The Complete Marches of

John Philip Sousa

Vol. 5 No. 84

Flags of Freedom

March

(1918)

FULL SCORE

AS PERFORMED BY

"THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

March, "Flags of Freedom" (1918)

Sousa composed this march at the request of Joseph W. Gannon, Division of Associated Flags chairman of the Fourth Liberty Loan drive of World War I. Gannon asked Sousa to incorporate national airs of the twenty-one nations at war with Germany, but Sousa thought this impractical and decided upon five. The countries represented were Belgium, Italy, France, Great Britain, and America, in that order. In a letter to Gannon dated August 25, 1918, Sousa suggested that the march be royalty free. This would have made little difference, because it was written just at the war's end and consequently sold very few copies.

Paul E. Bierley, *The Works of John Philip Sousa* (Westerville, Ohio: Integrity Press, 1984), 52. Used by permission.

Editorial Notes

Throughout Sousa's career as a conductor, he often altered the performance of his marches in specific ways without marking or changing the printed music. These alterations were designed for concert performances and included varying dynamics and omitting certain instruments on repeated strains to expand the range of the musical textures, as well as adding unscripted percussion accents for dramatic emphasis at key points in the music. Although Sousa never documented his performance techniques himself, several players who worked extensively with Sousa provided directions for his frequently performed marches, most notably from cornetist Frank Simon. Many of the marches in this volume of "The Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa" were staples in Sousa's regular concert repertoire and were included in the "Encore Books" used by the Sousa Band, which can be found online at https://www.marineband.marines.mil/About/Library-and-Archives/Encore-Books/. A complete set of his Encore Books resides in the U.S. Marine Band Library and Archives and are referenced extensively by the Marine Band not only as a guide for some of Sousa's special performance practice, but also to ascertain the exact instrumentation he employed in his own performances of his marches.

"The Complete Marches of John Philip Sousa" appears in chronological order and is based on some of the earliest known sources for each composition. These newly edited full scores correct many mistakes and inconsistencies found in the parts of early publications; however, all of the other expressive markings and the original scoring are largely preserved. Where instruments are added to the original published orchestration, it is guided by the additional parts Sousa sanctioned in his Encore Books where applicable or based on these typical doublings. Additionally, the alterations traditionally employed by the United States Marine Band in performance are incorporated throughout; either those specifically documented by Sousa's musicians or changes modeled on the customary practices of "The March King" in his own performances.

The musical decisions included in these editions were influenced by the work of several outstanding Sousa scholars combined with many decades of Marine Band performance tradition. These editions would not be possible without the exceptional contributions to the study of Sousa's marches by Captain Frank Byrne (USMC, ret.), Jonathan Elkus, Colonel Timothy Foley (USMC, ret.), Loras Schissel, Dr. Patrick Warfield, and "The March King's" brilliant biographer, Paul Bierley.

Performance practices that deviate from the original printed indications are described below and appear in [brackets] in the score. There are many instances in which these alterations appear side-by-side with the original markings in this edition in an effort to clearly document where and how these deviations occur. An open diamond marked with an accent in the cymbal part indicates that the cymbal player should let that accent ring for an additional beat before rejoining the bass drum part.

Introduction (m. 1-4): This medley of patriotic songs and anthems was originally written with very little variation in dynamic or orchestration, and this edition takes several liberties in the Sousa style to add interest to the march. The tempo of this medley should be slightly more stately than a typical march. A recommended range is 112-116 bpm. The introductory fanfare is played as originally written at a strong *fortissimo,* which continues into the first strain.

First Strain (m. 4-10): Low brass takes the lead on the first short section of the song of Belgium.

Second Strain (m. 11-34): Italy get a slightly longer treatment here, with snappy dotted figures in the upper winds and cornets. The first significant dynamic variation may happen with a *subito piano* one eighth note before m. 19. All percussion and the trill played in upper woodwinds may also be omitted first time and only played on the repeat for

further variety. A surprise *fortissimo* is then executed in m. 27 (the original dynamic) and carried through to the next fanfare interlude in m. 34-38, which sounds like the introduction.

Third Strain (m. 38-58): France's anthem is presented next and may start one dynamic back from the previous *fortissimo,* saving that top dynamic for the unison cadence in m. 54-58. An added diminuendo here in the last bar leads to the next strain.

Fourth Strain (m. 59-78): All voices may start Great Britain's song at a *piano* dynamic, and cymbals are tacet to further change the texture. At m. 67, England's anthem is sounded by the cornets, euphoniums, and trombones and should be a few notches louder than the other music to be clearly heard.

Fifth Strain (m. 79-86): In order to get back to Sousa's original *forte* dynamic at m. 79, a *tutti* crescendo has been added to the low brass notes in m. 77-78. America is represented in the final few strains of this medley. After a brief snippet of "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean" at m. 80, a second song is introduced in m. 87.

Sixth Strain (m. 87-102): This strain affords the best opportunity for a change of texture. Piccolo, cornets, trombones, and cymbals may tacet, and all others play *piano* in a hymn-like manner, observing the included breath marks in the melody.

Seventh Strain (m. 102-118): All instruments rejoin with the pick-up notes into m. 103 at the original *fortissimo* and play vigorously to the end. Percussion accents are added through this last strain, culminating with a final percussion *sfz* in m. 114, on beat two.

