



Chinuk Wawa

Civil War Code Language

Chinuk Wawa was a hybrid language including Chinookan, Nootkan, French, and English used in the Pacific Northwest during the fur trade era. It also aided communication between soldiers and American Indians during the Civil War. Officers who'd learned the language at Fort Vancouver used it to send coded dispatches. This pipe also represents the combination of these cultures.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/fova

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