In ancient times, according to one story, a chain of fires on mountaintops was used to relate the news of

the fall of Troy to people in Greece. In the past, native people in the Americas used smoke from fires to

transmit messages. They developed a code—in which certain combinations of smoke rising had special

meanings. For example, two parallel columns of smoke indicated the successful return of a war party.

The ancient Greeks established lines of signal towers at mountain-tops. At each one, a large fire was lit

to transmit a signal to the next tower, and in this way, information was passed on through the land. Also, almost anything that makes a noise has been used for signaling.