



Unsung Mural Lesson

Hear, Here La Crosse | Tracy Littlejohn - “Pump House Mural” Story

First Nation Code Talkers in the U.S. Army & Mitchell Redcloud Jr.



Image from: https://www.army.mil/nativeamericans/code_talkers.html

Who Were the U.S. Army Code Talkers?

Numerous First Nation soldiers served in the U.S. Army as “Code Talkers” during WWI, WWII as well as the Korean and Vietnam wars.

The code talkers' work was classified until Congress passed the Code Talkers Recognition Act on June 18, 2002. This Act sought to recognize the important role these Soldiers played in communications operations that saved countless lives and expedited wars.

Visit & Explore

- https://www.army.mil/nativeamericans/code_talkers.html

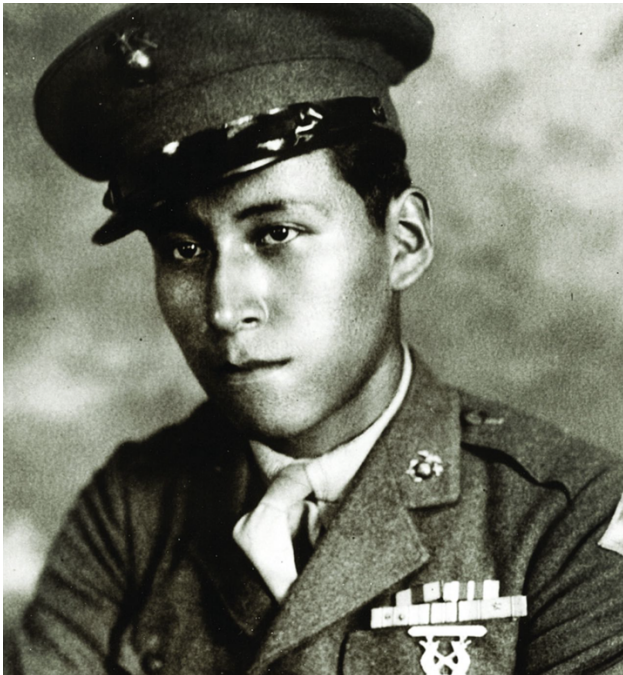
Q & A

1. What Tribes/Nations are highlighted in the article? _____

2. What term did the Code Talkers use for Colonel? _____

3. How many tribes were honored on November 20th, 2013 at the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony held in Emancipation Hall of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center?

Who was Mitchell Redcloud Jr.?



Cpl. Mitchell Redcloud Jr.

Mitchell Red Cloud Jr. (Ho-Chunk, Black River Falls, Wisconsin) served as a Code Talker in the Marines during WWII and later as an Army Corporal in Company E., 19th Infantry Regiment, in the Korean War.

Cpl. Redcloud sacrificed his life in Korea, earning a *Metal of Honor*. On April 3, 1951, his mother received the medal from World War II Gen. Omar Bradley in a ceremony at the Pentagon. His medal is currently housed at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison, WI. In 1957, the Army renamed one of its Korean installations in his honor; Camp Red Cloud was used by U.S. troops until its deactivation in 2018. In 1999, the U.S. Navy commissioned a Watson-class cargo ship named the USNS Red Cloud, which was christened in San Diego by the fallen corporal's daughter.

Visit & Explore

- <https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/story/Article/2802803/medal-of-honor-monday-army-cpl-mitchell-red-cloud-jr/>
- <https://www.hearherelacrosse.org/stories/tracy-littlejohn/>

Activity

[ACTIVITY](#) | Art Analysis Guide (for use with mural photo)



Army Cpl. Mitchell Redcloud Jr.'s portrait included in a [trompe l'oeil mural by artist, John Pugh titled, Confluence](#) on the Pump House Regional Arts Center in La Crosse, WI