific
Robert Bell	Arapaho	Europe

Joseph S. Rhodes
Donald O'Neal
Cyrus Roberts

Arapaho
Arapaho
Shoshone

Europe
Guam
Italy



Frank Smith



Richard Burson



Sammie Arrais

Indians Work for the Navy

By Lt. Frederick W. Sleight, USNR

The story of the American Indian and his efforts in this second great world struggle is not limited to the exploits of soldiers. Men and women too old or too young for service with the armed forces have volunteered for work in the war industries as well as in food production. This report on one of the U.S. Navy's greatest land-based activities illustrates the intense desire of the Indian people to serve where they are directly connected with the work of the war. The Naval Supply Depot at Clearfield, Utah, has as its aim and purpose general service to the fleet. It sends out a lifeline of supplies, pouring the essentials of successful warfare in an endless stream to the far points of the Pacific theatre.

The Depot was established in the Spring of 1943, to start the flow of vital materials to the Navy. At this time, down in the Rio Grande Valley of New Mexico, Indians were leaving home for military service. Ten per cent of the Pueblo Indians had gone into uniform. In the neighboring cities and the local communities help was urgently needed. The older men of the Pueblos, recognizing the emergency, decided to put an advertisement in the local papers offering their services for part-time work in the neighboring area. Soon trucks came pouring into the villages to pick up working parties, some even arriving from Colorado. When word of this project reached the offices of the Civil Service Commission in Denver, they sent a representative to Santo Domingo Pueblo to confer with John Bird, an Indian leader of political and social affairs.

John Bird was told about the new Naval Depot at Clearfield. The Civil Service understood that the Pueblo people wanted to help win the war; here at Clearfield was a place where men were needed, a place contributing directly to our successes in the Pacific. It was agreed that Pueblo men, if they went to work at Clearfield, would be allowed to go home during the summer months to plant and harvest their crops.

At the meeting called by John Bird, the Pueblos agreed that this was work which they wanted to do. The farm agent was convinced that if they came back and farmed in the summer months, the move to Utah for the rest of the year would be good. The task of recruiting men from all the Pueblos was given to John Bird, and he travelled from Taos on the north to Isleta on the south. Santa Clara, Jemez, and Santo Domingo gave the greatest number of workers. Sixty-two men came from Jemez alone. When they were examined and passed as physically fit by Indian Service doctors, they were ready to leave. About 150 men made up the first battalion that set out for Clearfield. The first contingent of work-hungry Pueblos, travelling in coaches reserved for them, arrived at the Navy Depot in December 1943.

Work assigned to the Indians has been varied. John Bird, who travelled with his people to Clearfield, has advanced to a supervisory position. He, like many of his men, has worked on the swing shift. Some of the men have been placed in the transportation division, and others have handled and loaded supplies destined for the ships at sea. Oscar Carlson, labor foreman at the Depot, says that the Indians--Shoshones, Apaches, Sioux, Navajos, Utes, as well as Pueblos--are outstanding workers. They understand instructions well. They are not shirkers on the job. He says, "I have never had an Indian in my office for disciplinary action."

The great problem of production, absenteeism, is unknown among the Indian population of the Depot. Indians are constantly on the job. Indian participation in the War Bond campaigns has been 100 per cent--another indication that the Indians are whole-hearted in their devotion to the cause for which their sons have fought.

For two springs the Pueblo people have gone back to their farms, but, the growing season over, they have returned, often bringing with them new recruits to help with the big job. Mr. Carlson states that nearly all of the men return after a summer of farming, and that they all seem happy to come back. Further testimony comes in a report from the Security Department. This office, which handles all the policing of the area, has no record in the files any trouble initiated by the Indians.



*Indians unload Oregon timber at the Naval Supply Depot.
Official U.S. Navy Photo.*

From all quarters of the Depot have come similar reports. On the 10th of April, 1945, Rear Admiral Arthur H. Mayo, speaking at the ceremonies commemorating the second anniversary of the Depot's commissioning, said: "It is encouraging to know that many Pueblo Indians . . . have travelled north to the State of Utah in order to 'man the battle stations' at the Naval Supply Depot at Clearfield. I know that these fine people are doing a splendid job."

High credit should go to the Indian for an outstanding part in our victory. He has sacrificed more than most men who are doing this work. He has left the land he has known all his life and has had to travel to strange places where people often do not understand him and his way of living. In most cases he has left his family behind. He has had to forego attending the dances and other religious ceremonies that are so much a part of his life. He has had to work under foremen and supervisors, in a way that is new to him. It is an adjustment more difficult for him than for the white man who has known these conditions before.