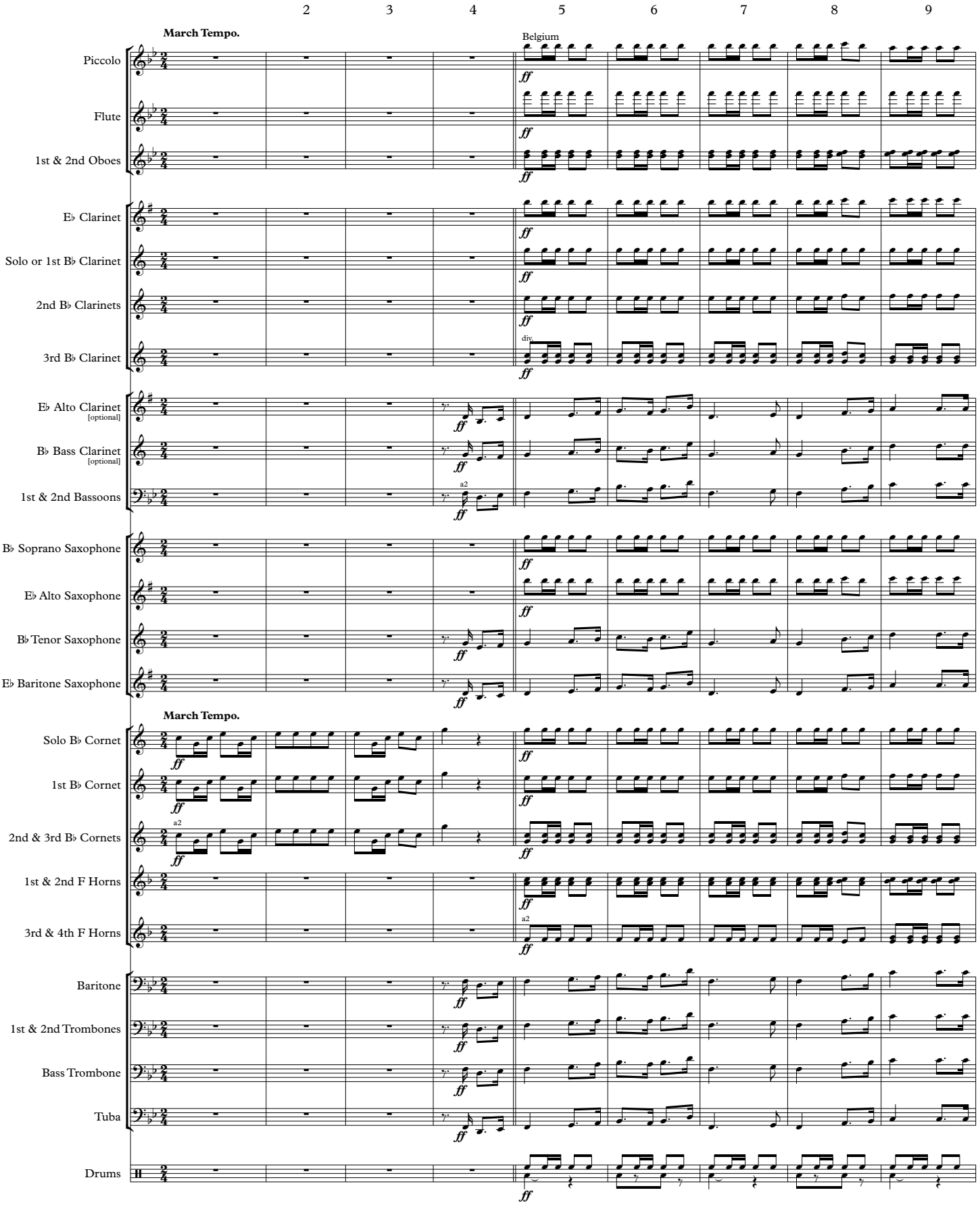
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

