

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS



BY EMILY SCHLESINGER



Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1

Unbreakable.....4

CHAPTER 2

Keeping Secrets 8

CHAPTER 3

The Navajo Answer 16

CHAPTER 4

From Reservation to War22

CHAPTER 5

A Secret Project 28

CHAPTER 6

The Alphabet Code.....32

CHAPTER 7

Code in Action 36

CHAPTER 8

Risk 40

CHAPTER 9

Winning the Pacific 46

CHAPTER 10

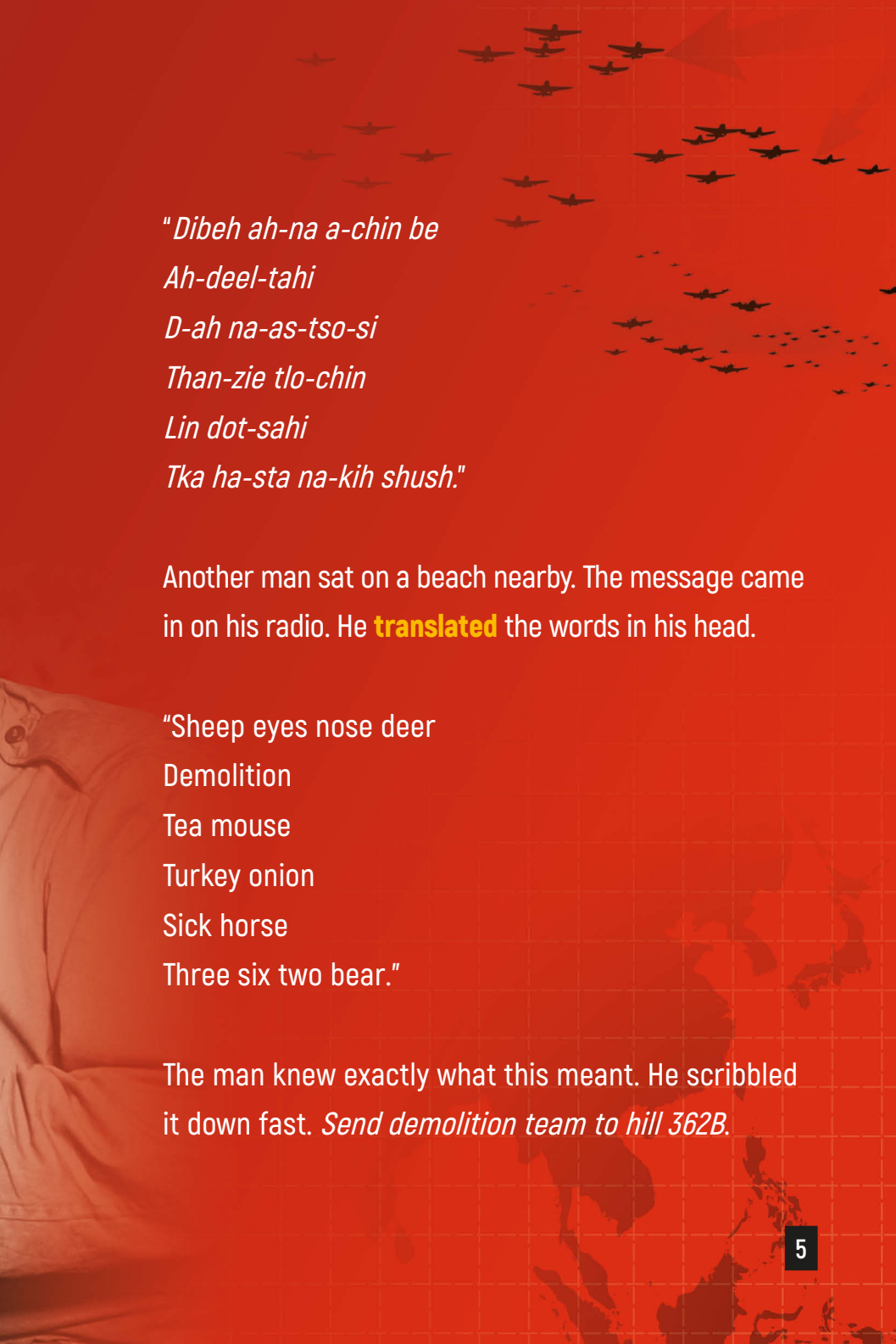
Returning Home 54

Glossary58

Unbreakable


U.S. Marines had just landed on a tiny island. The unit was in big trouble. Japanese forces were firing at them. Troops needed help fast. The leader gave an order. One of his soldiers sent an **urgent** message by radio. It sounded like this.





*"Dibeh ah-na a-chin be
Ah-deel-tahi
D-ah na-as-tso-si
Than-zie tlo-chin
Lin dot-sahi
Tka ha-sta na-kih shush."*

Another man sat on a beach nearby. The message came in on his radio. He **translated** the words in his head.



*"Sheep eyes nose deer
Demolition
Tea mouse
Turkey onion
Sick horse
Three six two bear."*

The man knew exactly what this meant. He scribbled it down fast. *Send demolition team to hill 362B.*

On the front line, the leader paced. Soon he saw help coming. Flame tanks rolled in. A demolition team took over. They saved the lives of the men under fire.

This was World War II. Fighting raged across the globe. Lives hung in the balance. But a top-secret program had been formed. It involved an unbreakable **code**.



FAST FACT: A flame tank has a flamethrower attached to it. These could shoot fire at enemies up to 120 yards away.

A group of men worked behind the scenes. Others did not know what they did. Their work saved thousands of lives. But this secret stayed buried for decades.



NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

In the midst of World War II, a unique team of soldiers fought to help the U.S. win using an unusual weapon—language. Native Americans from the Navajo tribe were recruited by the U.S. military to create a code that no enemy could break. These men were called Navajo code talkers. This is their story of bravery.

WHITE
LIGHTNING
BOOKS®



 **SADDLEBACK**
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING
www.sdlback.com

LEXILE HL250L

ISBN: 978-1-68021-884-8



90000

9 781680 218848