For all these reasons, the Indian should receive the highest praise. In his quiet way he has shown that he too has a stake in this conflict, and by his personal qualities he has made himself liked by everyone. To men like John Bird, should go a special tribute. He helped interpret these modern problems to his people. When

his brother Ted was killed in action in Germany last April, he flew home to comfort his mother and father. He has three other brothers in the armed forces overseas.

Like all Americans, these people look forward to the day when the soldiers will come home to a peaceful world. But these Indians have learned new skills and have acquired a new confidence in their own competence which should be very useful in the tasks of peace.

To the Indian Veteran

The Congress and the state legislatures have passed many laws providing various benefits for all veterans except those who have been dishonorably discharged from the armed services. Many of you know what these benefits are; but when you come home you will find at the agency someone who can tell you just how to apply for the benefits which you want, and what you must do to qualify. There is no distinction made between Indians and any other veterans. Every organization serving the veteran will serve you. Your Selective Service Board, to which you report within ten days after your return home, will have a counsellor to advise you; and the State agencies, the Red Cross, and other groups will provide information and counsel. The Indian Service will make every effort to direct you to the proper authority as quickly as possible.

If the first thing in your mind is employment, you probably know that you are entitled to get your old job back, or one with equal pay and standing, provided that you have completed your military service satisfactorily, that you are still able to do the job, that you apply for reinstatement within 90 days of your discharge, and that your employer will not suffer undue hardship by taking you back. Once you are on the job, you may not be dismissed without cause for the period of one year. This is true for Civil Service employees and for those in private industry. If you didn't have a job when you went into the military service, or if you don't want to go back to the job you left, you should apply to the nearest office of the U.S. Employment Service, or, if you want a Federal job, to the Civil Service Commission. You are entitled to preference for jobs in the Indian Service, both as an Indian and as a veteran, but you must of course qualify by training or by examination.

If you want to continue your education, there are many opportunities. Under the G.I. Bill of Rights (Public Law 346, 78th Congress), you are entitled to one year of school or college, if you have served at least 90 days, not counting the time spent in Army or Navy special training courses. You may choose the course you

prefer, at any elementary school, high school, college, or vocational training institute on the list approved by the Veterans' Administration, but you must be accepted as qualified by the school you select. A number of Indian Service schools have already been added to the approved list, and a number of special courses have been planned for returning servicemen.



Maj. Gen. Charles L. Bolte awards the Bronze Star to Pfc. John W. Kionut, Caddo, Oklahoma, for gallantry in action.

If you are under 25, or if you can show that your education was interrupted when you went into military service, you may continue your education beyond this first year. For each month you spent in active service after September 16, 1940, and before the end of the war, you may have an additional month of schooling, but the total time cannot be more than four years. While you are studying under this program, the Veterans' Administration will allow you \$50 a month for living expenses and will pay your tuition and other fees, including the cost of books, supplies, and equipment, up to \$500 per year. If you have dependents, the subsistence allowance will be increased to \$75 per month. If you receive payment for work done in connection

with your study program, your allowance may be decreased, and if you take only a part-time course, you will not receive the full monthly benefit.



T-Sgt. Oliver Gibb, (left), Red Lake, Minnesota, wears the Air Medal. The officer on the right is an Indian from Oklahoma.

Commercial courses, courses in agriculture and stockraising, sheetmetal work, plumbing, drafting, automotive mechanics, carpentry, baking, cooking, machine shop work, masonry, painting and decoration, power plant operation, printing and binding, and many others, will be offered at eight or more Indian schools: Albuquerque Boarding School, Carson, Chemawa, Chilocco, Flandreau, Wingate, Haskell Institute, and Sherman. Not all of the courses will be available at each school, and other courses will be added from time to time. These courses will be available to non-Indians, if there is room enough, and the Indian veteran is not limited to a choice of Indian schools. You may take any course for which you can qualify, at any approved school.

If you have a disability resulting from your military service, the educational program offered under Public Law 16, 78th Congress, may be more helpful to you. Under this legislation, a disabled veteran may be allowed up to four years of vocational training, during which time he may receive a total pension of not less than \$92 per month. If he has dependents, the allowance is larger.

