

"I AM THE FLAG OF THE USA"

I am the flag of the United States of America.
My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings.
I stand watch in America's halls of justice.
I fly majestically over institutions of learning.
I stand guard with power in the world. Look up and see me.

I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice. I stand for freedom.
I am confident. I am arrogant.
I am proud, when I am flown with my fellow banners.
My head is a little higher, my colors a little truer.

I bow to no one! I am recognized all over the world.
I am worshipped - I am saluted. I am loved - I am revered.
I am respected - and I am feared.
I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years.

I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Appamatox.
I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, in the Argonne
Forest, Anzio, Rome and the beaches of Normandy. Guam, Okinawa,
Korea and KheSan, Saigon, Vietnam know me. I was there.

I led my troops, I was dirty, battleworn and tired.
But my soldiers cheered me and I was proud.
I have been burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries I
have helped set free. It does not hurt for I am invincible.
I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and trampled in the streets of
my country.
And when it's done by those whom I've served in battle - it hurts.
But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of earth and stood watch over the uncharted
frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon.
I have borne silent witness to all of America's finest hours.
But my finest hours are yet to come.

When I am torn into strips and used as bandages for my wounded
comrades on the battlefield, when I am flown at half-mast to honor my
soldier, or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent at the
grave of their fallen son or daughter, I am proud.

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