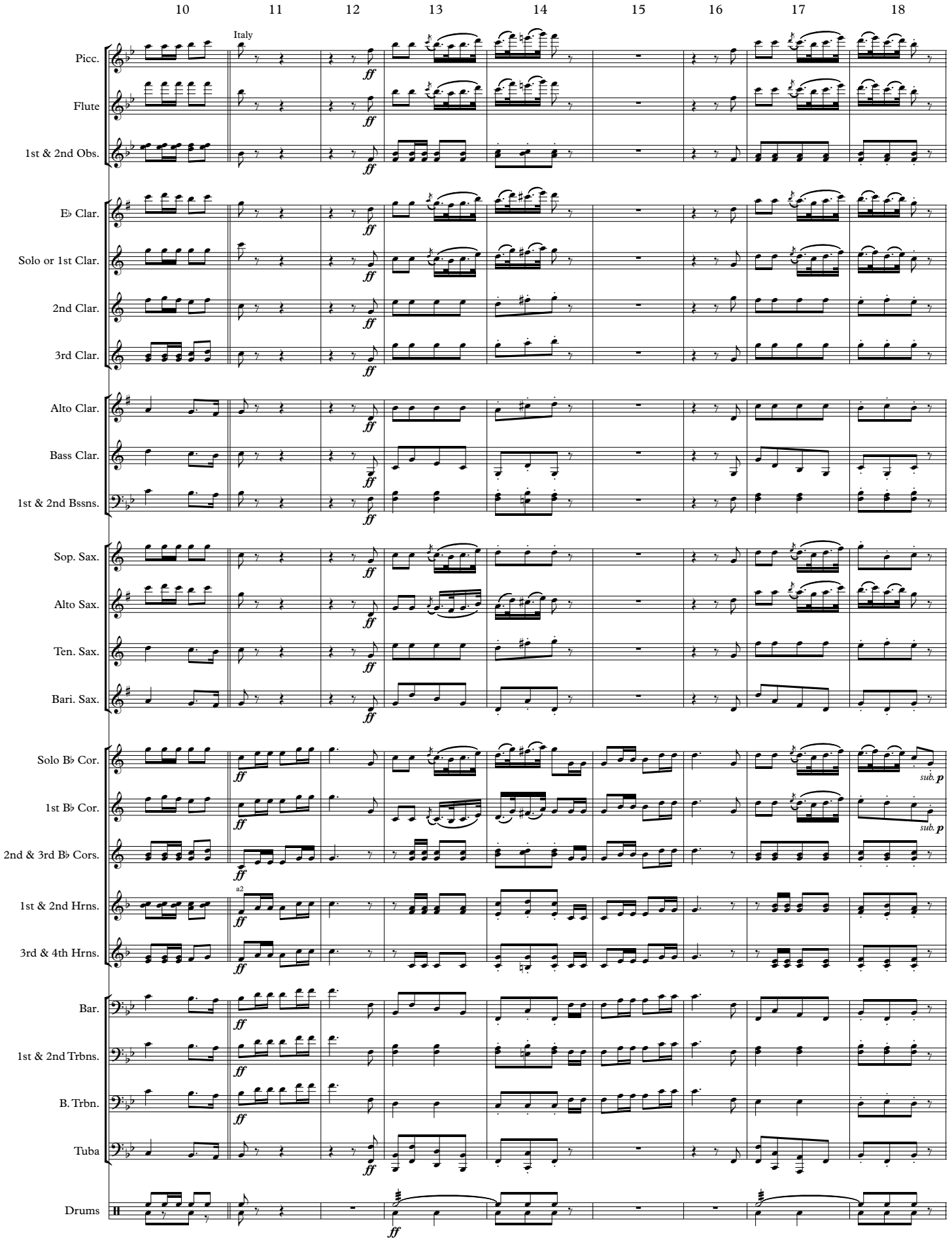
(1918)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