The G.I. Bill also provides readjustment allowances for veterans who are unable to find work. Any unemployed veteran who has served 90 days or more and has been released without dishonorable discharge, or has been disabled in the line of duty, may receive a weekly readjustment allowance of \$20, less any part-time wages he may receive in excess of \$3. To be eligible for this allowance, the veteran must report regularly to a public employment office; and if he fails to accept any suitable job offered to him, he is disqualified. He may also be disqualified if he does not attend a free training course available to him, or if he has left suitable work, or is discharged for misconduct. The readjustment allowance may be continued for 24 weeks, plus four weeks for each month of active service, up to a maximum of 52 weeks. If he is self-employed and he can show that his net earnings have been less than \$100 in the month preceding the date of his application, he is entitled to receive an amount large enough to bring his earnings up to \$100 for the month. Benefits under this legislation may not be claimed when five years have passed after the end of the war, and claims must be made within two years after the veteran's discharge from the military service or within two years after the end of the war, whichever date is later.

Veterans may have free hospital care, medical and dental services, through the Veterans' Administration, for any disabilities incurred in the line of duty in the service or aggravated because of such service.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944--commonly called the G.I. Bill of Rights--also provides for certain benefits for veterans who want to borrow money to buy or build a home, to purchase a farm, farm equipment or livestock, or to acquire business property. The Federal Government will not make loans or extend any credit under this program. It says simply that if you can get a loan for these purposes from any lending agency, either public or private, such as a bank, corporation, or individual, the Veterans' Administration, on approving the loan, will guarantee one-half of the amount, up to \$2000. The Administrator will also pay the first year's interest on the amount of the guarantees. This interest need not be repaid. The loan itself must be repaid

according to the conditions under which it is made.

The lending agency to which you apply for a loan should be one of those serving your community. This organization should understand that you may receive a loan on the same basis as other veterans, even though you may conduct your operations on trust land belonging to you or on tribal lands operated under an assignment. It should be possible for you to get a loan without any security other than a mortgage on the property you are buying with the money loaned to you; but if other security is required, the Superintendent may approve a lien on trust property, other than land, as collateral. Trust land may *not* be given as security for these loans.

It should also be understood that the Superintendent may authorize a creditor to enter on the reservation to repossess equipment bought with borrowed money, if the loan should be in default.

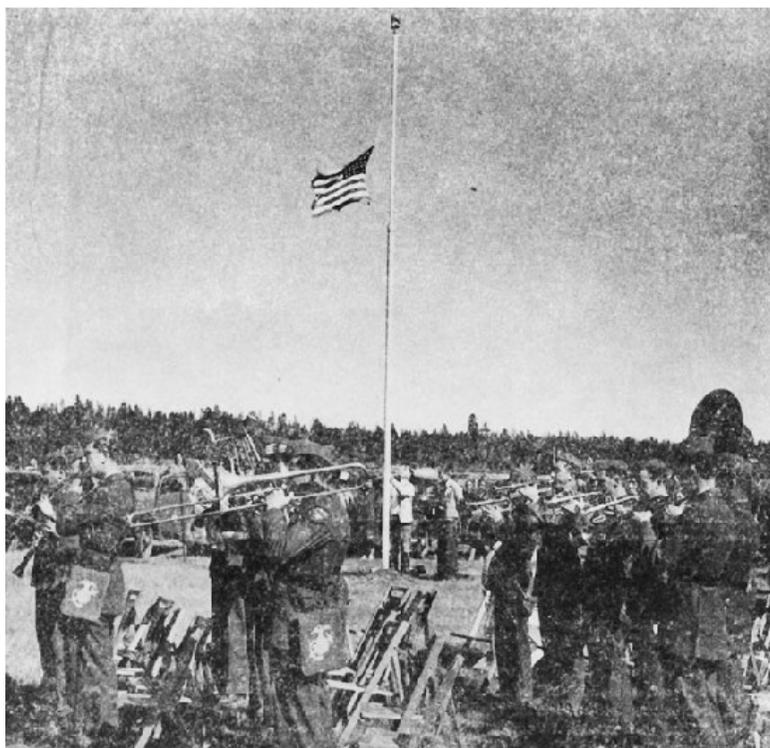
If you want to qualify for a farm loan, you must show that you have had farming experience. If your loan is for the purchase of livestock, you must show that you have adequate range on which to run it. If you plan to buy farm machinery, you will have to show that you have land upon which the machinery will be used, and you must also describe your plan of operation and demonstrate that it will produce income enough to repay the loan.

