Comrades of the Legion

By: John Philip Sousa

Original Copyright: 1920
By: Sam Fox

BandMusic PDF Library

El Kahir Shrine Collection

Music Preservation Team: Tom Pechnik, Senior Archivist; Mary Philips; Wayne Dydo; Bill Park, Director; Marcus Neiman, Program Notes

North Royalton, Ohio
www.bandmusicpdf.org

John Philip Sousa

DOB: November 6th, 1854 (Washington, DC)
DOD: March 6th, 1932 (Reading, PA)

John Philip Sousa wrote the most famous American military marches of all time, including "Stars and Stripes Forever," earning him the nickname "the March King"; he was also known as a great bandleader, and organized the famed concert and military group, Sousa's Band. Born in Washington, D.C., on November 6, 1854, Sousa followed in the footsteps of his father, a musician in the U.S. Marine Corps, and enlisted by the age of 14. Before this, Sousa had studied violin with John Esputa. While active in the Marines, he composed his first march, "Salutation."

Around the age of 16, Sousa began studying harmony with G.F. Benkert, then worked as a pit orchestra conductor at a local theater, followed by jobs as first chair violinist at the Ford Opera House, the Philadelphia Chestnut Street Theater, and later led the U.S. Marine Corps Band (1880-1992). Although most famous for his marches, Sousa composed in other styles as well, including a waltz, "Moonlight on the Potomac"; a gallop, "The Cuckoo" (both in 1869); the oratorio "Messiah of the Nations" (1914); and scores for Broadway musicals The Smugglers (1879), Desiree (1884), The Glass Blowers (1893), El Capitan (1896; which was his first real scoring success), American Maid (1913), and more.

Sousa formed his sternly organized marching band in 1892, leading them through numerous U.S. and European tours, a world tour, and an appearance in the 1915 Broadway show Hip-Hip-Hooray. Sousa's Band also recorded many sides for the Victor label up through the early '30s. His most famous marches include "The Stars and Stripes Forever" (1897), "U.S. Field Artillery March," "Semper Fidelis" (written in 1888, it became the Marine Corps anthem), "Washington Post March" (1889), "King Cotton" (1895), "El Capitan" (1896), and many more. In addition to writing music, Sousa also wrote books, including the best-seller Fifth String and his autobiography, Marching Along. Actor Clifton Webb portrayed Sousa in the movie about his life entitled Stars and Stripes Forever. The instrument the sousaphone was named after this famous composer and bandleader. ~ Joslyn Layne, All Music Guide

---

Comrades of the Legion (march) published in 1920 by the Sax Fox Publishing Company. Immediate after World War I, Sousa was besieged by such a flood of requests for new marches that he could scarcely have fulfilled them all. One, however; took top priority – a solicitation from the executive staff of the newly formed American Legion. The request was filled promptly, Sousa was enthusiastic about the American Legion because it was a veterans' group. Little could have appealed to him more. On the first piano manuscript was thus notated:

To the American Legion
Comrades of the Legion

The title was changed on a later manuscript:

To my comrades of the American Legion
The American Legion March

When the published version appeared, the original title was used. By the time it was printed and distributed, Sousa was an honorary member of five different Legion posts. A recording of the new

march was made by the Sousa Band, and half a million copies were sold in advance of the actual printing. The sale was no doubt helped along because the composition was one of the featured numbers of the 1920 Sousa Band tour.[1]

Program note researched by Marcus L. Neiman
Medina, Ohio

Additional information on either the composer or composition would be welcomed. Please send information to
marcusneiman@zoominternet.net

[1] Bierley, Paul, The works of John Philip Sousa, Integrity Press, Westerville, OH, p.46-47.

Piccolo

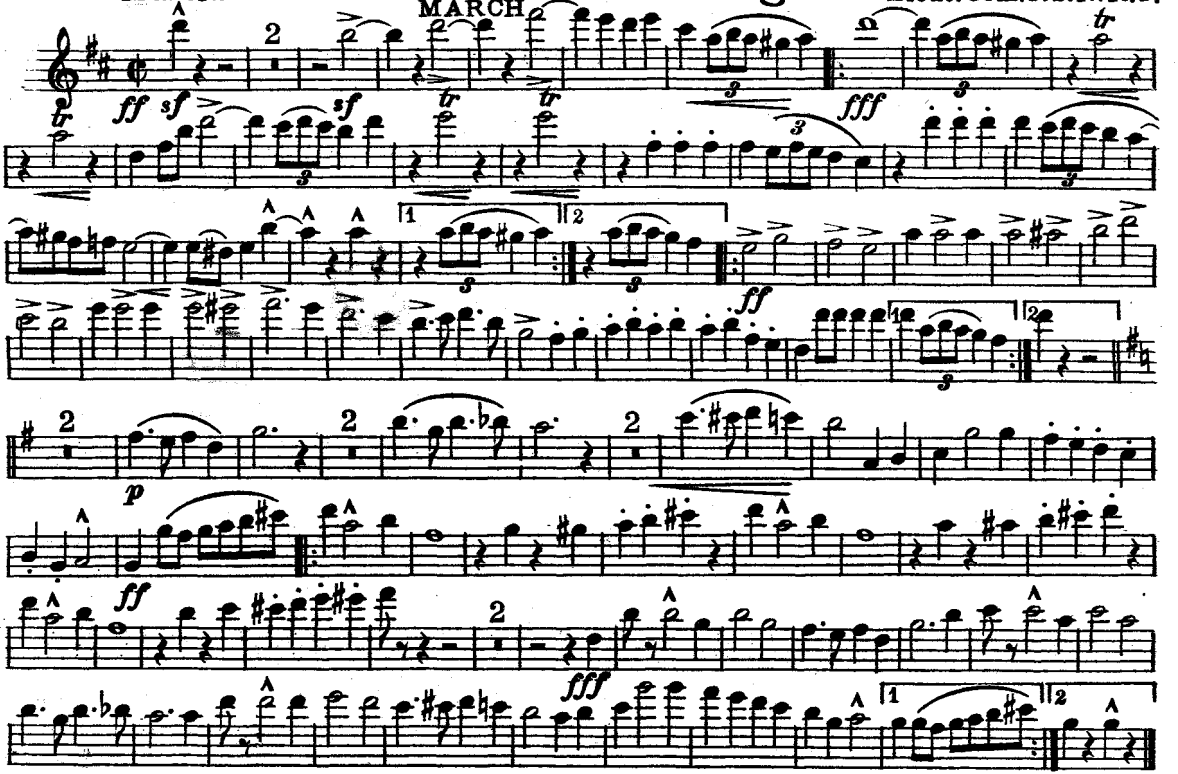
To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

1st Flute

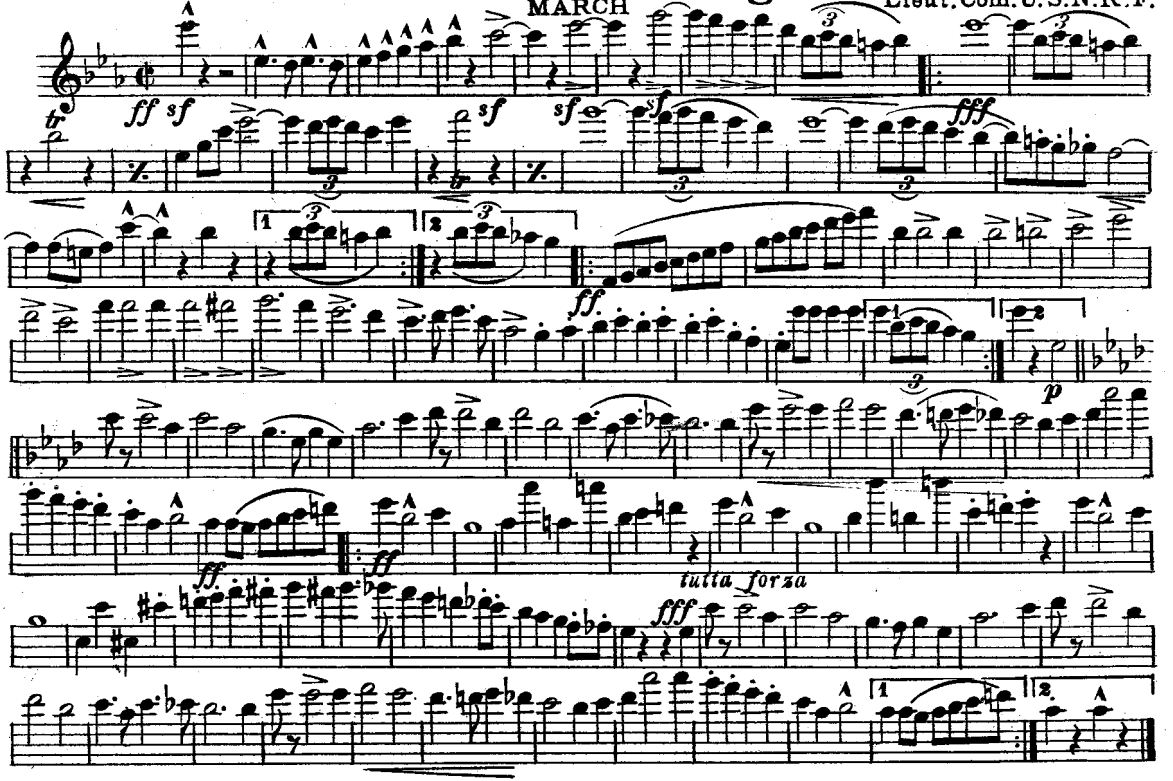
To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub.Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