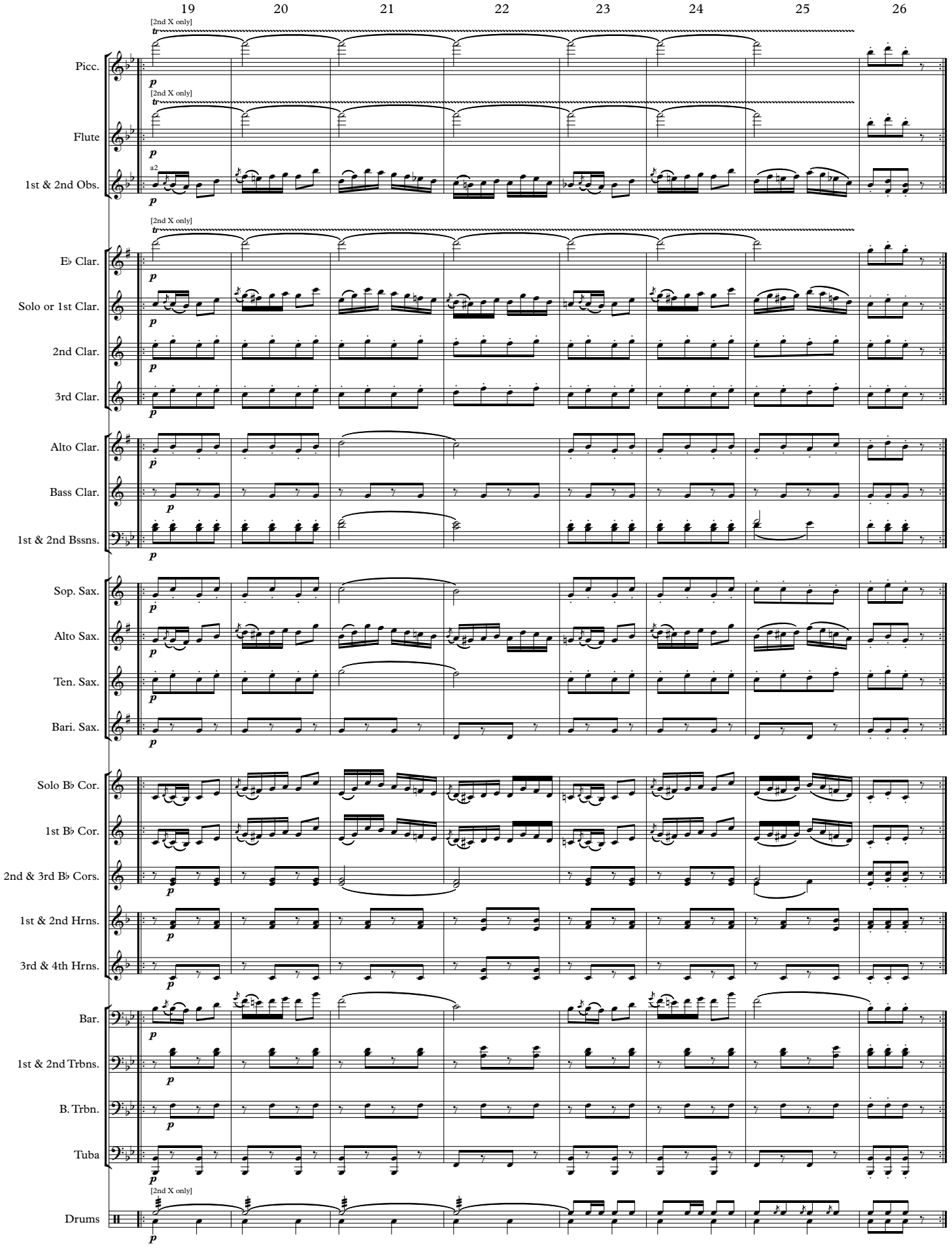
Full Score

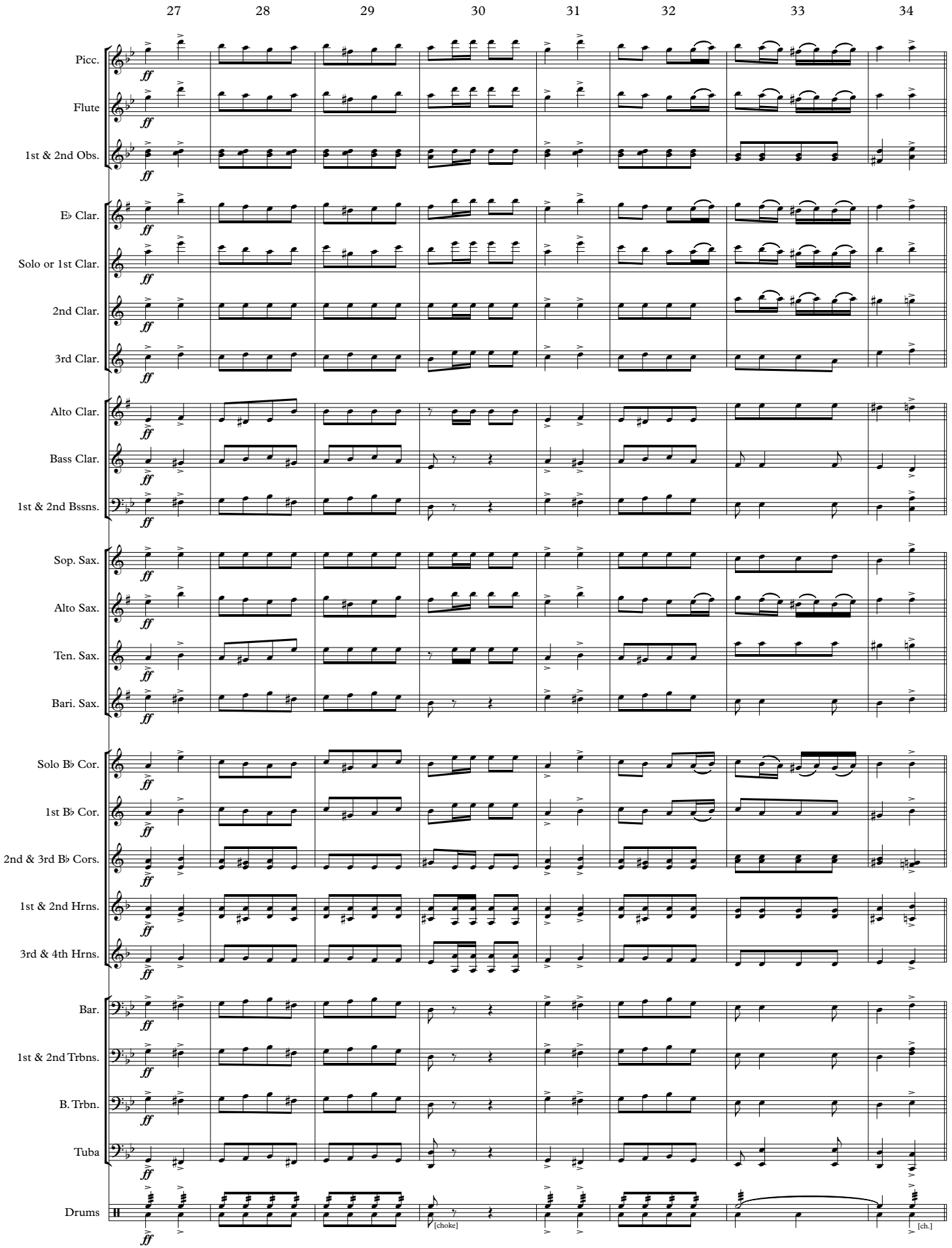


This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band

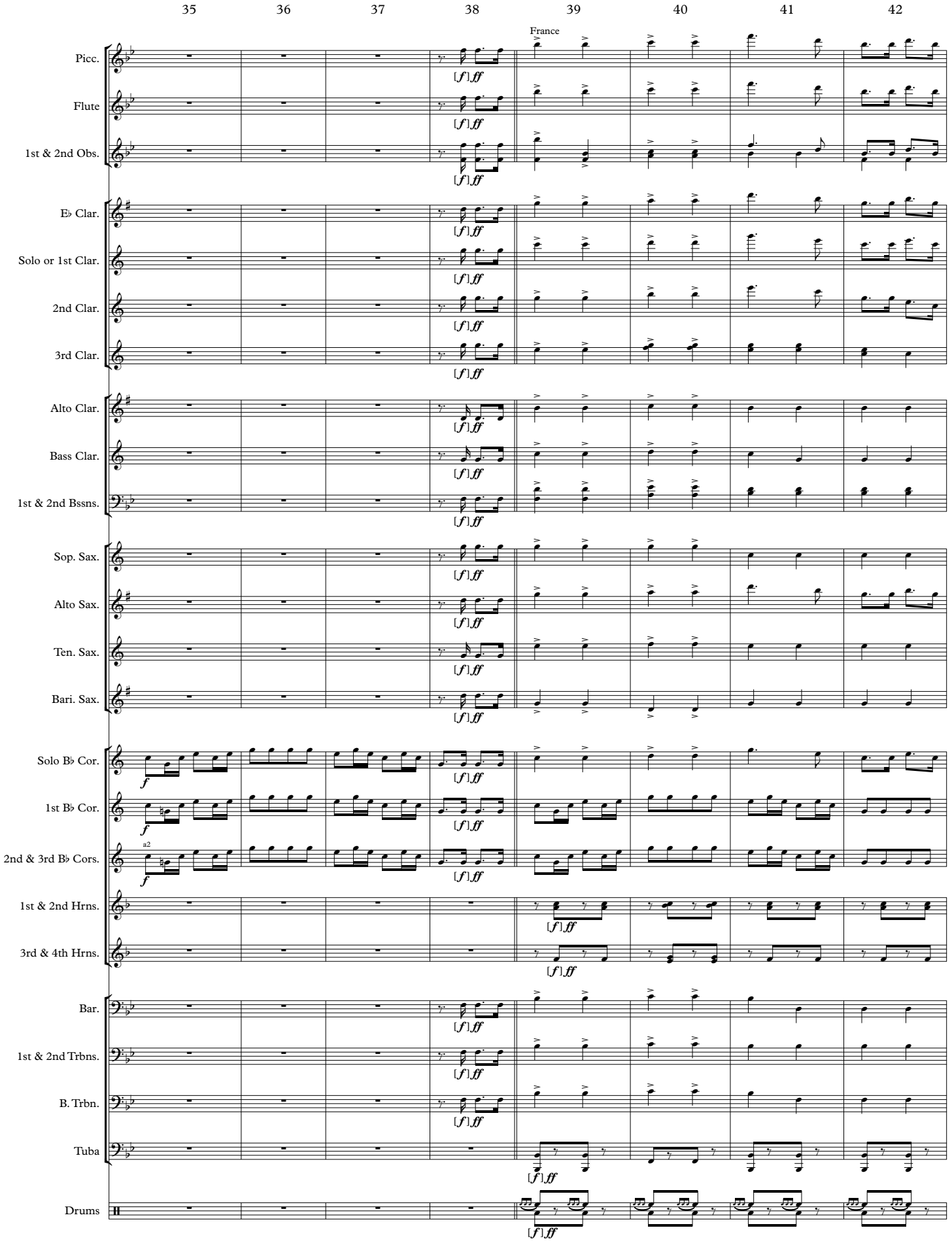

