

# “In Flames”

By Chaplain Jay G. Hanson, Capt. USAF

We watched in the shadow of the bluish glow.

Emergency morning came and stayed.

In flames of terror our hearts were struck  
as the mighty Twins soon fell to dust.

A shot to bruise the five sided arm of strength

But noble and brave brought down a shot into quiet fields where now they lay.

In flames of blue and white and red

of vengeance and of justice we raised our banner high.

In flames of blue and white and red we took to the sky.

Over sea and continent we brought the fury of the fist of our bruised arm.

Into the mountains we chased our foe.

Then from fear and suspicion our eye was drawn

And In awe we shocked the dull sword of Bagdad

in flames of blue and white and red.

We pulled him from his hole and gave him to his people

until he was hung from his head.

In noble blue and grayish white, the red of our sons and daughters flowed.

In flames of blue and white and red,

Faded flames often forgotten

I stepped into the sun bleached dust from the desert of my life and soul

To help us find life, and hope and peace.

In flames of blue and white and red

We sent our might into the sky

In force on foot

And power from sea

Through the flames were thoughts of home:

Family and friends, relationships hurting and breaking

Some we send home with prayers

through tear blurred view of that banner we held so high

in blue and white and red.

I reached for wisdom to offer strength and hope

I sought a path for healing and peace.

I offered what I'd found to give.

Will they find what they need to live

in the flames of blue and white and red?

I must remind them of the Holy!

But there is no Holy in war!

For war is unholy.

But in the midst of the unholy

in the midst of the flames of blue

in the midst of the flames of white

in the midst of the flames of red

the divine finds little moments

to offer strength and wisdom

to offer healing and peace

to offer faith and hope

to offer love

in blue and white and red