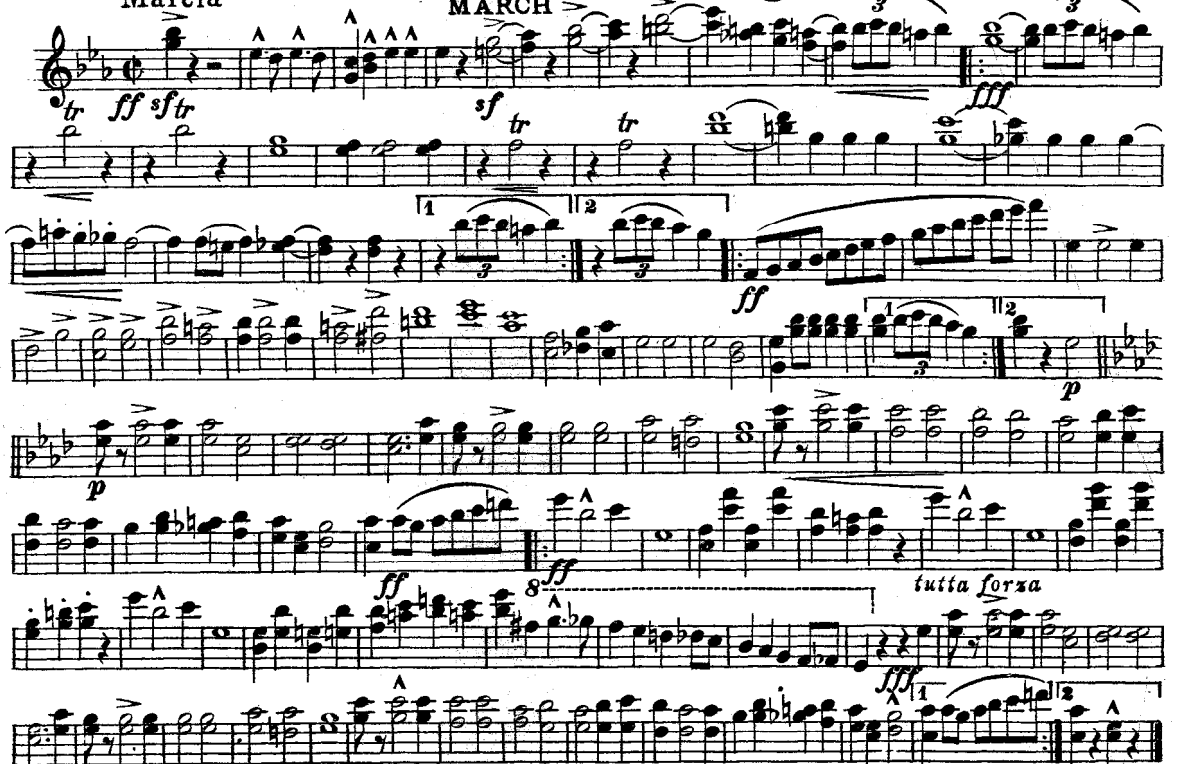
2d & 3d Flutes

Marcia

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O

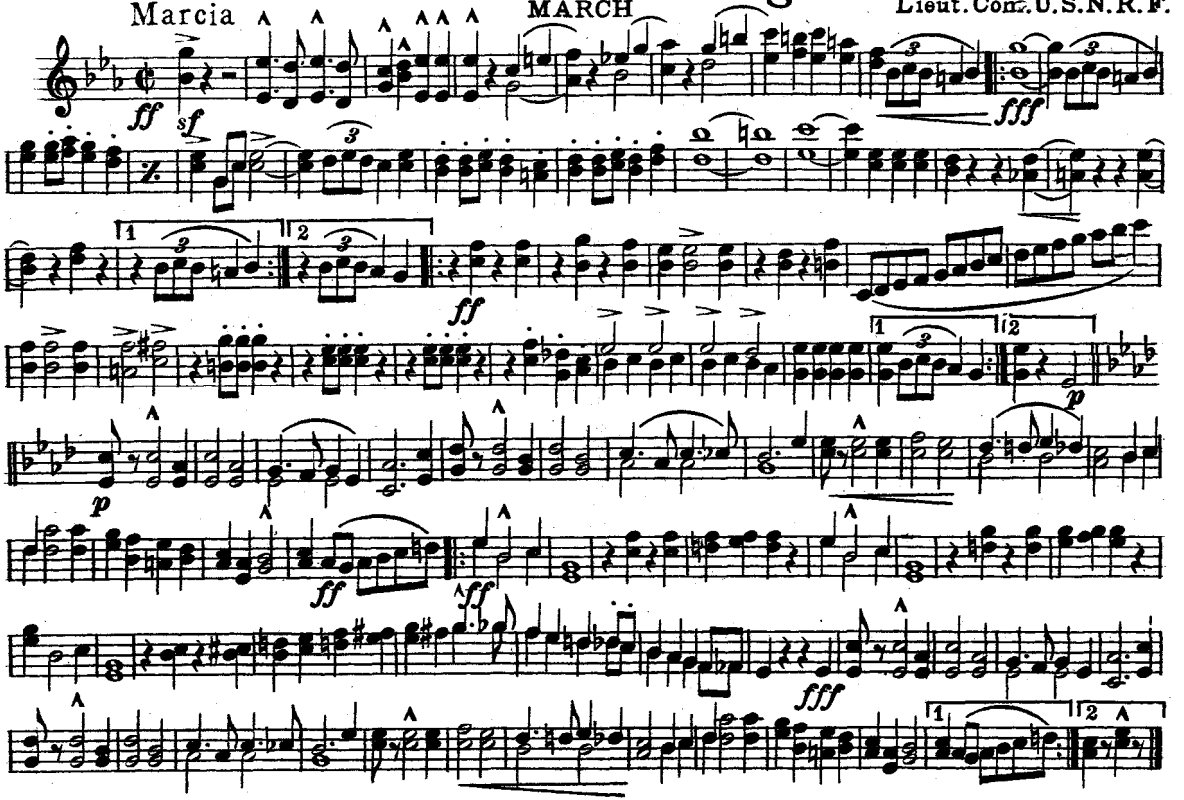
To the American Legion

Oboes

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

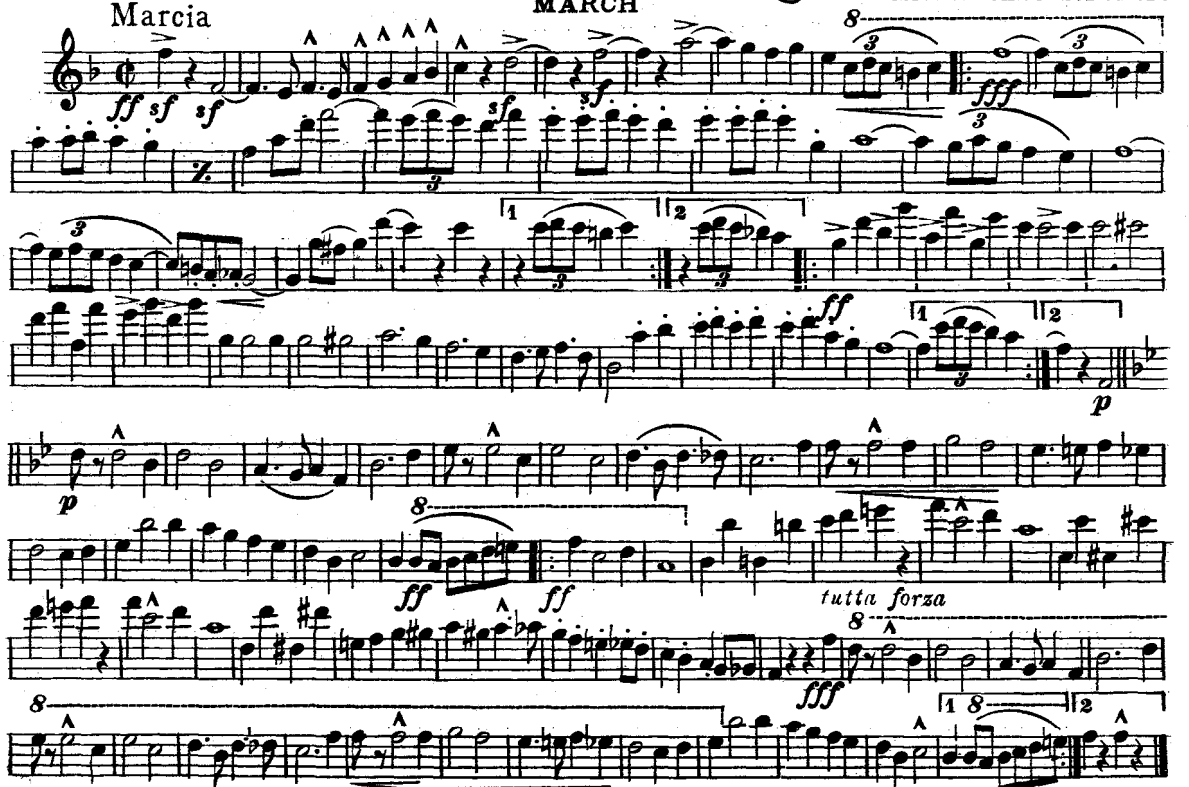
1st B♭ Clarinet

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

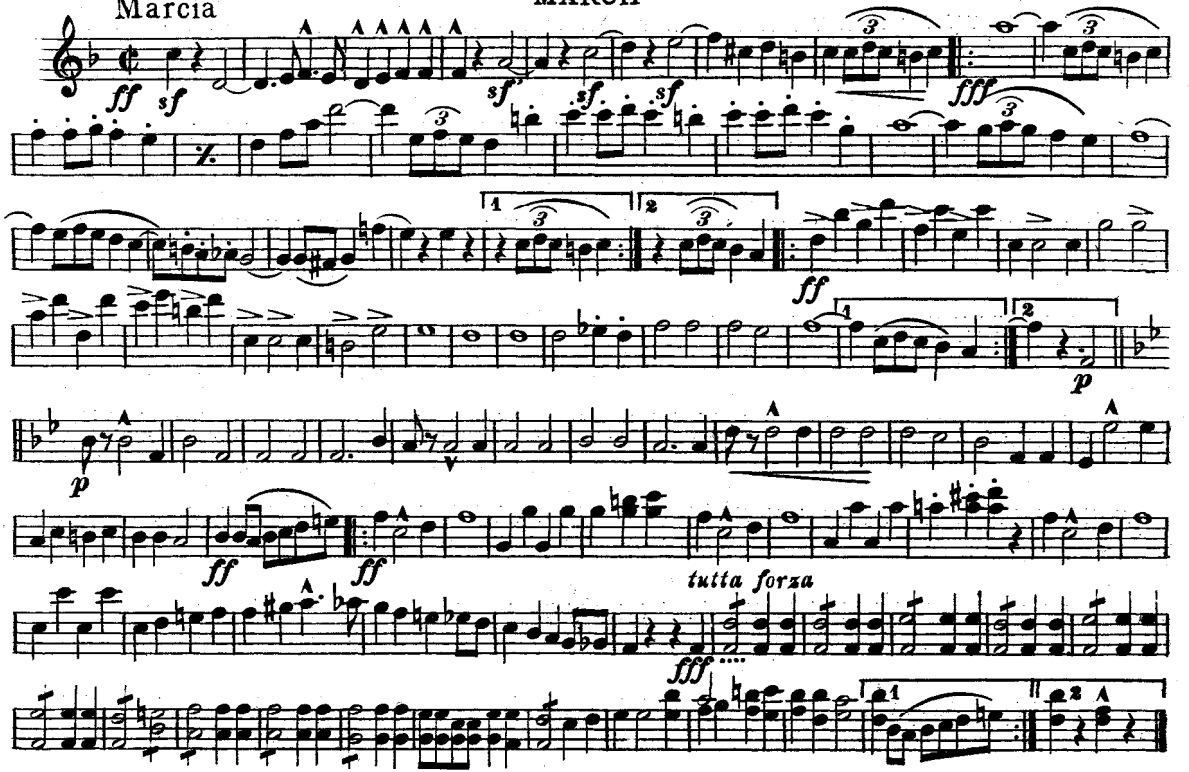
2d B♭ Clarinet

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

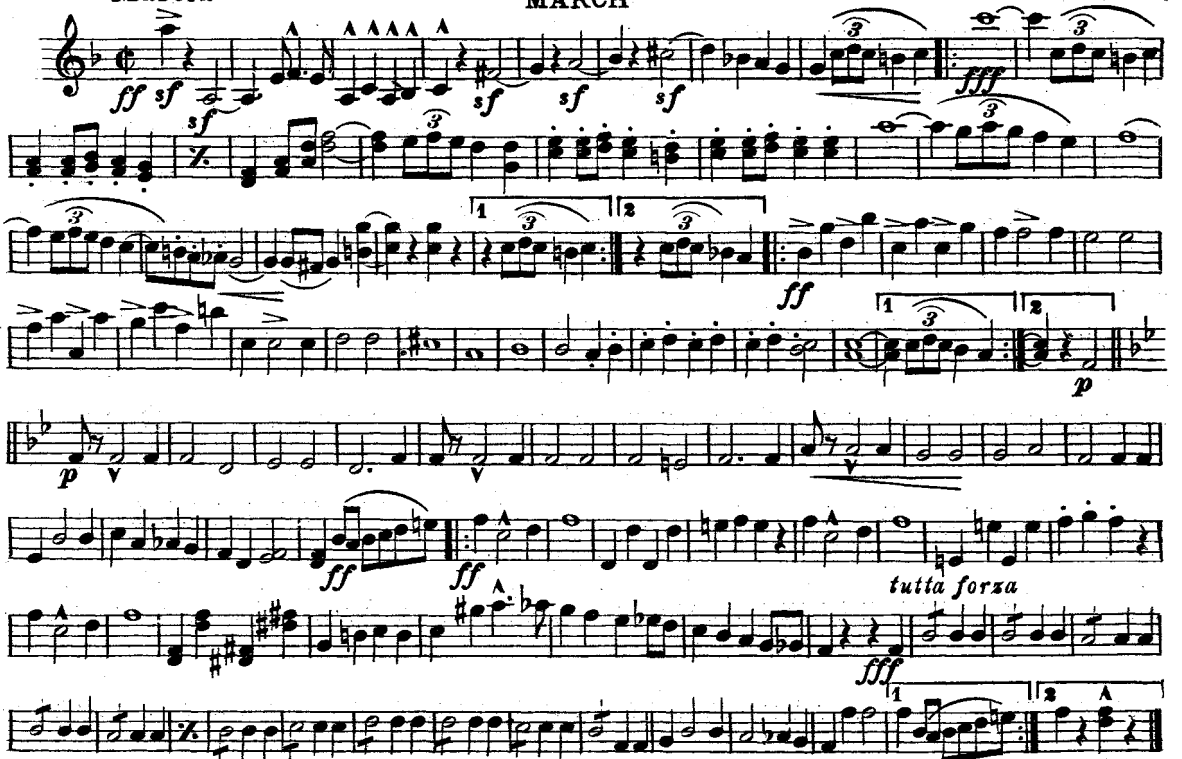
3d B♭ Clarinet
Marcia

To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

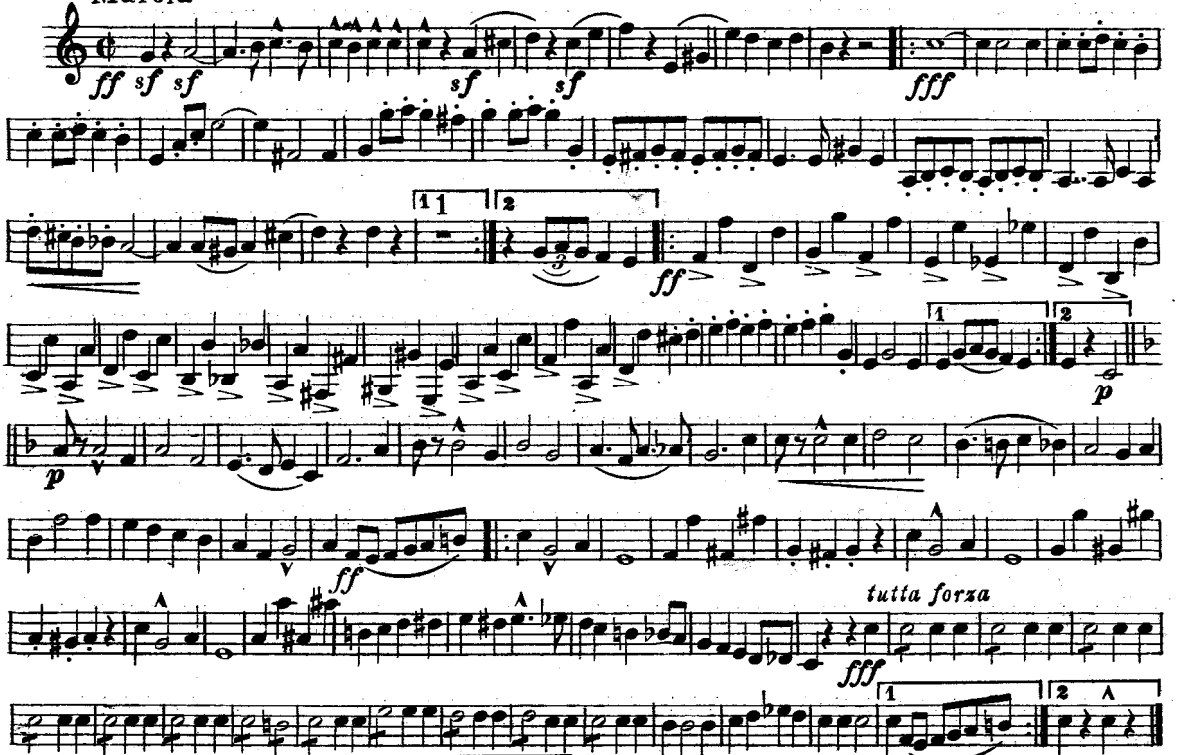
Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

Alto Clarinet

Marcia

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.