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
Italy
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
ff
a2
sub. p

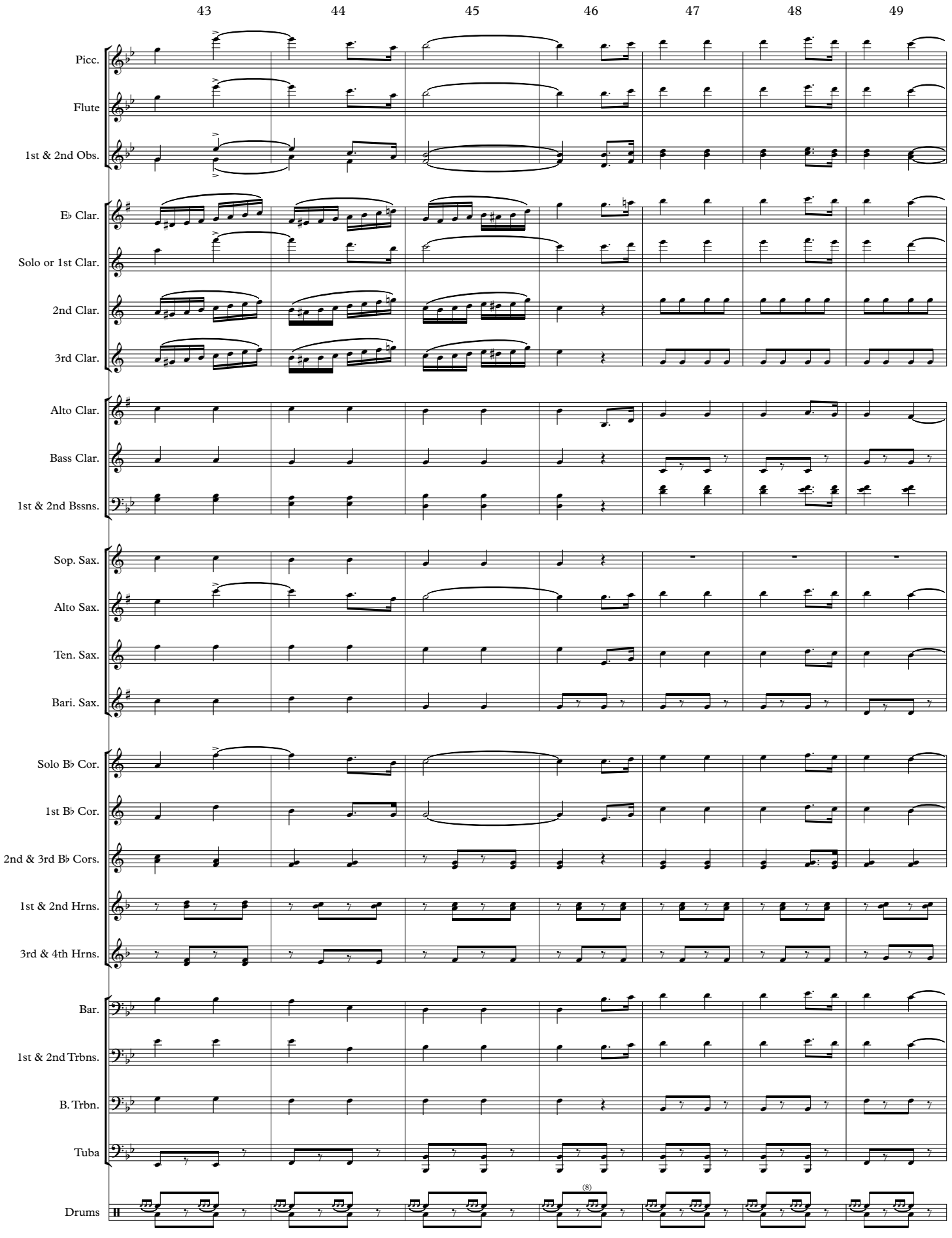
FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score