In general, no restrictions will be placed upon property obtained under loans guaranteed under the Act, except those which the lending agency may require in order to protect the loan.

You should remember, too, that you have other ways to obtain a loan, if you are not eligible under the G.I. Bill. The Indian Service may be able to arrange a loan from revolving credit funds; or your tribe may offer to lend you what you need. There are many avenues to explore.

From time to time, Congress may make changes in the provisions of the G.I. Bill and other servicemen's legislation. Allowances for the unemployed veteran and for the veteran attending school may be increased. You are urged to take advantage of the program which you feel will be most useful to you. Get all the information

available, consult with everyone who can be of help to you, and make full use of the opportunities which you have earned by your service to your country.



The Marine Corps band plays the national anthem as the flag is raised at the dedication of Ray Enouf Field, Klamath Agency, Oregon. The airfield is named in honor of the only Klamath Indian to lose his life in World War II, a Marine private first class, who was killed while acting as first-aid man in the front lines on Iwo Jima. Ceremonies dedicating the field took place on September 27, 1945.

Indian Women Work for Victory

Indian women, anxious to help out during the war-created manpower shortage, have made an astonishingly large contribution to their country's needs. Thousands of them have left their homes to work in factories, on ranches and farms, and even as section-hands, to replace men who were vitally needed elsewhere. They have joined the nurses' corps, the military auxiliaries, the Red Cross, and the American Women's Voluntary Service.

Not content with this, they have given their services in many other and more unusual ways. More than 500 Eskimo and Indian women and girls worked day and night manufacturing skin clothing, mittens, mukluks, moccasins, snowshoes, and other articles of wearing apparel for our forces serving in cold weather or at high altitudes. An Alaskan Indian woman ran a trap line to make money for war bonds.

Cherokee girls wove and sold baskets, buying war stamps with the money. On the Eastern Cherokee reservation, women and girls planted and harvested the crops, and even drove tractors.

Forty Chippewa women formed a rifle brigade for home defense. An old Kiowa woman gave \$1,000 to the Navy Relief Fund as her contribution. Osage women, draped in their brilliant blankets, spent long hours at sewing machines for the Red Cross.

In the West, a Pueblo woman drove a truck between Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico, delivering milk to the Indian school. She not only serviced her own truck but also helped at the school garage as a mechanic. Many Indian women became silversmiths, and made insignia for the armed forces. At Fort Wingate, New Mexico, the Navajo women's work ranged from that of chemists to truck drivers. Two Indian women in California served at a lonely observation post, driving the twelve miles to their position in a rickety old automobile.

The war plants had many Indian women on their rolls, working as riveters, inspectors, sheet metal workers, and machinists. An Indian girl was chosen at one plant to receive the Army-Navy E

for her fellow-workers.

In the Indian forests, hitherto considered as providing work fit only for men, the Indian women learned to take over many tasks. Treatment for blister rust was given 80,182 acres of forest, mainly in the Lake states, and Indian women performed much of the labor. On the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, fifty women replaced men at the mill. Crews consisting of two women and one man planted young trees to replace those cut down in the Red Lake forest in Minnesota. During the short period in the spring which is considered most advantageous for such planting, 90,700 trees were replaced on 238 acres of land. Indian women have "manned" fire lookout stations on the Colville and Klamath reservations. An Indian woman acted as guard at the Dry Creek station on the Yakima forest, and another learned to be a radio operator at the central camp on the Quinaielt reservation.



Cpl. Anna Reeveas, WAC



*Ensign Cora Bruner, NC,
USNR*



Celia C. Cook, SK 2-c, WAVES



Three Indian girls in the Women's Reserve of the U.S. Marine Corps: Left to right, Minnie Spotted Wolf,, Montana; Celia Mix, Potawatomi, Michigan; and Viola Eastman, Chippewa-Sioux, Minnesota. Official U.S. Marine Corps photograph.

Prisoners of War Released

Many Indians reported as prisoners of war have now been released and have come home again. Lt. Frank Paisano, Jr., a prisoner of the Germans, has returned to Laguna Pueblo. During his absence he was awarded the Air Medal, which his wife accepted in his name. Omar Schoenborn, Chippewa, once reported dead, was one of 83 men who escaped death when the prison ship carrying them to Japan was sunk off Leyte. He managed to swim ashore and to hide from the Japanese until the arrival of the American forces. Gilmore C. Daniels, Osage, who joined the Royal Canadian Air Force early in the war, spent nearly four years in a German prison camp before the advancing armies released him. Another Osage, Major Edward E. Tinker, a nephew of General Clarence Tinker, was taken prisoner when he crashed in Bulgaria, and was freed by the Russian advance.



