



TELEGRAPH ACTIVITY:

DECIPHER THE MESSAGES USING MORSE CODE

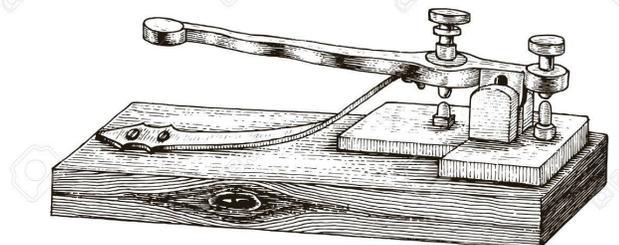
There were several ways of communication during the Civil War -- letters between soldiers and loved one and messages by horse messenger. Newspaper reporters traveled by horse and wagon to cover the war. Stories of the war were sent back to their newspaper to be published. But also, new methods of communication were emerging at the time of the Civil War. Photography allowed people to see the war without being there on the battlefield and signal towers, provided communication over short distances.

One of the greatest inventions was the telegraph. It allowed messages to be sent electrically over telegraph wires. This was much faster and more reliable than sending messages by horse messenger. Messages could be sent at a rate of ten words per minute.

During the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln and the Union Army War Department set up their own telegraph office to communicate. Many of these telegrams were written in code to keep the Confederate Army from intercepting and reading messages. The telegraph was invented in the 1830's and was cutting edge technology, like a cell phone is today.

The telegraph sent and received messages using a pattern of beeps along a wire. Those beeps were translated using long and short beeps to represent letters. By recording those beeps and translating them into words, telegraph operators could reproduce the original message. This system of encoding and decoding messages came to be known as Morse Code.

The Morse code for Latin alphabet usually includes 26 letters and 9 numerals, as well as some pronunciations (See Chart Below).



Telegram machine EPSio

USING THE MORSE CODE CHART, CAN YOU DECIPHER THE HIDDEN ANSWERS?

A	.-	M	--	Y	-.--	6	-....
B	-...	N	-.	Z	--..	7	---...
C	-.-.	O	---	Ä	.-.-	8	---..
D	-..	P	.--.	Ö	---.	9	----.
E	.	Q	--.-	Ü	..--	.	.-.-.-
F	..-.	R	.-.	Ch	----	,	--..--
G	---.	S	...	0	-----	?	..---.
H	T	-	1	.-....	!	..-..
I	..	U	..-	2	..---	:	---...
J	.-...	V	...-	3	...--	"	.-.-.-
K	-.-.	W	.-.	4-	'	.-....
L	.-..	X	-..-	5	=	-...-

WHO MADE THIS QUOTE FAMOUS, "WE HOLD OURSELVES AS FREE MEN WHO DID NOT ESCAPTE SLAVERY IN OUR OLD HOME LANDS TO SUPPORT IT HERE IN AMERICA"

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WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE GROUP OF "SOUTHERN TROOPS" THAT WERE MOVING ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE NEAR HERMANN?

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IN WHAT YEAR WAS HERMANN FOUNDED?

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HOW DID YOU DO? NOW IT'S YOUR TURN! USE THE CHART UP ABOVE TO CREATE SECRET MESSAGES TO SEND FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!