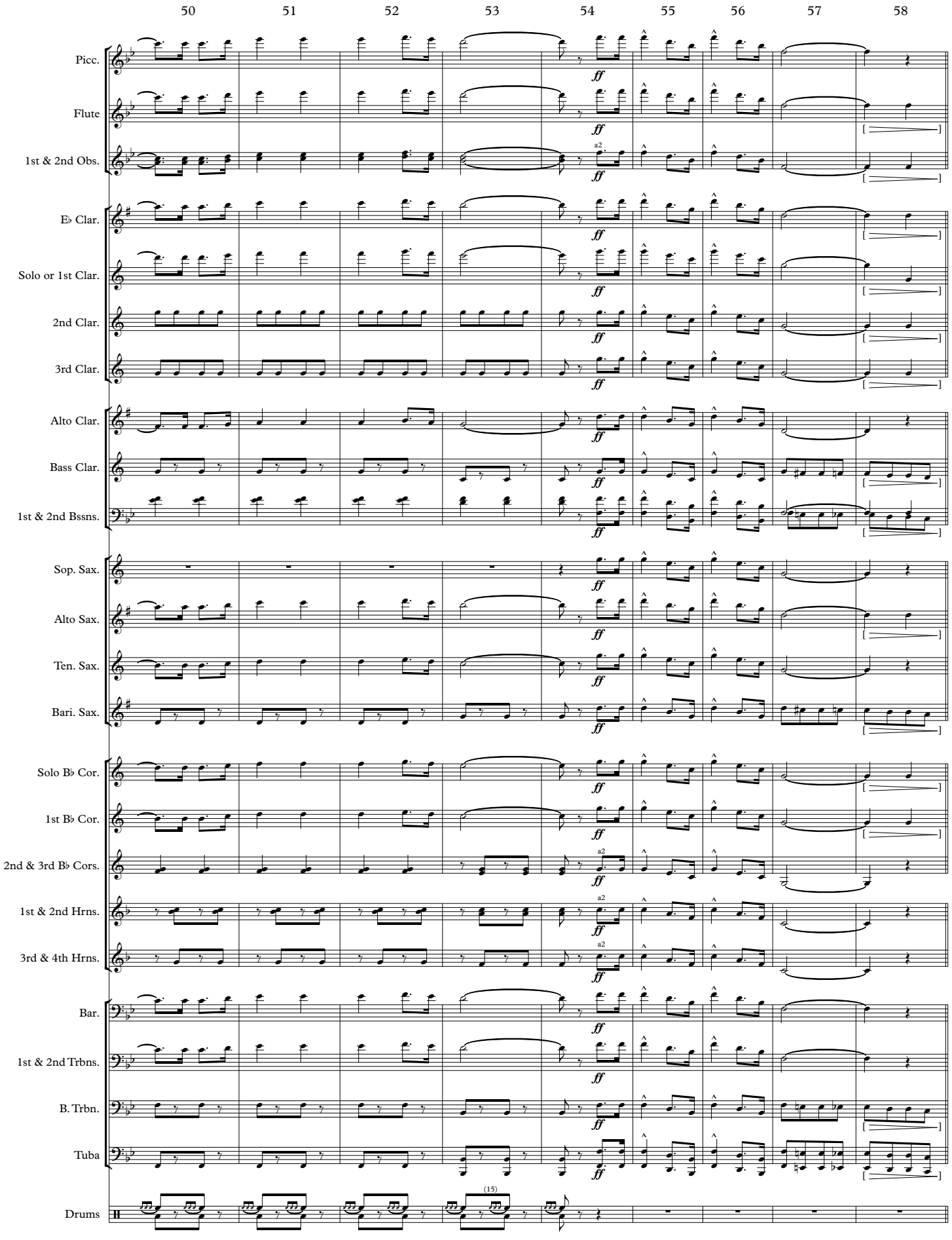

27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
ff
[choke]
[ch.]

