

BOOT CAMP

USE GUNS
CRAZY RUNNING, ETC.
DISCIPLINE

} all of
the usual
stuff

29 original code talkers were asked to
create code.

for each letter a Navajo word was chosen
(to spell words out letter by letter for things
w/o Navajo words)

a → "wol-la-chee" (APPLE)

(initially 26 words but later copies were added
to thwart freq analysis)

later 2 or 3 choices were made for each letter
(except infrequent ones)

Others for "a" were Navajo words for Ant,
Axe.

3 people (marines) added
to help make code

Military Terms

Organization

Division

Officers

Countries

VOCAB

"Ashish-hi / Ashi-hi" SALT

Aircraft

Ships

Months

LEARN How to USE
RADIOS! + FIX
THEM

CIS 3362 9/19/22

US Codes were slow.

Philip Johnston (knew Navajo, retired military)
grew up on a reservation

Requirements

- 1) Germans / Japanese should not know the language.
- 2) Enough young men to go into combat.
(who speak that language)
- 3) They have to know English also!
- 4) Nice is structure of language different than well-known "studied" languages.
- 5) Not written.

- NAVAJO fit these requirements the best

Went to schools where Navajo were.

Tried to entice students.

Interviews for English skills.

Physical test.

~ APR/MAY 1942

⇒ BOOT CAMP SAN DIEGO

} Chose
29
Navajo.

BOOT CAMP SUMMER 1942

FALL (EARLY OCT) 1942 → boat → Pacific Island
1st training island

1st battle

Battle of Guadalcanal (late 1942) Guinea

Port of Rabaul - Nov 1942 (Papua New Guinea)

11 Code Talkers helped retake in
November 1943 in 6 days

Iwo Jima 2/19 - 3/16, 1945

Probably only code not broken during
WWII.

