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The expression gets its meaning from the fireworks that people shoot into the when they are celebrating a great event. Rockets to fill the dark, night sky with bright reds and blues, with and greens and whites.

The also means a great show of noisy anger, or something exciting. For example, a lawyer in a court trial may become very in arguing with the government lawyer about evidence affecting the accused. The finally stops the loud and calls the two lawyers forward. He tells them, "**I want no more of these fireworks in my courtroom.**"

Another kind of fireworks can be any event or that is exciting. One such event is falling in love. If anything can produce fireworks, it is a sweetheart's kiss or the touch of a lover's hand. Often or **show fireworks to represent the excitement of a**.

People use the expression fireworks throughout the year. But if you live in the and want to see real fireworks, the best time of the year is about now. The of July is in the United States. Americans traditionally celebrate their nation's with public parties and fireworks at night.

In Washington, for example, large gather near the Washington Monument to listen to music and watch a huge fireworks show. In other cities and smaller towns, local listen to band concerts and watch fireworks explode in a dark sky.

Many other around the world also enjoy the tradition of exploding fireworks on special days. In Australia, the city of begins each new year with a fireworks show at . is the birthplace of fireworks. Large fireworks shows were held often during earlier times in China. Now, people use small fireworks to help celebrate and birthdays.

France also has a great fireworks tradition. A large fireworks always takes place on Bastille day which celebrates the beginning of the French . The city of Cannes holds an international fireworks competition each year in July and .

In India, people have been using fireworks for more than five hundred years. A great Indian fireworks show takes place during the celebration of , every

Fireworks shows are popular around the world. But if I do not end this right now, there will be fireworks from my .

This VOA Special English program, **WORDS AND THEIR STORIES**, was written by David Jarmul.