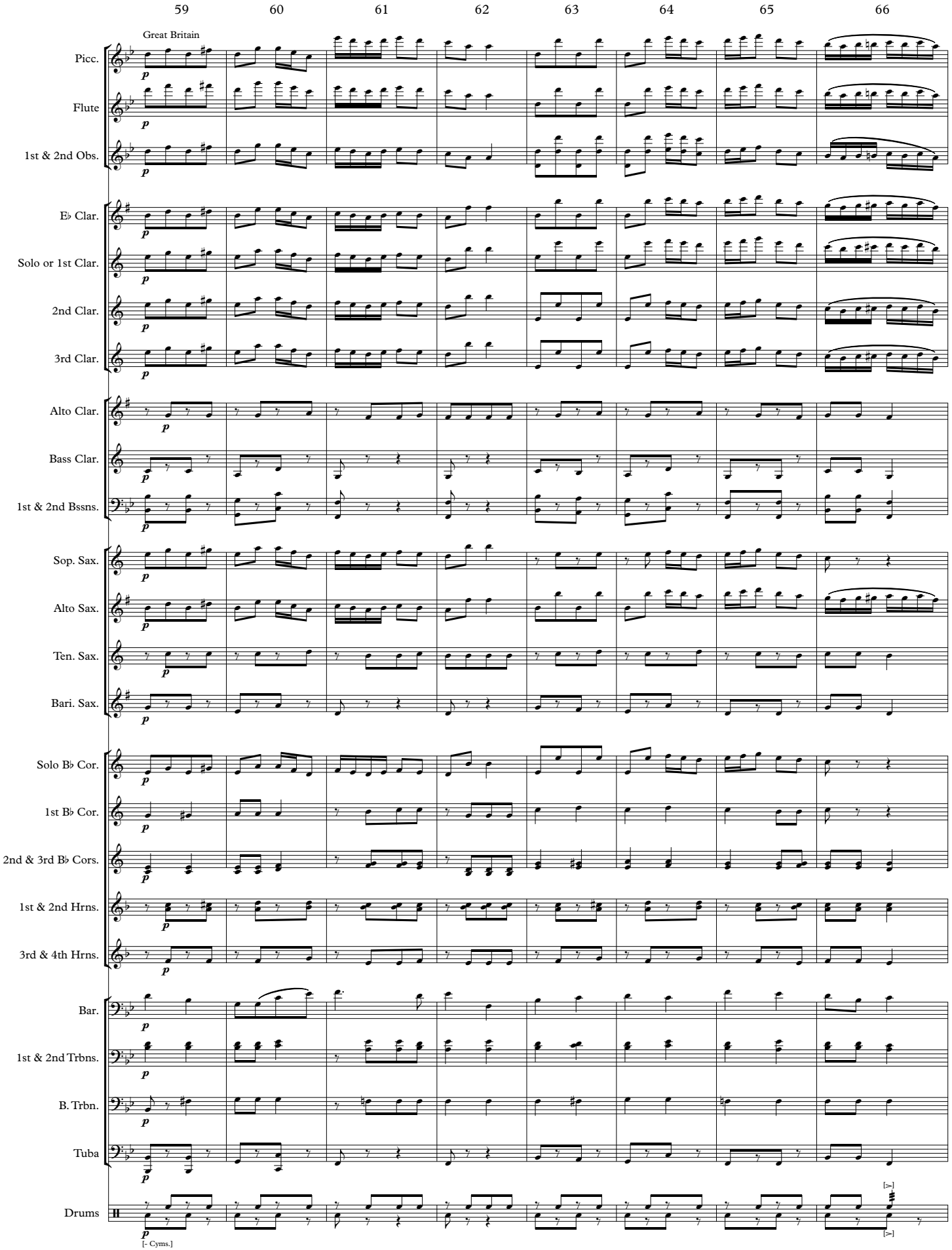
FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score