In a formal ceremony at Laguna Pueblo, Mrs. Frank Paisano, Jr., accepts the Air Medal awarded to her husband, a prisoner of war in Germany. Lt. Paisano was later released and returned home.

Official Photo U.S.A.A.F.

Among the American prisoners released by the 6th Ranger Battalion from Cabanatuan Prison in the Philippines on January 30, 1945, was Major Caryl L. Picotte, Sioux-Omaha, formerly of Nebraska, but now stationed in Oakland, California.



S-Sgt. John Lee Redeagle, Quapaw, and his wife. Sgt. Redeagle, wearer of the Air Medal, was released from a German prison camp after several months of captivity.

Major Picotte was called to active duty with the Air Corps in September, 1941, and sent to the Philippines. On his arrival in Manila he was assigned to duty as Associate Engineering Officer at the Philippine Air Depot, Nichols Field.

After the Japanese air attack on Nichols Field, December 8, 1941, when most of the serviceable American aircraft were destroyed, Major Picotte assisted in the organization of a provisional Air Corps regiment which fought as infantry from January 1, 1942, until the capitulation of Bataan on April 9th of that year. He was in the famous Death March from Bataan to the first American prisoner-of-war camp at O'Donnell, covering 80 miles in three days with one meal of rice. In June he was moved to Cabanatuan, where he remained until released by the Rangers two and a half years later. During the last days before the fall of Bataan, he was recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star.

Major Picotte comes of a distinguished Indian family. His grandfather was Joseph LaFlesche (Iron Eyes), the last chief of the Omaha tribe. His mother, Susan LaFlesche Picotte, was the first Indian woman physician and is remembered with veneration for her life of unselfish service to both Indians and Whites. The late Francis LaFlesche, distinguished ethnologist, was his uncle, and Suzette LaFlesche Tibbles, (Bright Eyes), who lectured throughout the civilized world and was the most famous Indian woman of the 1880's and 1890's, was his aunt.

Major Picotte reported that there were more than 300 Indians on Bataan and Corregidor. While in the prison camps he met and talked with many from all sections of the country. He added, "Their battle record, individually and as a whole, left nothing to be desired."

Not all the news of the prisoners of war is good. Some did not survive the rigors and the mistreatment in the camps, and some were lost in the torpedoing of several ships carrying prisoners of war from the Philippines to Japan. Others perished when another ship was bombed and sunk in Subic Bay. It is hoped that, as time goes on, more will be found alive and that the lists of released prisoners will grow.

A Family of Braves

Six grandsons of the Reverend Ben Brave, retired Sioux minister, have shown their patriotism by donning uniforms. Four went into the army, one into the Navy, and one into the Coast Guard.

Staff Sgt. Francis E. Brave received the Silver Star for gallantry in action, evacuating 30 German prisoners to the rear under enemy fire on Anzio beachhead. "During the two hours required for the trip," to quote the citation, "Sergeant brave had to wade through waist-deep water and frequently had to take cover from enemy tank and mortar shells; however, he controlled his prisoners and brought them to the proper collecting point. Sergeant Brave's gallant conduct made possible the early gathering of important information from the prisoners and reflects much credit on the Army of the United States."



Top, S-Sgt. Judson Brave; center, S-Sgt. Francis Brave, S-Sgt, Waldron Frazier, Cpl Alexander Brave; bottom, Ronald and Donald Frazier.

Staff Sgt. Waldron A. Frazier, also a grandson of the Reverend Brave, served with the Second Troop Carrier Squadron for four years, during two of which he was stationed successively in China, India, and Burma. As crew chief of the "Thunderbird," one of the big transport planes, he had more than 125 hours of combat

flying time, and he wore the Air Medal, the Pacific Theater Ribbon with two battle stars, and the American Defense Ribbon. His group won two Presidential Unit citations. Last December he was killed in a plane crash while being invalided home.