Sam Fox Pub.Co.,Cleveland,O.

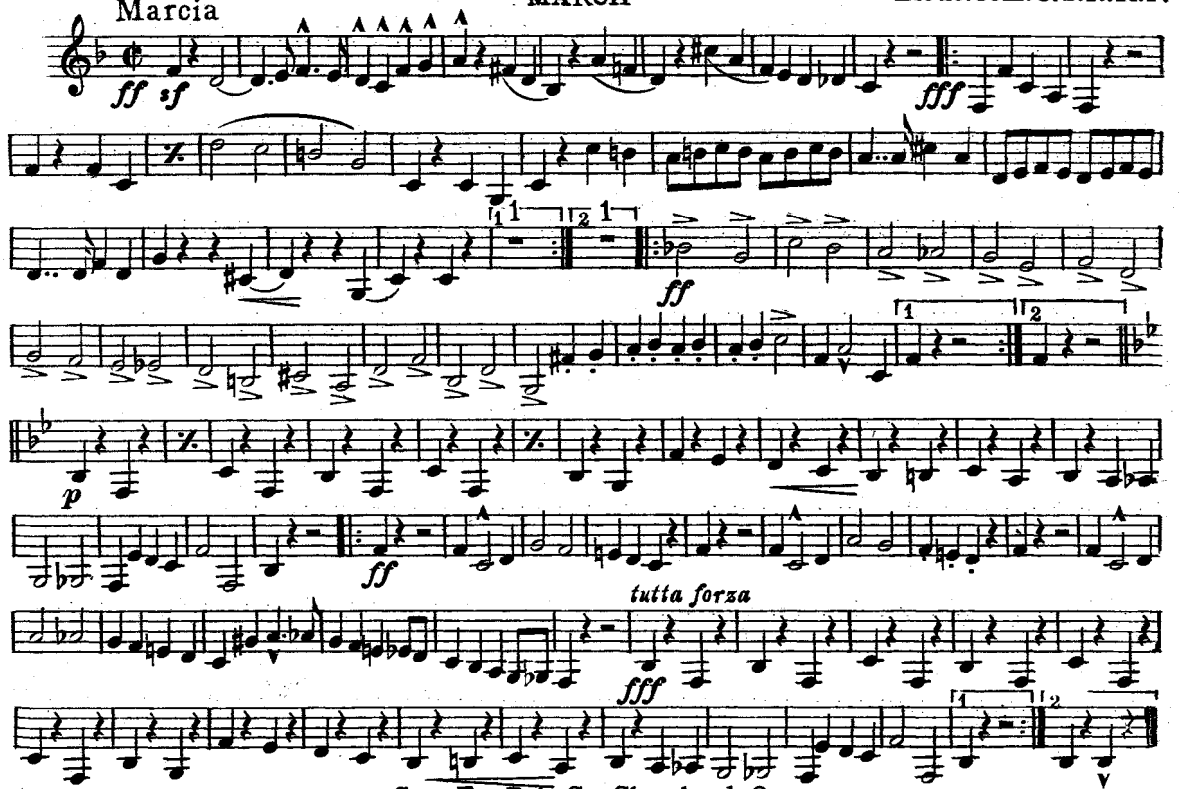
To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.

