

- The **first fold** of our flag is a symbol of life.
- The **second fold** signifies our belief in eternal life.
- The **third fold** is made in honor and tribute of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country.
- The **fourth fold** exemplifies our weaker nature as citizens trusting in God; it is to Him we turn for divine guidance.
- The **fifth fold** is an acknowledgement to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, “Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong.”
- The **sixth fold** is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
- The **seventh fold** is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies.
- The **eighth fold** is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that he might see the light of day.
- The **ninth fold** is an honor to womanhood.
- The **10th fold** is a tribute to fathers and mothers who have given their sons and daughters for the defense of our country.
- The **11th fold**, in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- The **12th fold**, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.
- The **13th and last fold**, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, “In God We Trust.”

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it has the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under Gen. George Washington and the sailors and Marines who served under Capt. John Paul Jones and were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.