Nearly four hundred of "The Chief's" friends decided to do something in his memory. Accordingly, they bought for his little girl, Ilona Joyce, \$1,025 worth of War Bonds, and sent a check for the \$14.45 left over from the purchases. Among the donors were all ranks from majors to privates. "We hope that this little gift will help to give Ilona Joyce some of the things that Waldron would like her to have," they wrote.

The other four grandsons are doing well, and no doubt we shall hear brave stories of them. They are: Cpl. Alexander A. Brave, Sgt. Judson B. Brave, and Ronald H. and Donald H. Frasier, twins, who are in the Coast Guard and the Navy, respectively.

The Reverend Brave's son, Ben, was recently discharged from the Army for overage. A son-in-law, Lt. Frank Fox, is in the Army, and another grandson, John W. Frazier, Jr., has recently donned the uniform. Two grandsons-in-law, James Wilson and Russell DeCora, complete the family fighting group.

Indian Service Employees in the War

Twenty-one employees of the Indian Service gave their lives for the cause of freedom and justice, some of them in action against the enemy, some in training, some by accident, and some by illness. There will be more names to add to the list when the reckoning is completed. Captain Homer Claymore, pilot of a B-17 bomber in the 8th Air Force, has been missing for many months and must be presumed lost. He was employed as a baker at Pine Ridge before he entered the AAF. Lt. Orian Wynn, of the Consolidated Ute Agency, was reported missing after a raid on enemy territory from his base in Italy.

The prisoners of war released by the victorious armies of the United Nations include Soldier Sanders, baker at the Sequoyah School, Wallace Tuner, clerk at Jicarilla, and Marion Chadaclou, assistant at Navajo. They were all prisoners of the Germans. Cornelius Gregory, teacher at Fort Sill, spent eleven months interned in Sweden, following a raid on Germany during which his plane was damaged and had to land in neutral territory. Mrs. Etta S. Jones, teacher, who was captured when the Japanese invaded the island of Attu in June 1942, was found in a camp near Tokyo and brought back to the United States. Her husband, who was a special assistant and operated the radio station on the island, was killed at the time of the invasion. Dr. Sidney E. Seid, formerly physician at the Chilocco School, survived more than three years' imprisonment in Japan.

Still to be heard from are Louis E. Williams, clerk at Pine Ridge, and Roy J. House, clerk at Jicarilla, who were made prisoners by the Japanese during the first campaigns in the Philippines.

Indian Service employees have won decorations for gallantry and courage. Lt. William Sixkiller, Jr., who died of wounds received in action on Saipan, received the posthumous award of the Silver Star. Another Indian Office employee, Sgt. Robert Duffin, wears the same decoration, awarded for exploits in Germany, and Philip Kowice, of the United Pueblos Agency, earned his Silver Star in the Italian campaign. Bronze Star Medals were awarded to Lt.

James M. Ware, of the Osage Agency, who directed evacuation of the wounded in an Italian engagement, although seriously wounded himself; to Colonel E. Morgan Pryse, Director of Roads, for the construction of airfields in advance combat sectors; and to Major Delmer F. Parker, Physician at the Pawnee Agency, for his work as surgeon in the Pacific theatre. Capt. Louis J. Feves, furloughed from his position as physician at the Umatilla Agency, Oregon, won the Soldier's Medal when he went to the rescue of injured crew members of a bomber which had crashed on a heavily-mined reef in the Gilbert Islands.

The list of those wounded in action includes Henry McEwin (Engineer, Chilocco School), Walter W. Nations (Agricultural Extension Agent, United Pueblos), Nelson Thomson (Assistant, Navajo), Walter Campbell (Barber, Sherman institute), Franklin Gritts (Teacher, Haskell Institute), Michael Bordeaux (Clerk, Rosebud), James M. Ware (Clerk, Osage), Henry Garcia (Orderly, Navajo), and Morris James (Mechanic, Pine Ridge).



Mrs. Etta S. Jones receives from Secretary Ickes a check for \$6887.54, covering her salary for the years she spent as a prisoner in Japan. She was captured on Attu.

*(1945) US Dept of the Interior
Office of Indian Affairs*

**Native American
Medal of Honor Recipients
World War II**

BARFOOT, VAN T.

Rank and organization: Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, 157th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division.

Place and date: Near Carano, Italy, 23 May 1944.

Entered service at: Carthage, Miss.

Birth: Edinburg, Miss.