Bass Clarinet
Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

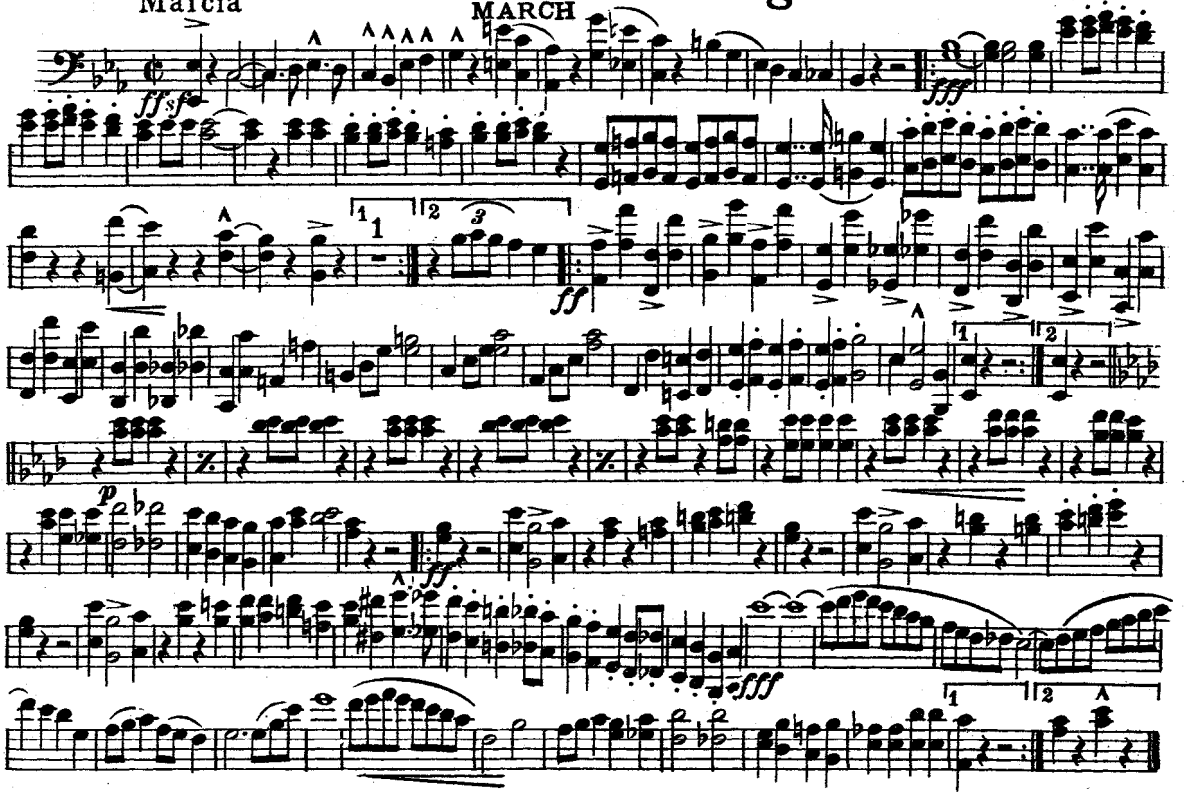
Bassoons

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

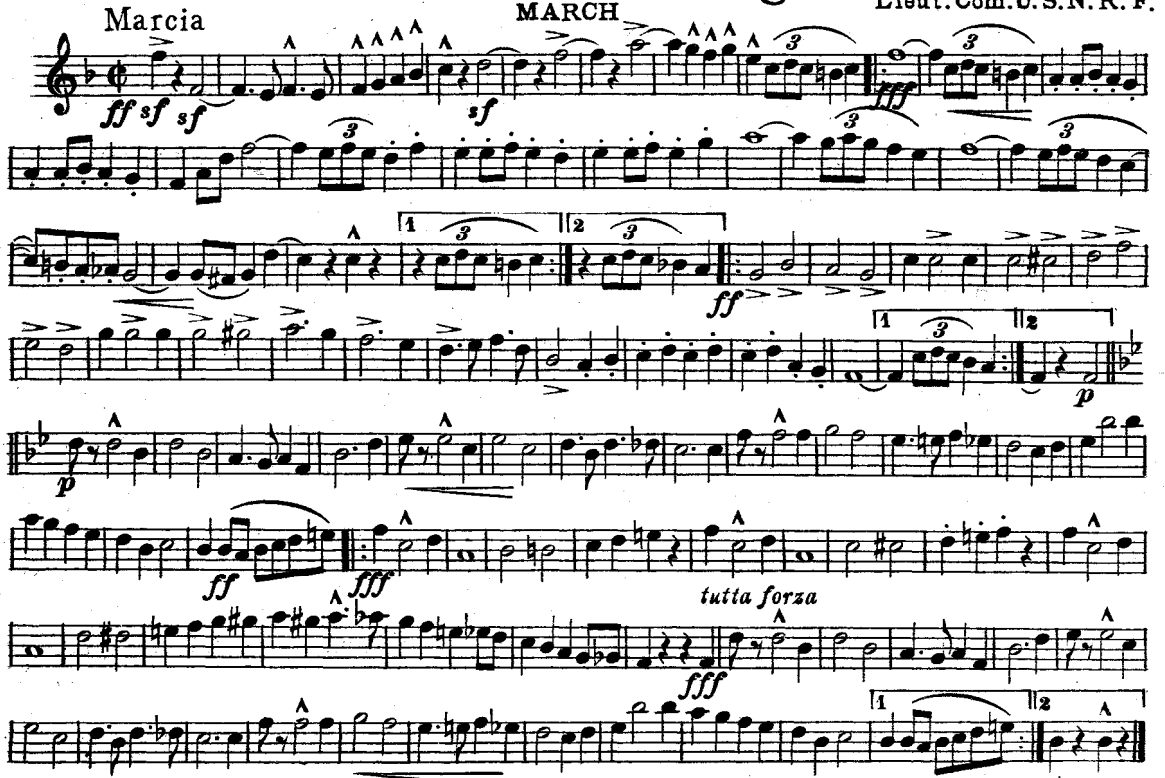
Soprano Saxophone

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

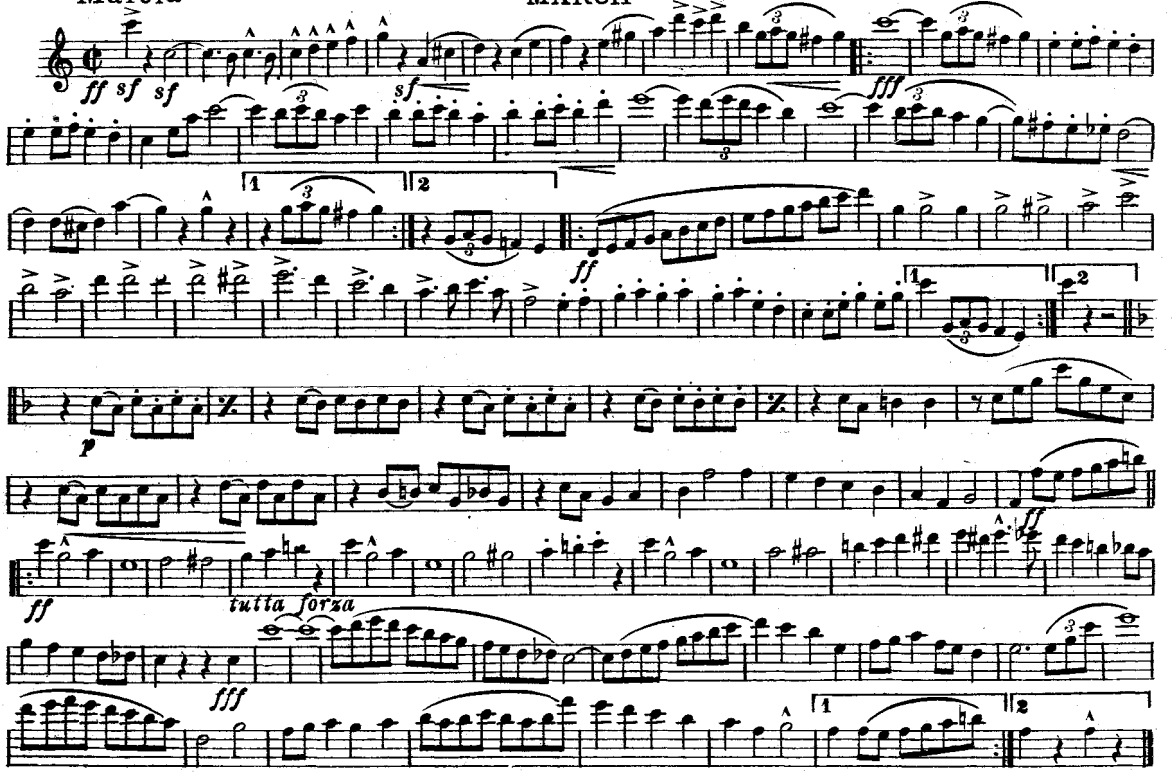
Alto Saxophone

Marcia

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

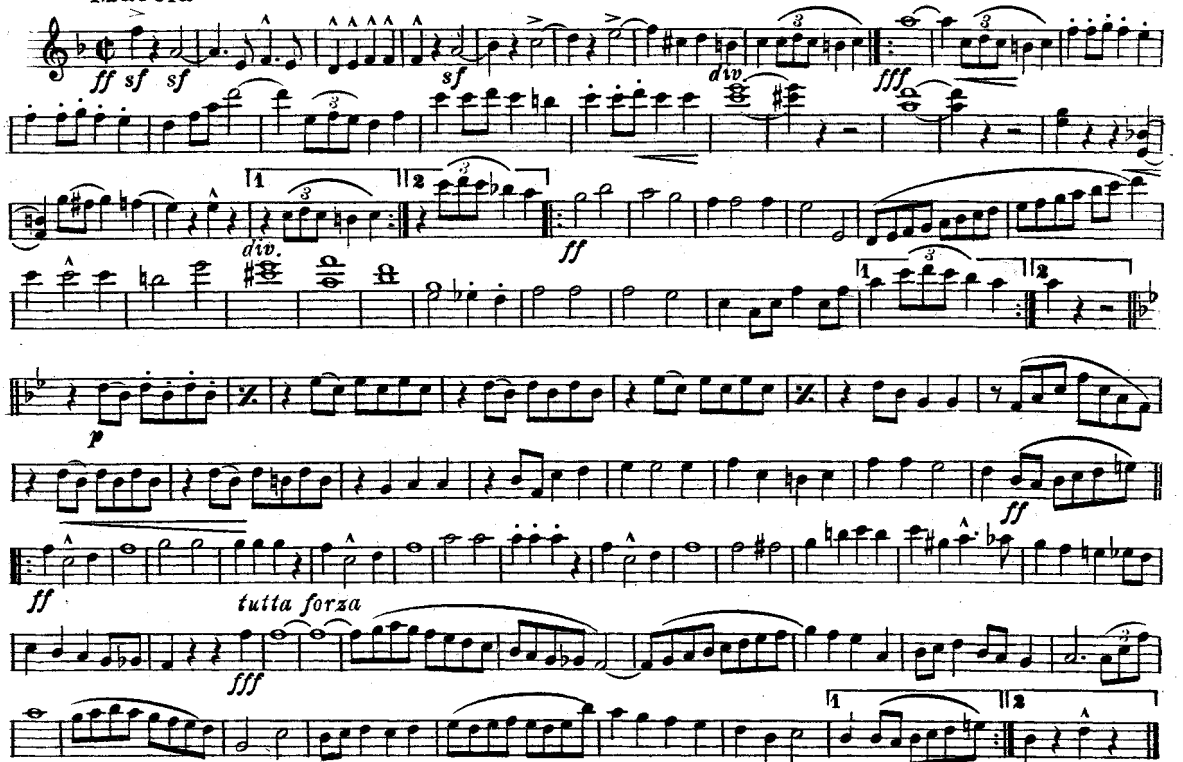
Tenor Saxophone

Marcia

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

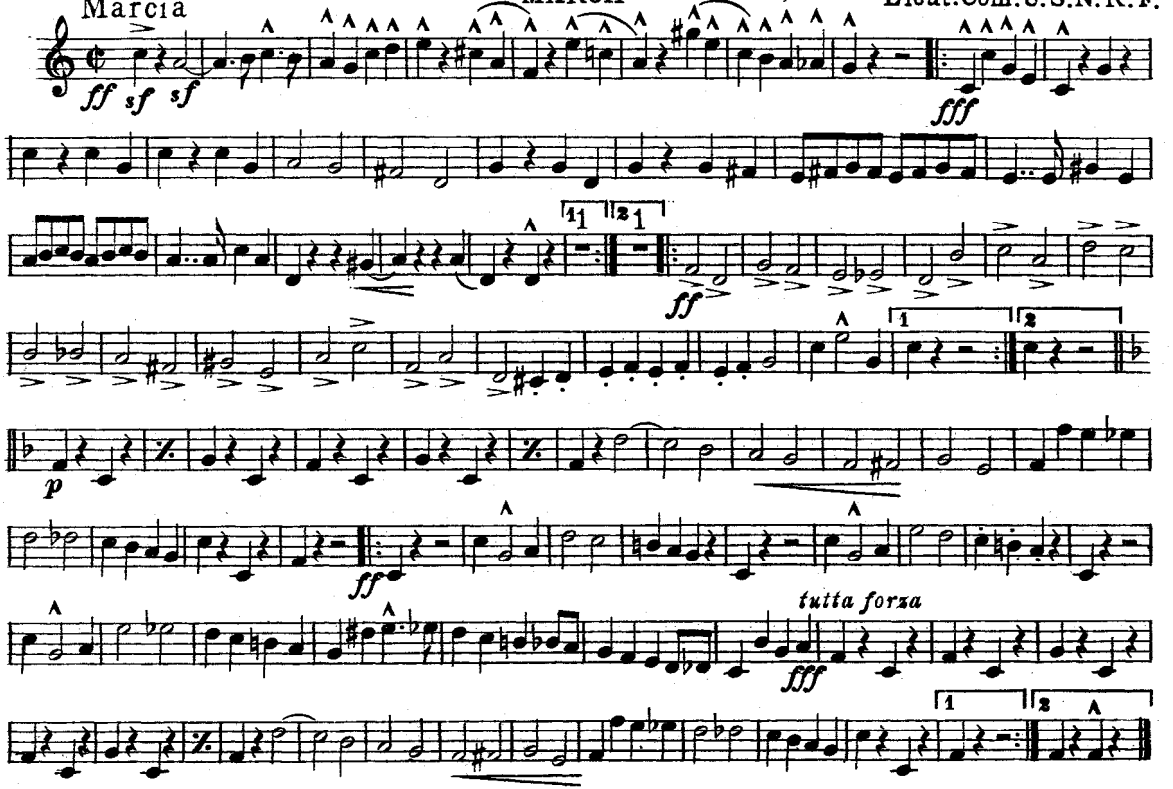
Baritone Saxophone

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

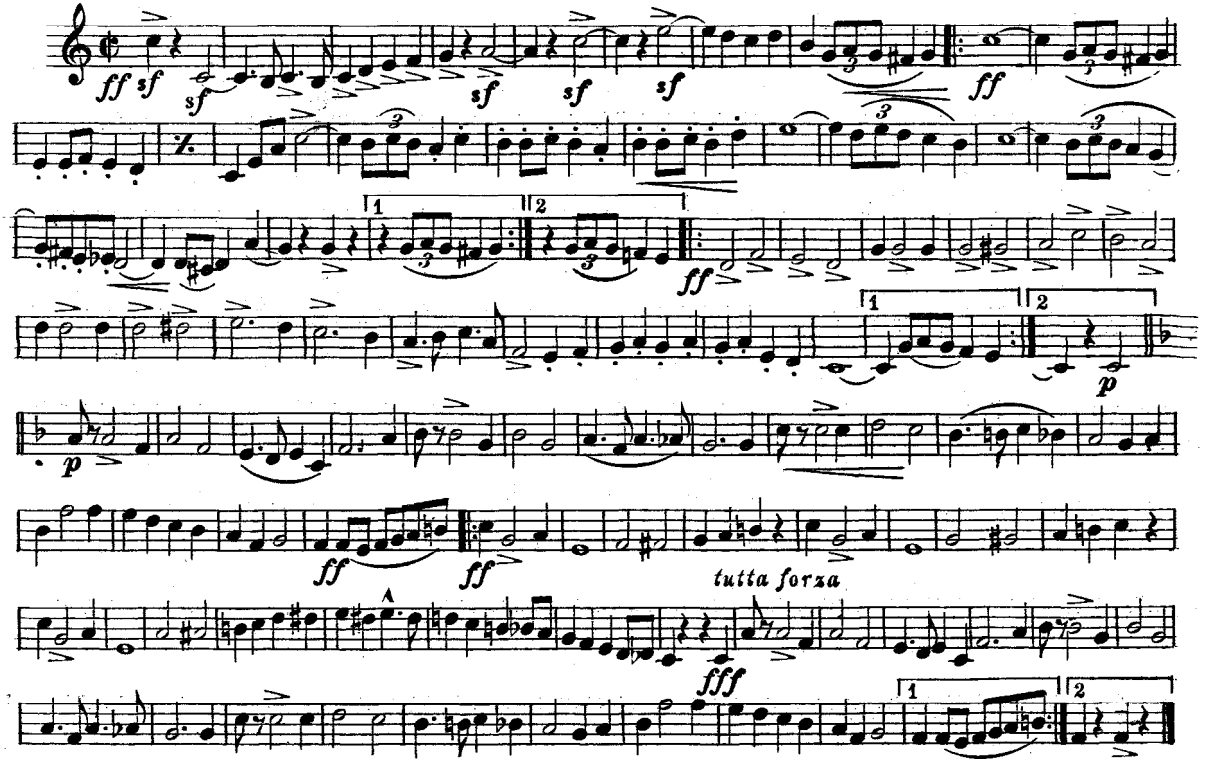
E♭ Cornet

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub.Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

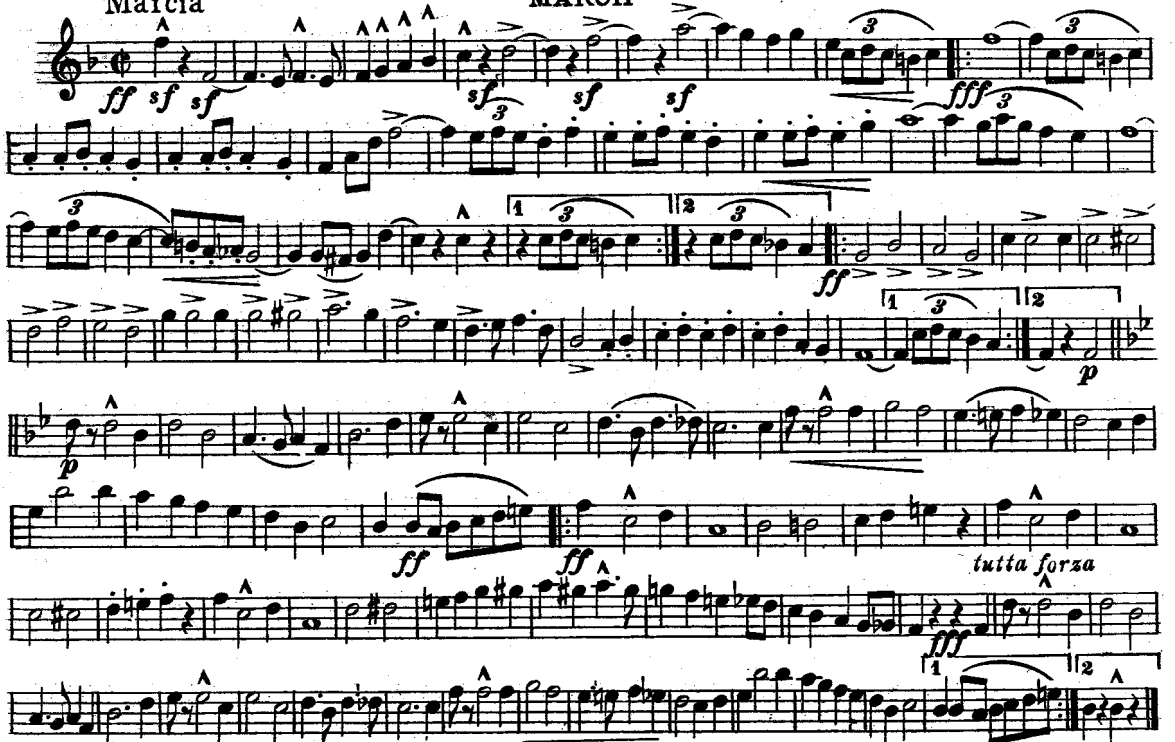
Solo or 1st B♭ Cornet

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia

MARCH



Copyright MCMXX by Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O. U.S.A.
International Copyright Secured.
Copyright for Europe and British Empire (excluding Canada) Bosworth & Co., London.

