

## IN SILENCE STOOD

In silence I stood looking over fields where lives were fought  
Shell like pits and fallen trees, when time stood still were caught  
On beaches lay a reminder barbed wire still in place  
Where armies fought in battles, then vanished without trace  
No more whistling down the wind the shrill of shell or debris  
Looking down a shell-strewn street, no more approaching enemy  
No more the siren at midnight calls to shelters running fast  
Time for recollection now and to rebuild our past  
The blitz of towns and buildings left crumpled and forlorn  
Gone in such a horrid way with life and love to mourn

Such valiantly the young and old did pay a price for us  
For virtue and for liberty they gave self-sacrifice  
No greater loss is that of life, lost that we might live  
Lest we forget, unto our shame the all that they did give  
Clear now the skies above and ground on which I tread  
Ships in port and seas of calm not laden with the dead  
No more holocausts, ten thousand in one grave  
POW's thin and worn with little left to crave  
No sound of birds' just silence, seeing how man can behave  
Liberators weeping at the sights that they did see

Silence now no more the threat, yet bombs lay intact around  
Unbroken not like families searching over ground  
Some they are triumphant, whilst others cry and pray  
For hope of home and loved ones they search both night and day  
Endless days of waiting patiently for loved ones from the front  
Soon over with a solemn gram their graves where flowers lay  
Possessions turn up in a box, treasured memories are returned  
Thumbed photographs with edges worn, others crisp or burned  
Yet in dreams your face appears and you wipe away the tears  
Stood in silence, all alone, no words are needed here

In war there's so much tragedy with loss and pain to bare  
Some will never see again the sunlight of the day  
So many are the injured, scars unseen, struggling to mend  
Homes and places all destroyed, our minds can't comprehend  
Let's pray we've learned the lessons from wars and sorrows past  
Find a way to live in peace and make this peace to last  
Hope for our world that's seen so much, of wars and endless strife  
Remembering those who gave their all, they gave their very life  
All's quiet now over sky and sea, and ground on which I tread  
In silence I stand looking at a memorial to the dead