G.O. No.: 79, 4 October 1944.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty on 23 May 1944, near Carano, Italy. With his platoon heavily engaged during an assault against forces well entrenched on commanding ground, 2d Lt. Barfoot (then Tech. Sgt.) moved off alone upon the enemy left flank. He crawled to the proximity of 1 machinegun nest and made a direct hit on it with a hand grenade, killing 2 and wounding 3 Germans. He continued along the German defense line to another machinegun emplacement, and with his tommygun killed 2 and captured 3 soldiers. Members of another enemy machinegun crew then abandoned their position and gave themselves up to Sgt. Barfoot. Leaving the prisoners for his support squad to pick up, he proceeded to mop up positions in the immediate area, capturing more prisoners and bringing his total count to 17. Later that day, after he had reorganized his men and consolidated the newly captured ground, the enemy launched a fierce armored counterattack directly at his platoon positions. Securing a bazooka, Sgt. Barfoot took up an exposed position directly in front of 3 advancing Mark VI tanks. From a distance of 75 yards his first shot destroyed the track of the leading tank, effectively disabling it, while the other 2 changed direction toward the flank. As the crew of the disabled tank dismounted, Sgt. Barfoot killed 3 of them with his tommygun. He continued onward into enemy terrain and destroyed a recently abandoned German fieldpiece with a demolition charge placed in the breach. While returning to his platoon position, Sgt. Barfoot, though greatly fatigued by his Herculean efforts, assisted 2 of his seriously wounded men 1,700 yards to a position of safety. Sgt. Barfoot's extraordinary heroism, demonstration of magnificent valor, and aggressive determination in the face of pointblank fire are a perpetual inspiration to his fellow soldiers.

CHILDERS, ERNEST

Rank and organization: Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, 45th Infantry Division.

Place and date: At Oliveto, Italy, 22 September 1943.

Entered service at: Tulsa, Okla.

Birth: Broken Arrow, Okla.

G.O. No.: 30, 8 April 1944.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action on 22 September 1943, at Oliveto, Italy. Although 2d Lt. Childers previously had just suffered a fractured instep he, with 8 enlisted men, advanced up a hill toward enemy machinegun nests. The group advanced to a rock wall overlooking a cornfield and 2d Lt. Childers ordered a base of fire laid across the field so that he could advance. When he was fired upon by 2 enemy snipers from a nearby house he killed both of them. He moved behind the machinegun nests and killed all occupants of the nearer one. He continued toward the second one and threw rocks into it. When the 2 occupants of the nest raised up, he shot 1. The other was killed by 1 of the 8 enlisted men. 2d Lt. Childers continued his advance toward a house farther up the hill, and single-handed, captured an enemy mortar observer. The exceptional leadership, initiative, calmness under fire, and conspicuous gallantry displayed by 2d Lt. Childers were an inspiration to his men.

EVANS, ERNEST EDWIN

Rank and organization: Commander, U.S. Navy.

Born: 13 August 1908, Pawnee, Okla.

Accredited to: Oklahoma.

Other Navy awards: Navy Cross, Bronze Star Medal.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as commanding officer of the U.S.S. Johnston in action against major units of the enemy Japanese fleet during the battle off Samar on 25 October 1944. The first to lay a smokescreen and to open fire as an enemy task force, vastly superior in number, firepower and armor, rapidly approached. Comdr. Evans gallantly diverted the powerful blasts of hostile guns from the lightly armed and armored carriers under his protection, launching the first torpedo attack when the

Johnston came under straddling Japanese shellfire. Undaunted by damage sustained under the terrific volume of fire, he unhesitatingly joined others of his group to provide fire support during subsequent torpedo attacks against the Japanese and, outshooting and outmaneuvering the enemy as he consistently interposed his vessel between the hostile fleet units and our carriers despite the crippling loss of engine power and communications with steering aft, shifted command to the fantail, shouted steering orders through an open hatch to men turning the rudder by hand and battled furiously until the Johnston, burning and shuddering from a mortal blow, lay dead in the water after 3 hours of fierce combat. Seriously wounded early in the engagement, Comdr. Evans, by his indomitable courage and brilliant professional skill, aided materially in turning back the enemy during a critical phase of the action. His valiant fighting spirit throughout this historic battle will venture as an inspiration to all who served with him.

MONTGOMERY, JACK C.

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, 45th Infantry Division.

Place and date: Padiglione, Italy, 22 February 1944.

Entered service at: Sallisaw, Okla.

Birth: Long, Okla.