2d B♭ Cornet

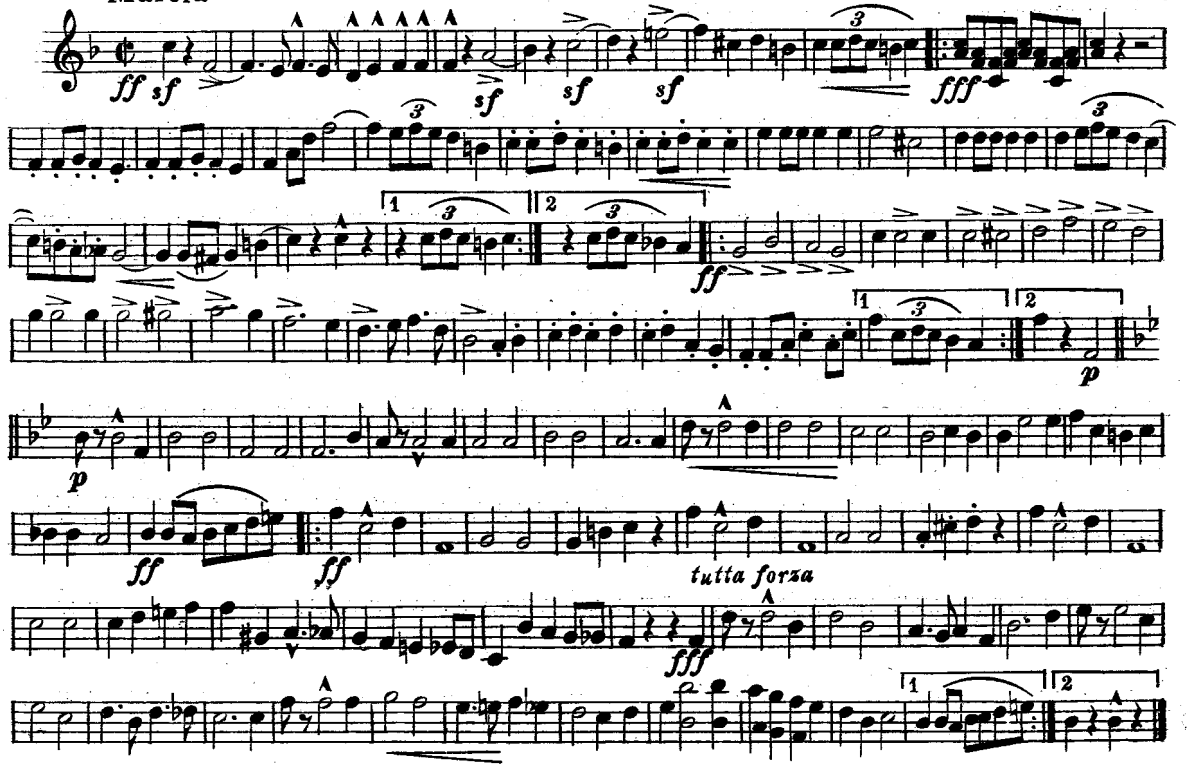
Marcia

To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

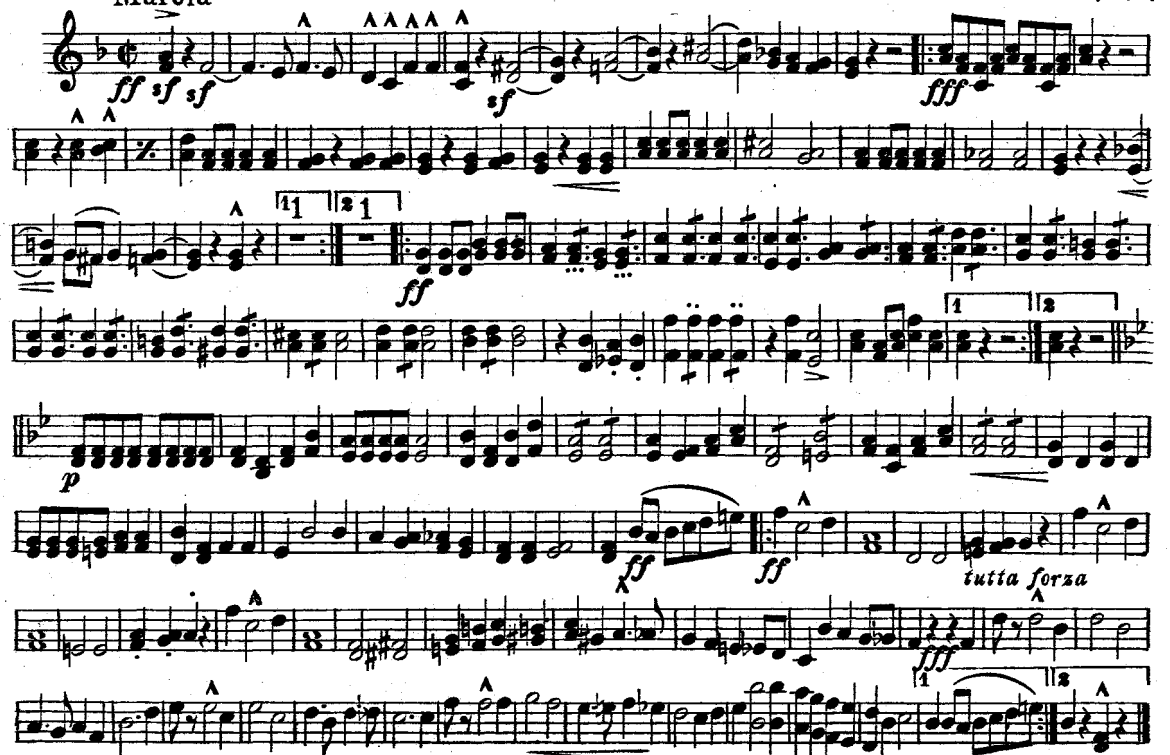
1st & 2d B♭ Trumpets

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

MARCH

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

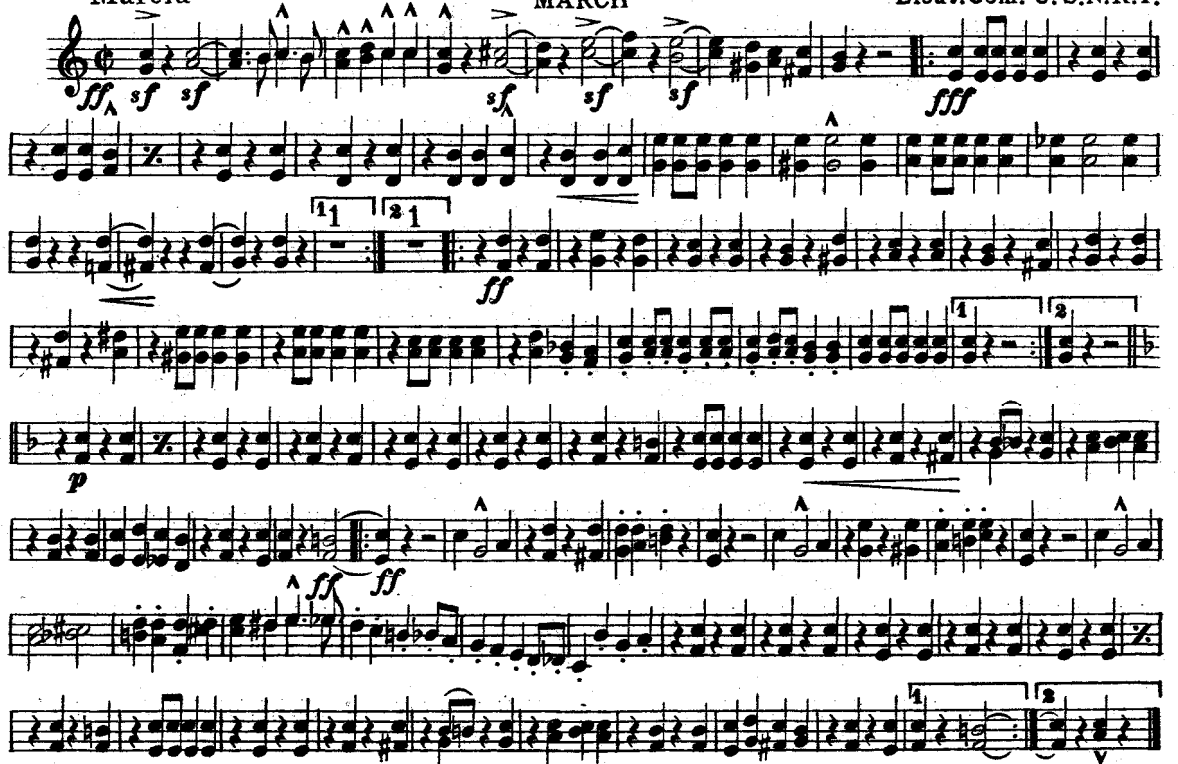
1st & 2d Horns

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub.Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

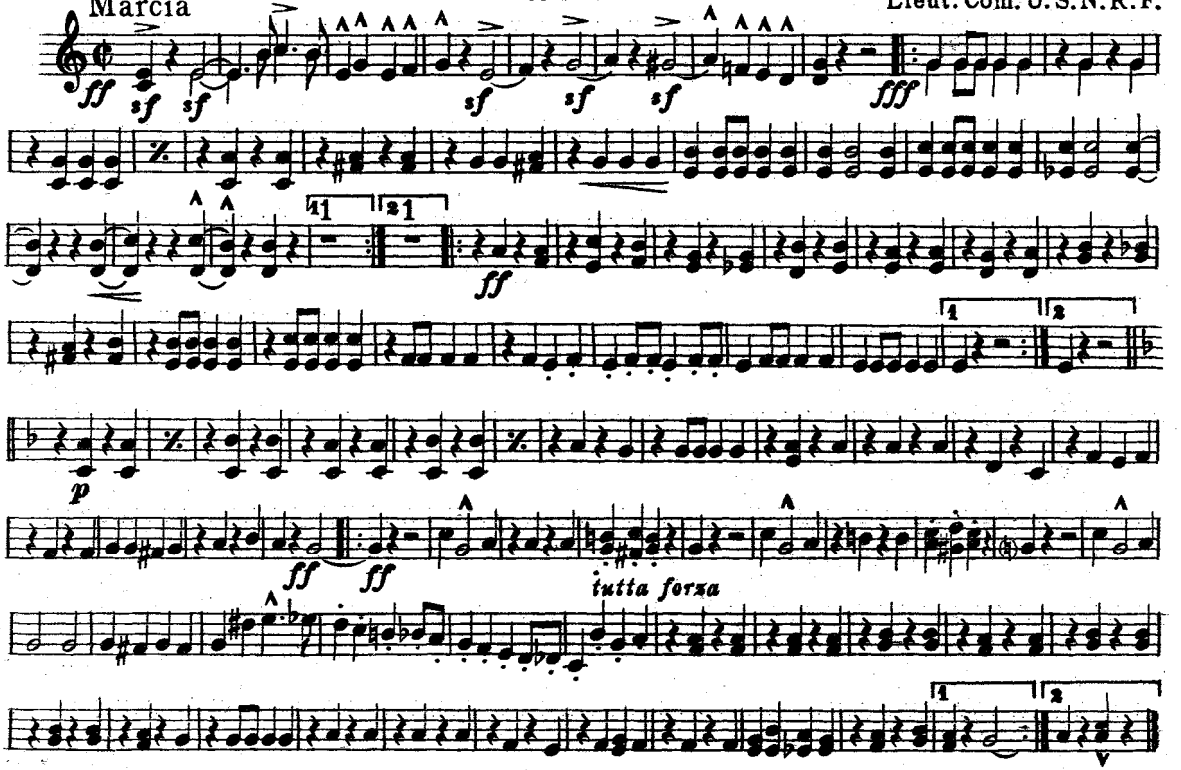
Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

3d & 4th Horns

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



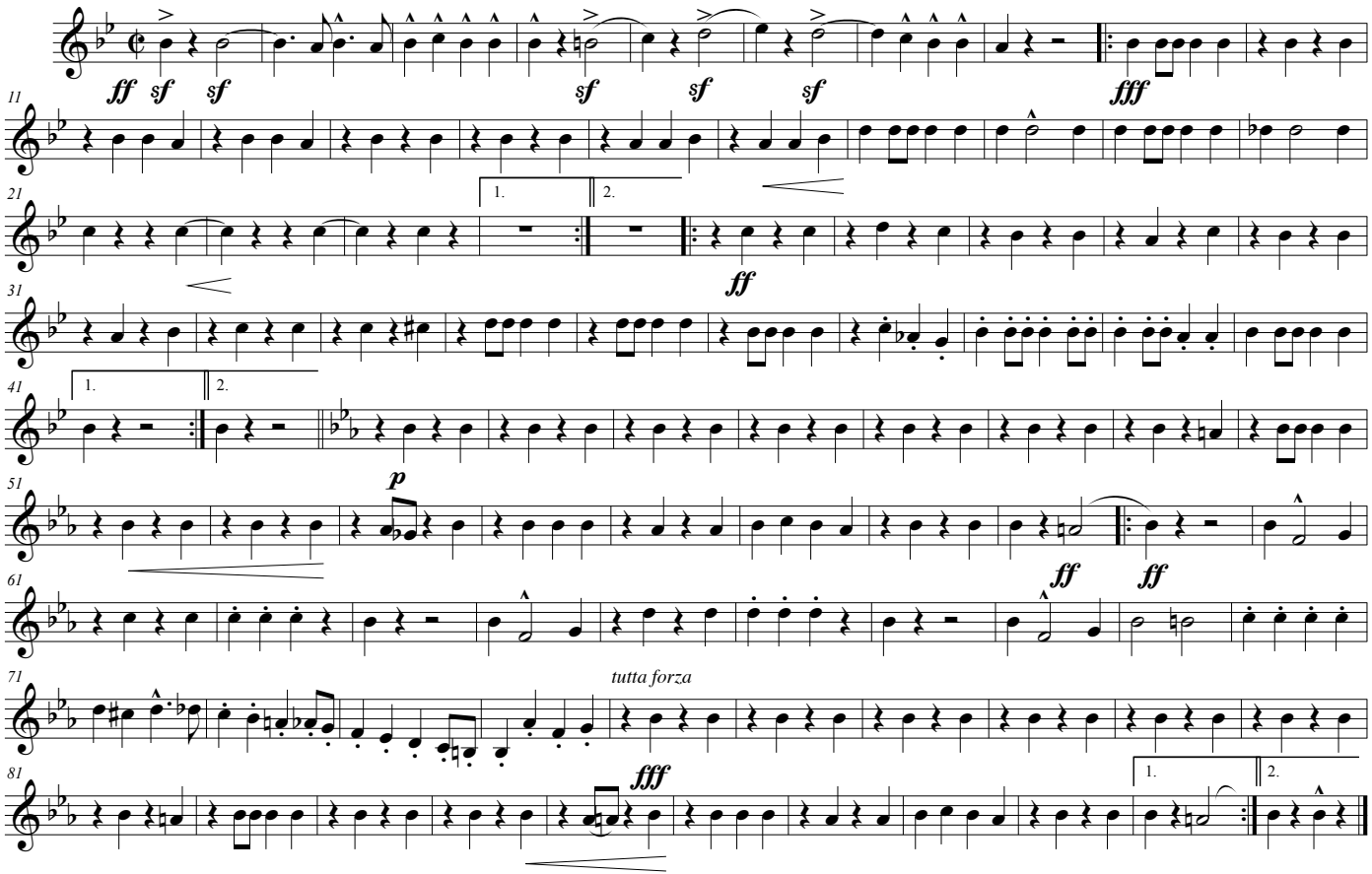
Sam Fox Pub.Co., Cleveland, O.