G.O. No.: 5, 15 January 1945.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty on 22 February 1944, near Padiglione, Italy. Two hours before daybreak a strong force of enemy infantry established themselves in 3 echelons at 50 yards, 100 yards, and 300 yards, respectively, in front of the rifle platoons commanded by 1st Lt. Montgomery. The closest position, consisting of 4 machineguns and 1 mortar, threatened the immediate security of the platoon position. Seizing an M1 rifle and several hand grenades, 1st Lt. Montgomery crawled up a ditch to within hand grenade range of the enemy. Then climbing boldly onto a little mound, he fired his rifle and threw his grenades so accurately that he killed 8 of the enemy and captured the remaining 4. Returning to his platoon, he called for artillery

fire on a house, in and around which he suspected that the majority of the enemy had entrenched themselves. Arming himself with a carbine, he proceeded along the shallow ditch, as withering fire from the riflemen and machinegunners in the second position was concentrated on him. He attacked this position with such fury that 7 of the enemy surrendered to him, and both machineguns were silenced. Three German dead were found in the vicinity later that morning. 1st Lt. Montgomery continued boldly toward the house, 300 yards from his platoon position. It was now daylight, and the enemy observation was excellent across the flat open terrain which led to 1st Lt. Montgomery's objective. When the artillery barrage had lifted, 1st Lt. Montgomery ran fearlessly toward the strongly defended position. As the enemy started streaming out of the house, 1st Lt. Montgomery, unafraid of treacherous snipers, exposed himself daringly to assemble the surrendering enemy and send them to the rear. His fearless, aggressive, and intrepid actions that morning, accounted for a total of 11 enemy dead, 32 prisoners, and an unknown number of wounded. That night, while aiding an adjacent unit to repulse a counterattack, he was struck by mortar fragments and seriously wounded. The selflessness and courage exhibited by 1st Lt. Montgomery in alone attacking 3 strong enemy positions inspired his men to a degree beyond estimation.

REESE, JOHN N., JR.

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company B, 148th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division.

Place and date: Paco Railroad Station, Manila, Philippine Islands. 9 February 1945. E

Entered Service at: Pryor, Okla.

Birth: Muskogee, Okla.

G.O. No.: 89, 19 October 1945.

Citation: He was engaged in the attack on the Paco Railroad Station, which was strongly defended by 300 determined enemy soldiers with machineguns and rifles, supported by several pillboxes, 3 20mm. guns, 1 37-mm. gun and heavy mortars. While making a frontal assault across an open field, his platoon was halted 100 yards from the station by intense enemy fire. On

his own initiative he left the platoon, accompanied by a comrade, and continued forward to a house 60 yards from the objective. Although under constant enemy observation, the 2 men remained in this position for an hour, firing at targets of opportunity, killing more than 35 Japanese and wounding many more. Moving closer to the station and discovering a group of Japanese replacements attempting to reach pillboxes, they opened heavy fire, killed more than 40 and stopped all subsequent attempts to man the emplacements. Enemy fire became more intense as they advanced to within 20 yards of the station. From that point Pfc. Reese provided effective covering fire and courageously drew enemy fire to himself while his companion killed 7 Japanese and destroyed a 20-mm. gun and heavy machinegun with handgrenades. With their ammunition running low, the 2 men started to return to the American lines, alternately providing covering fire for each other as they withdrew. During this movement, Pfc. Reese was killed by enemy fire as he reloaded his rifle. The intrepid team, in 2 1/2 hours of fierce fighting, killed more than 82 Japanese, completely disorganized their defense and paved the way for subsequent complete defeat of the enemy at this strong point. By his gallant determination in the face of tremendous odds, aggressive fighting spirit, and extreme heroism at the cost of his life, Pfc. Reese materially aided the advance of our troops in Manila and providing a lasting inspiration to all those with whom he served.

US Army Center for Military History

<http://www.history.army.mil/html/topics/natam/natam-moh.html>

9 June 2009

Trained as paratroopers and advance scouts, the Pathfinders of World War II dropped into enemy territory one step ahead of Allied forces. Among these soldiers, American Indians like Buck Hilton served their country and carried on a tradition of military service extending for generations.

This volume compiles articles and publications about the Native American veterans who served in the 82nd Airborne and other divisions during World War II, including a rare interview with "Pathfinder" Buck Hilton.

Critical Press Benefit Edition
Purchase of this book benefits the
Wounded Warrior Project.
<http://woundedwarriorproject.org>