F Horn 1

COMRADES OF THE LEGION

Marcia ♩ = 116

John Philip Sousa



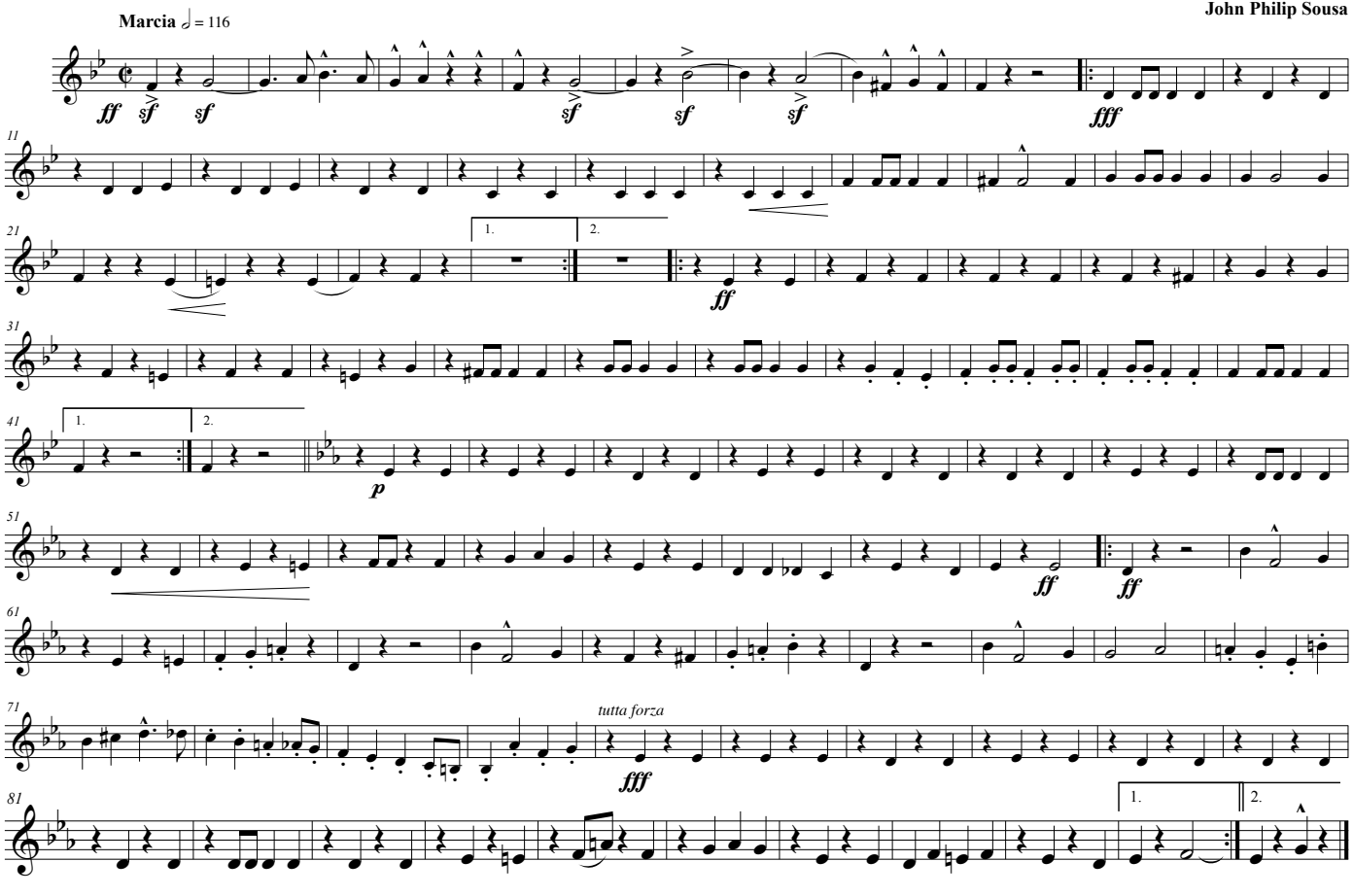
Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Transcribed by Robert Rudy

FHorn 2

COMRADES OF THE LEGION

John Philip Sousa

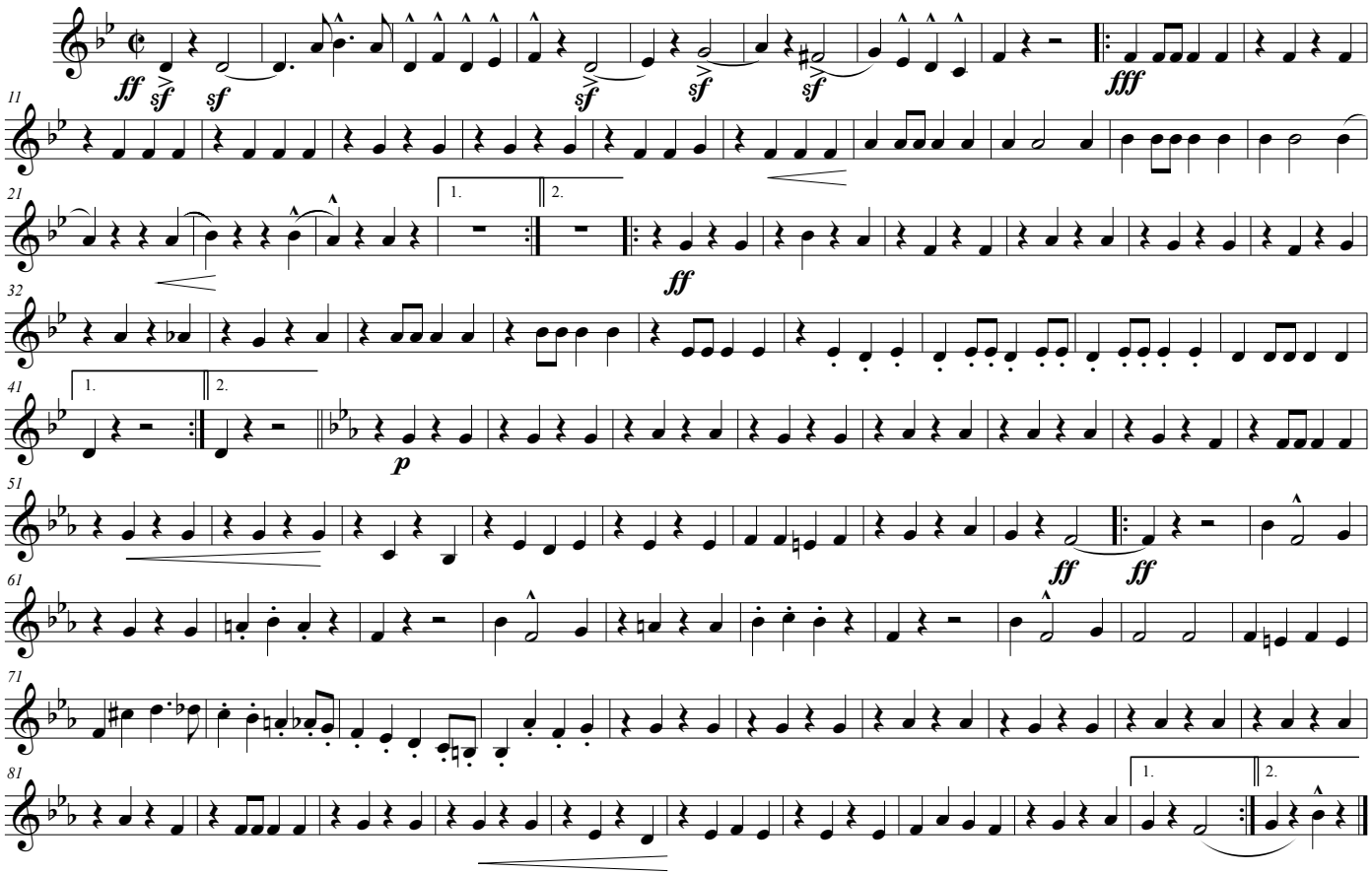


Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Transcribed by Robert Rudy

COMRADES OF THE LEGION

F Horn 3 **Marcia** ♩ = 116 **John Philip Sousa**



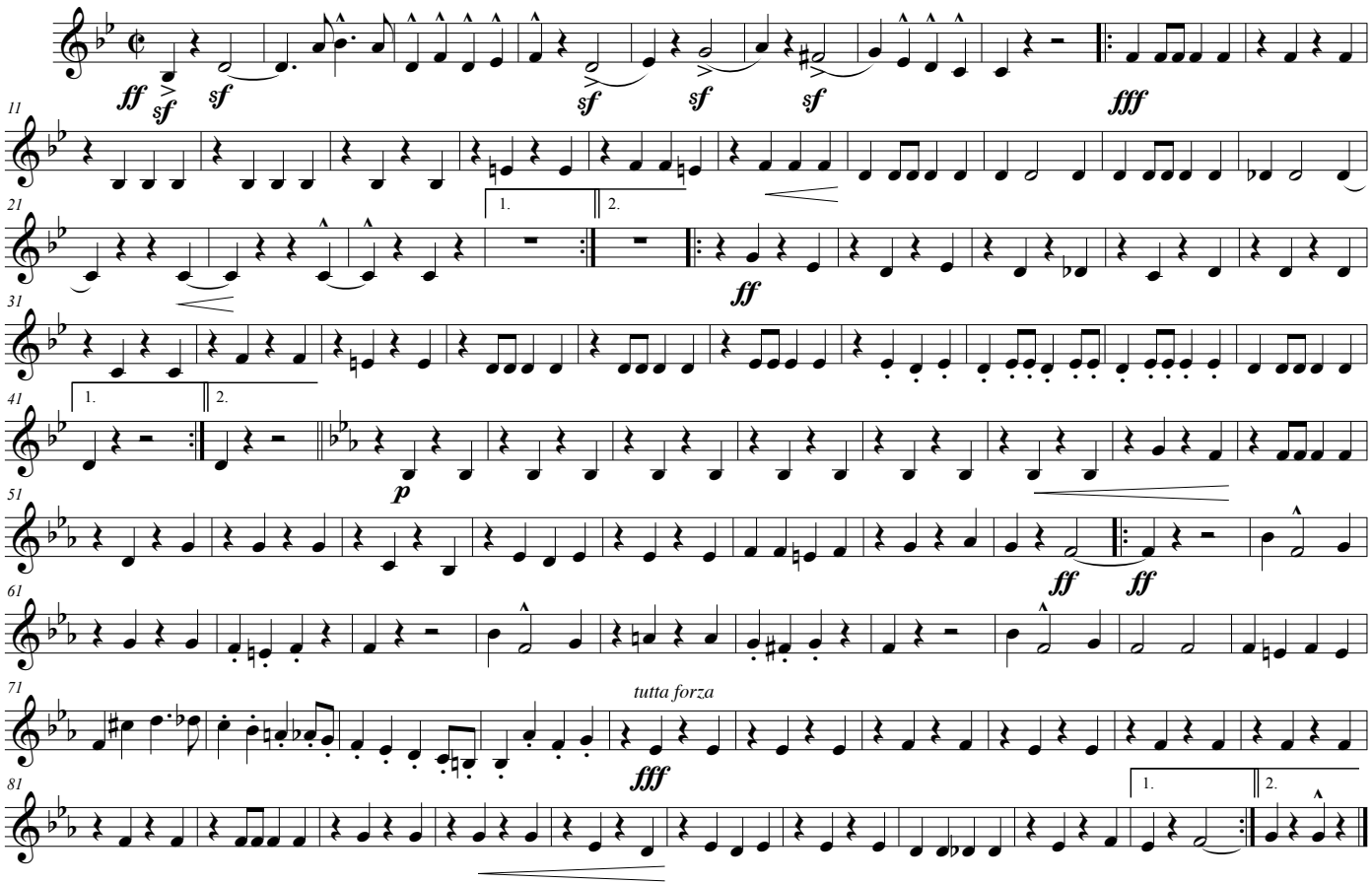
Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Transcribed by Robert Rudy

COMRADES OF THE LEGION

F Horn 4 **Marcia** 𝅗𝅥 = 116

John Philip Sousa



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Transcribed by Robert Rudy

To the American Legion

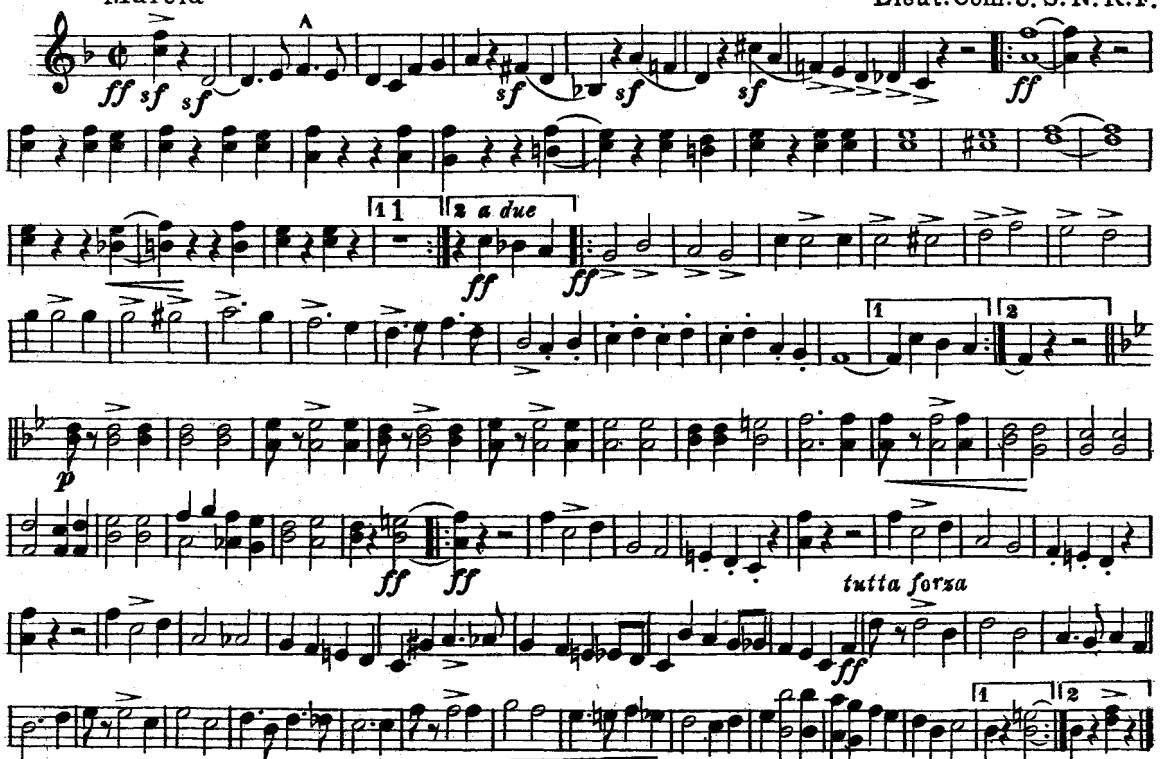
1st & 2d Tenors

Marcia

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

3d & 4th B♭ Basses
or 3d & 4th Trombones

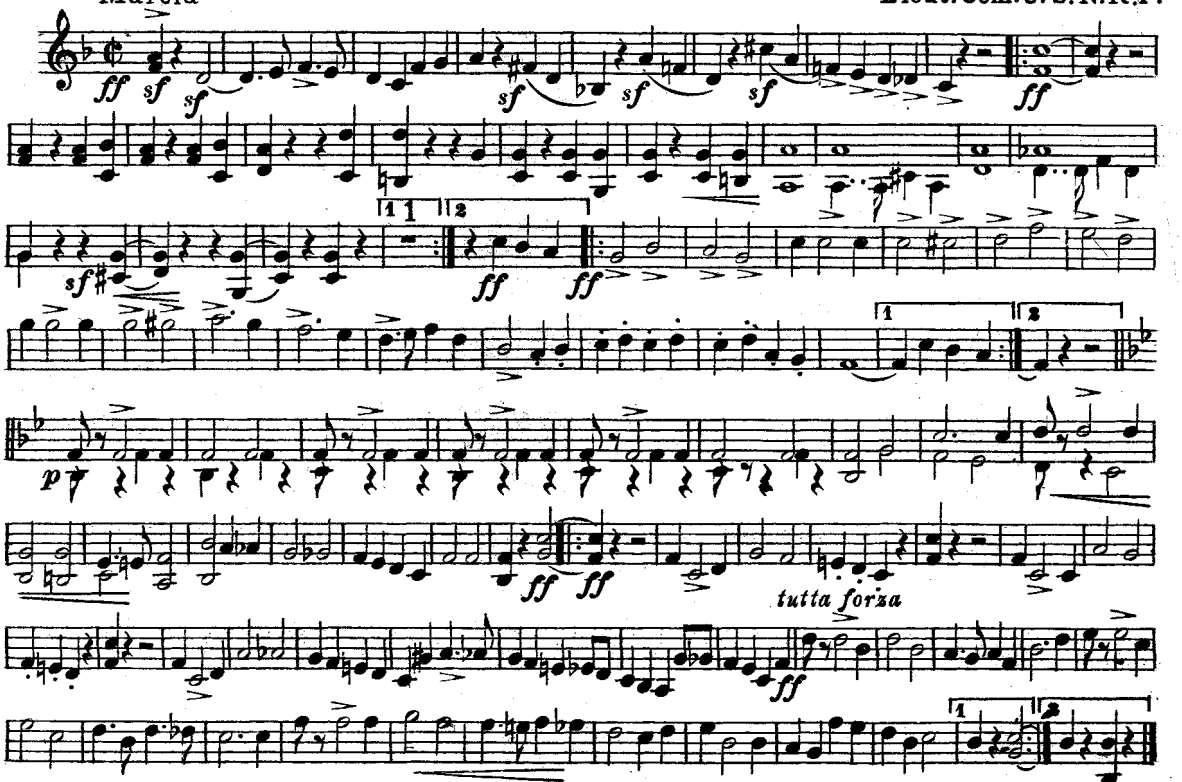
To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

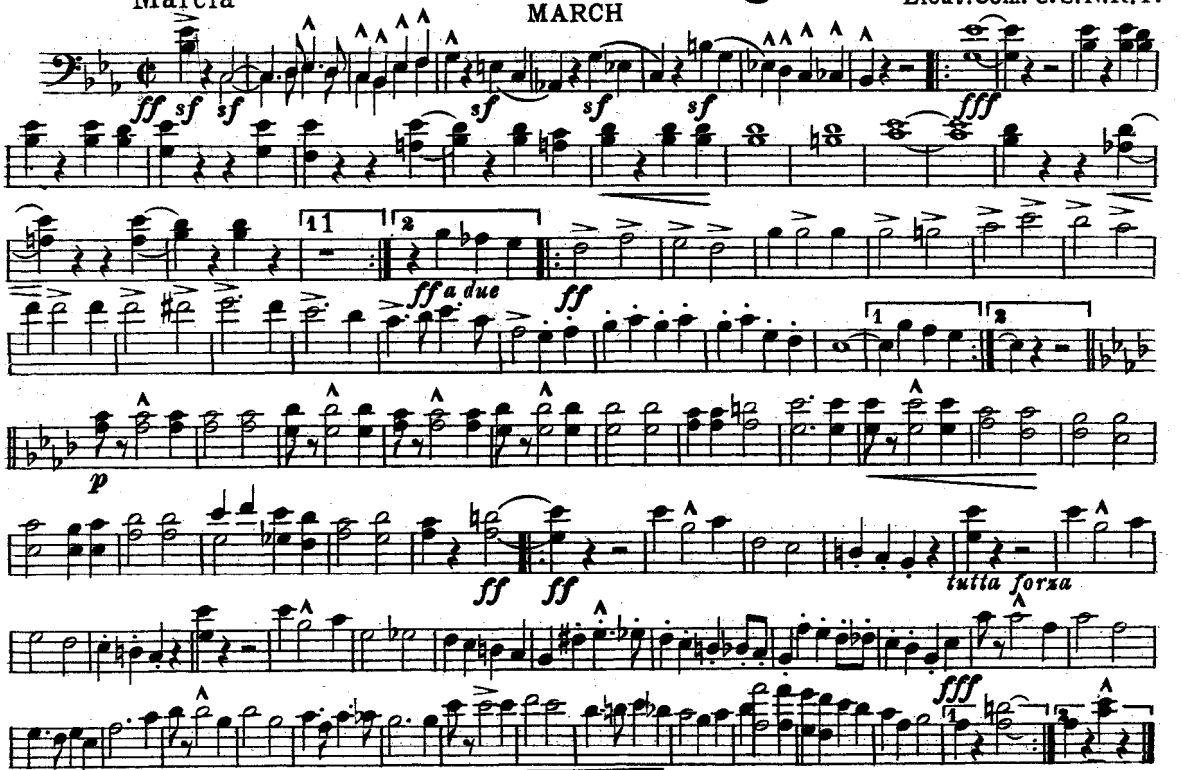
1st & 2d Trombones

Marcia

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

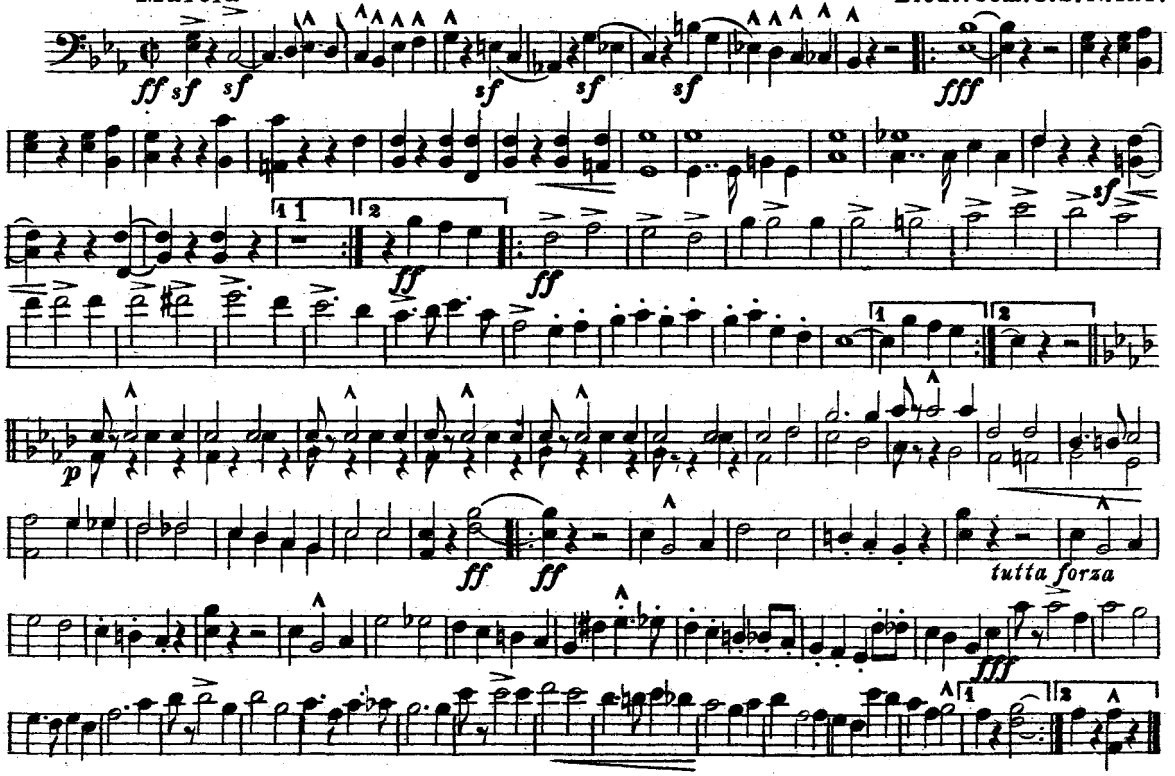
3d & 4th Trombones

Comrades of the Legion

Marcia

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Euphoniums

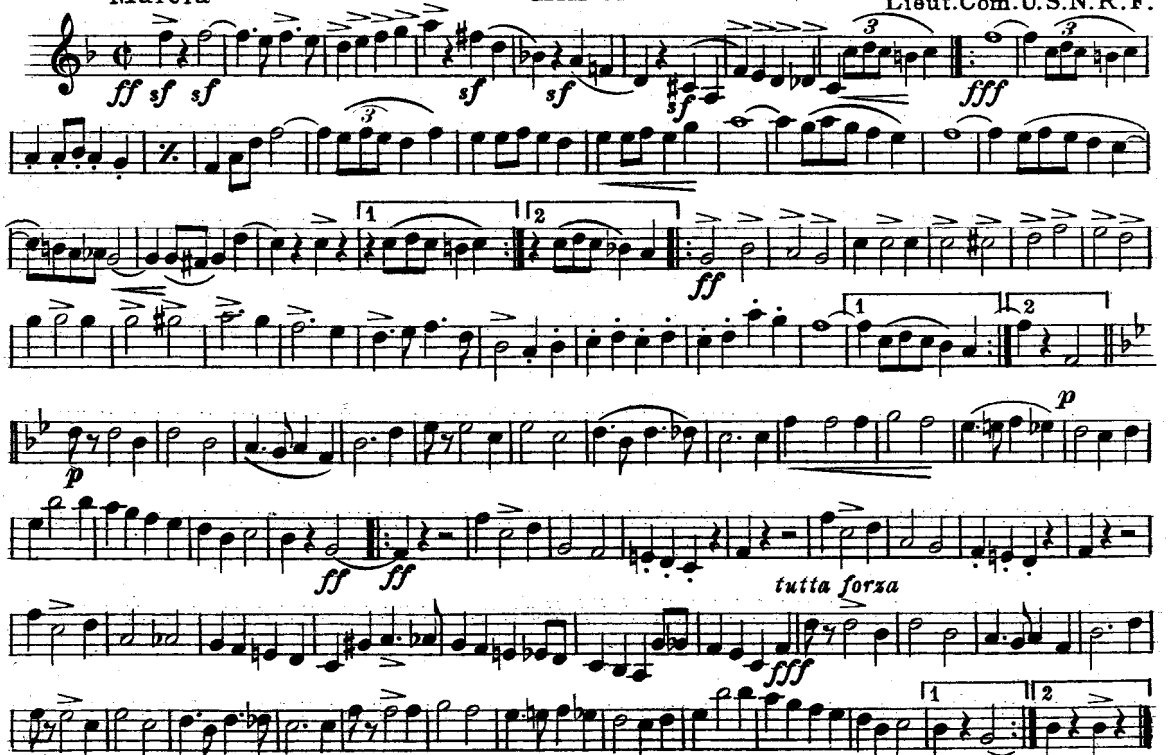
Marcia

To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Euphoniums

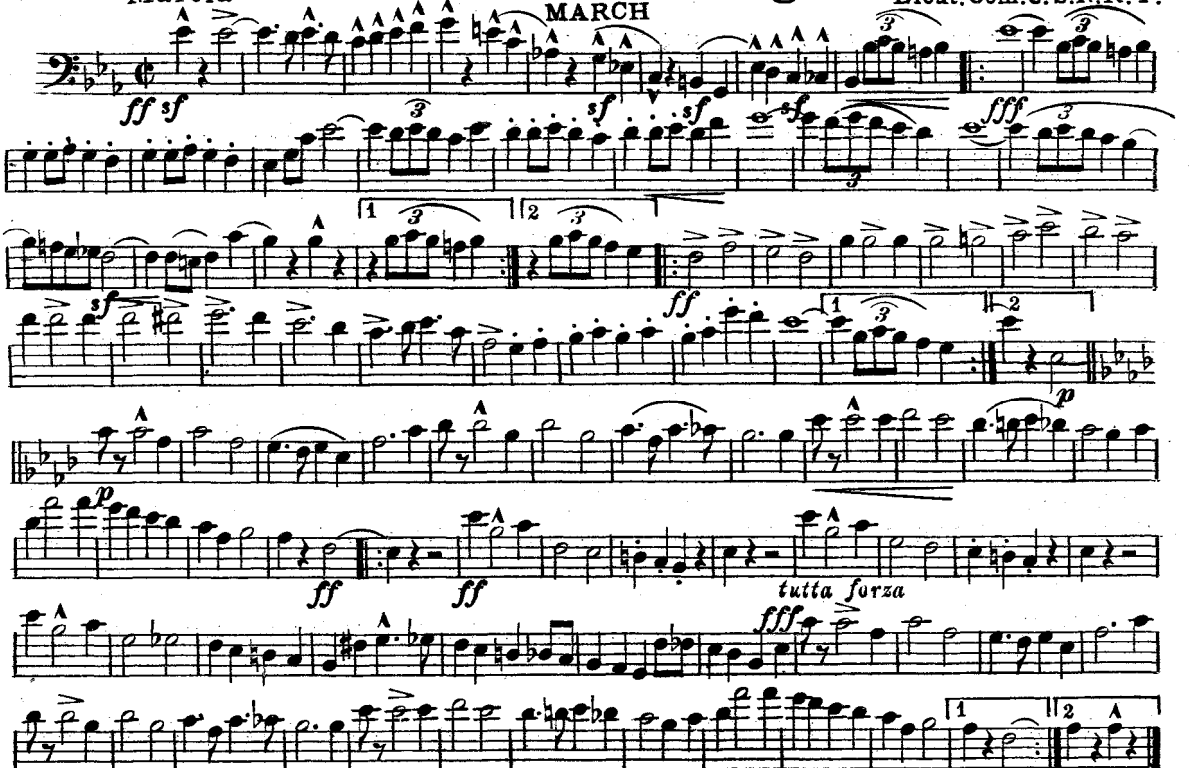
Marcia

To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S.N.R.F.



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

To the American Legion

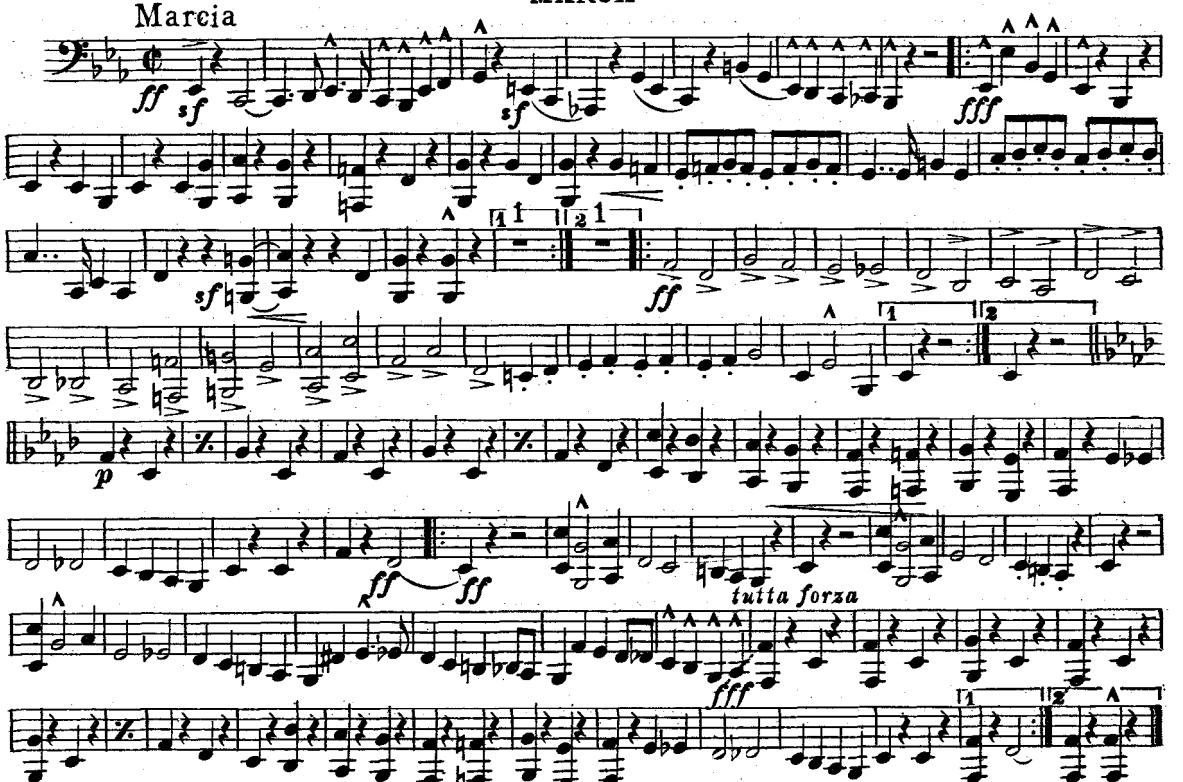
Basses

Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut.Com.U.S.N.R.F.

Marcia



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Drums

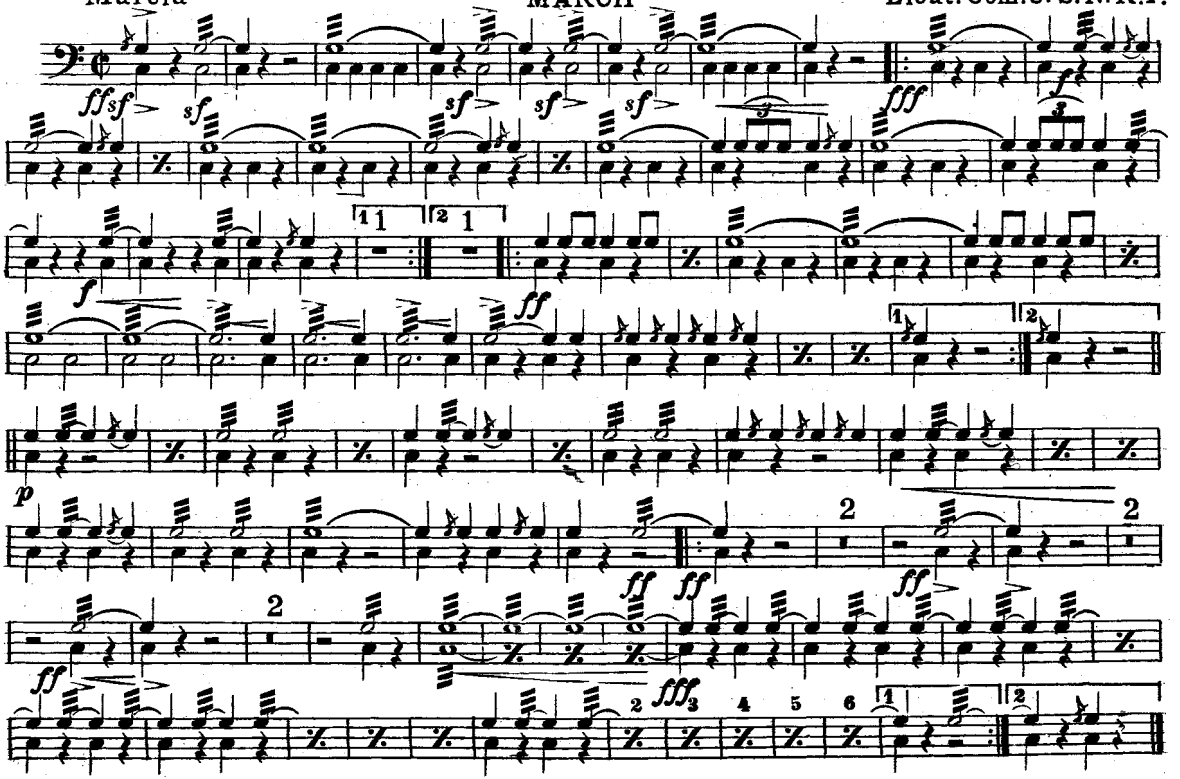
To the American Legion

Comrades of the Legion

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U. S. N. R. F.

Marcia

MARCH



Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.

Harp

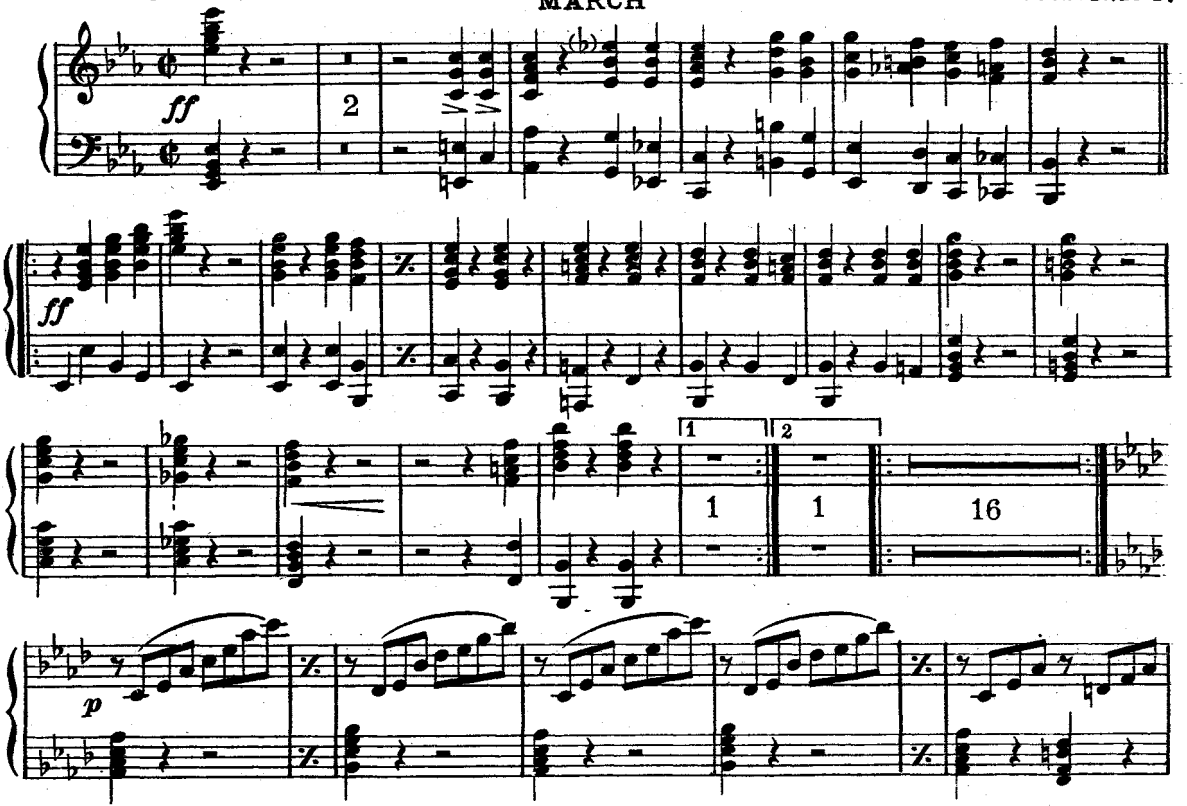
To the American Legion

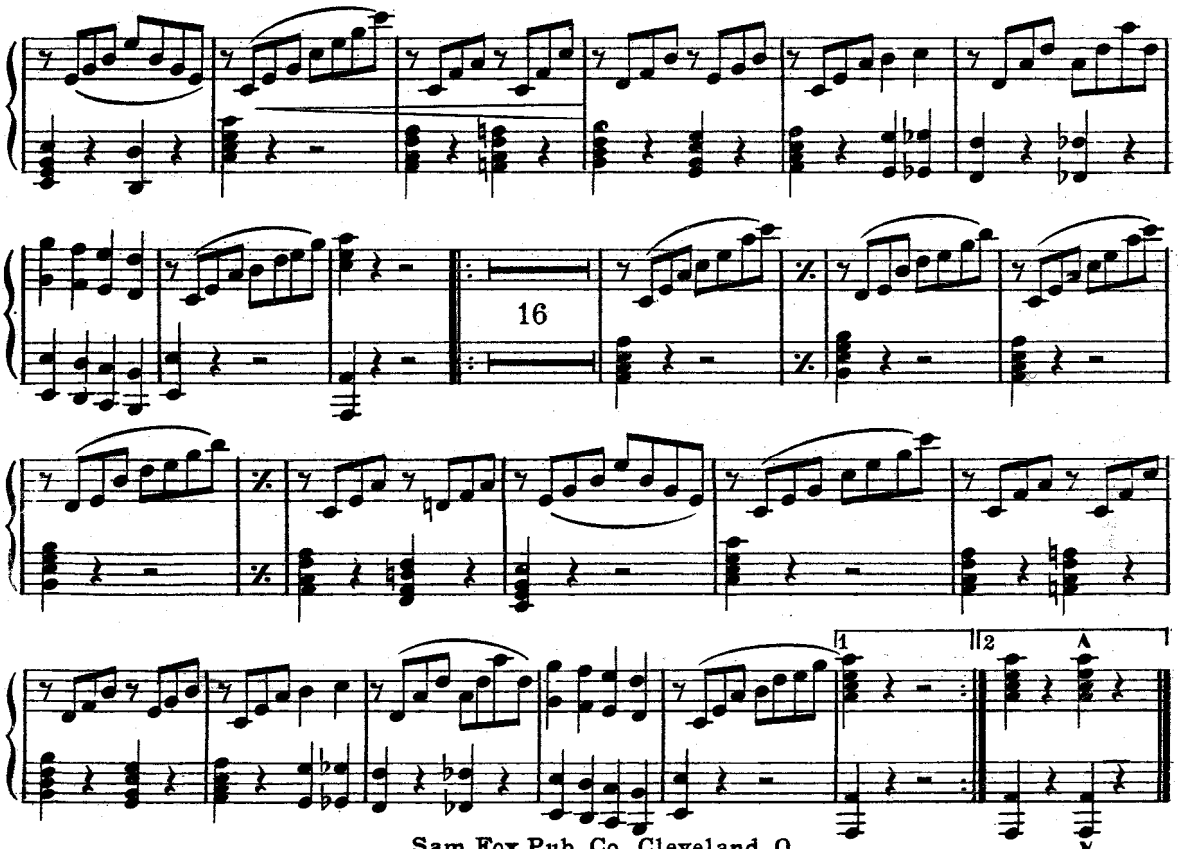
Comrades of the Legion

MARCH

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Lieut. Com. U.S. N.R.F.

Marcia





Sam Fox Pub. Co., Cleveland, O.