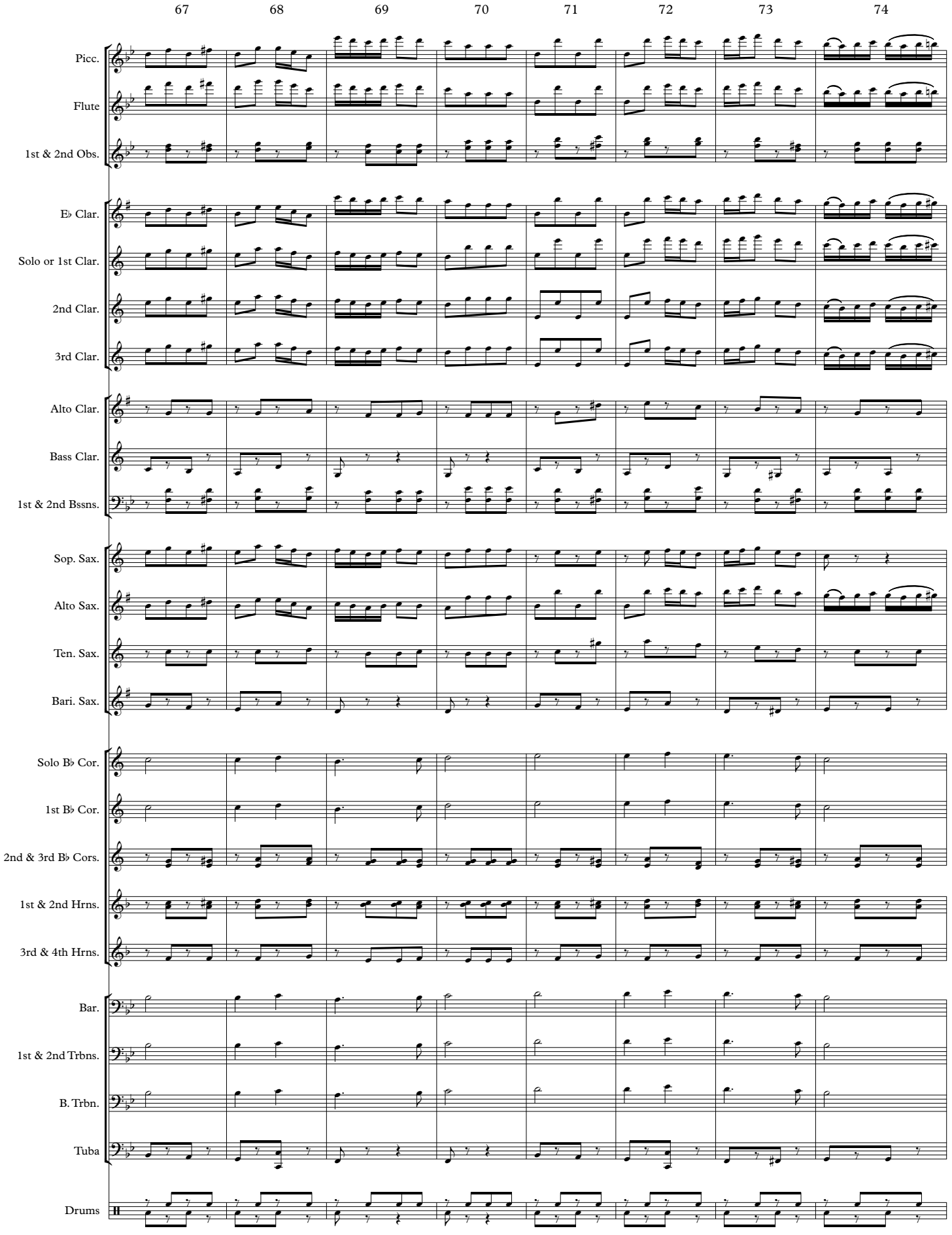

43
44
45
46
47
48
49
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
(8)

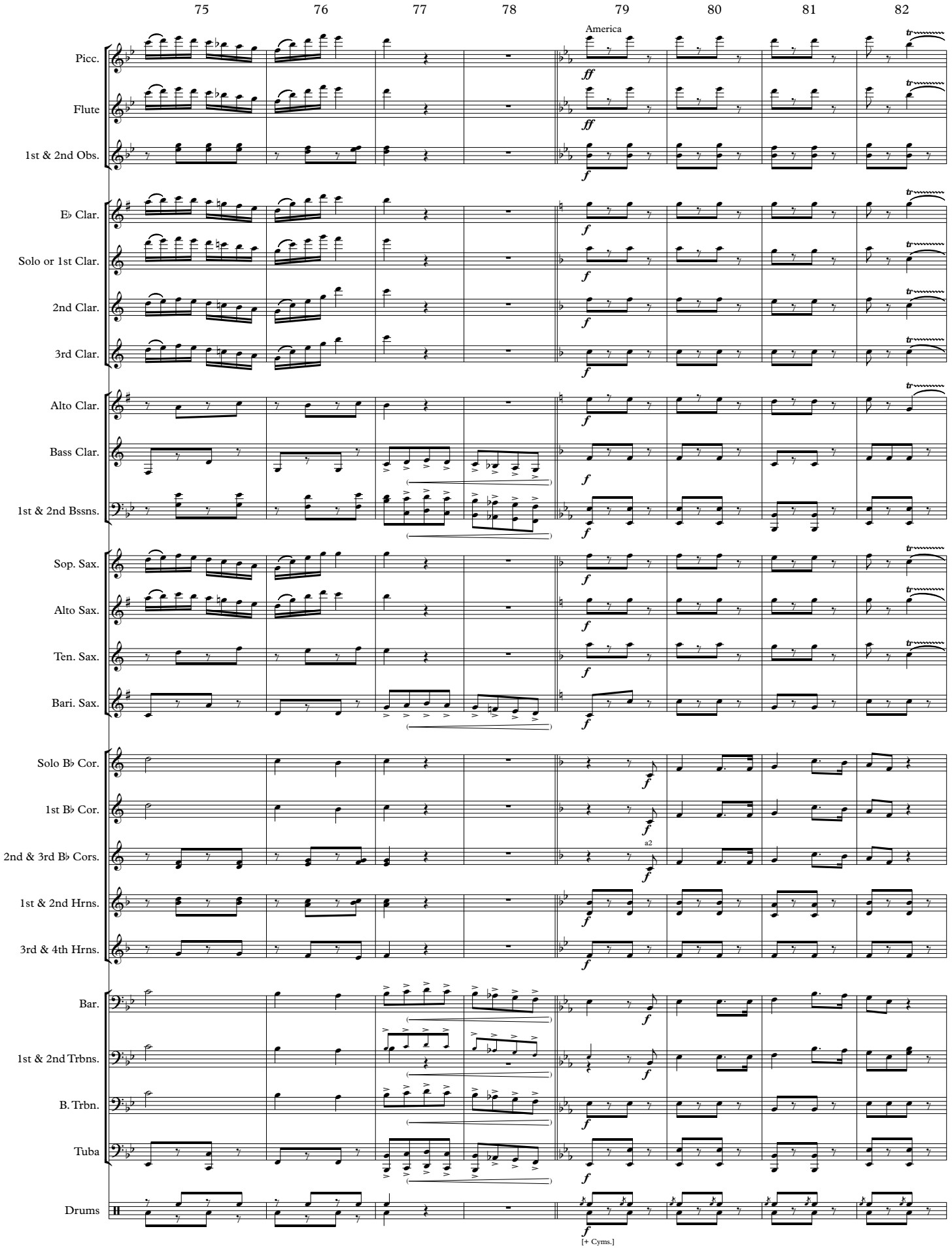
FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score



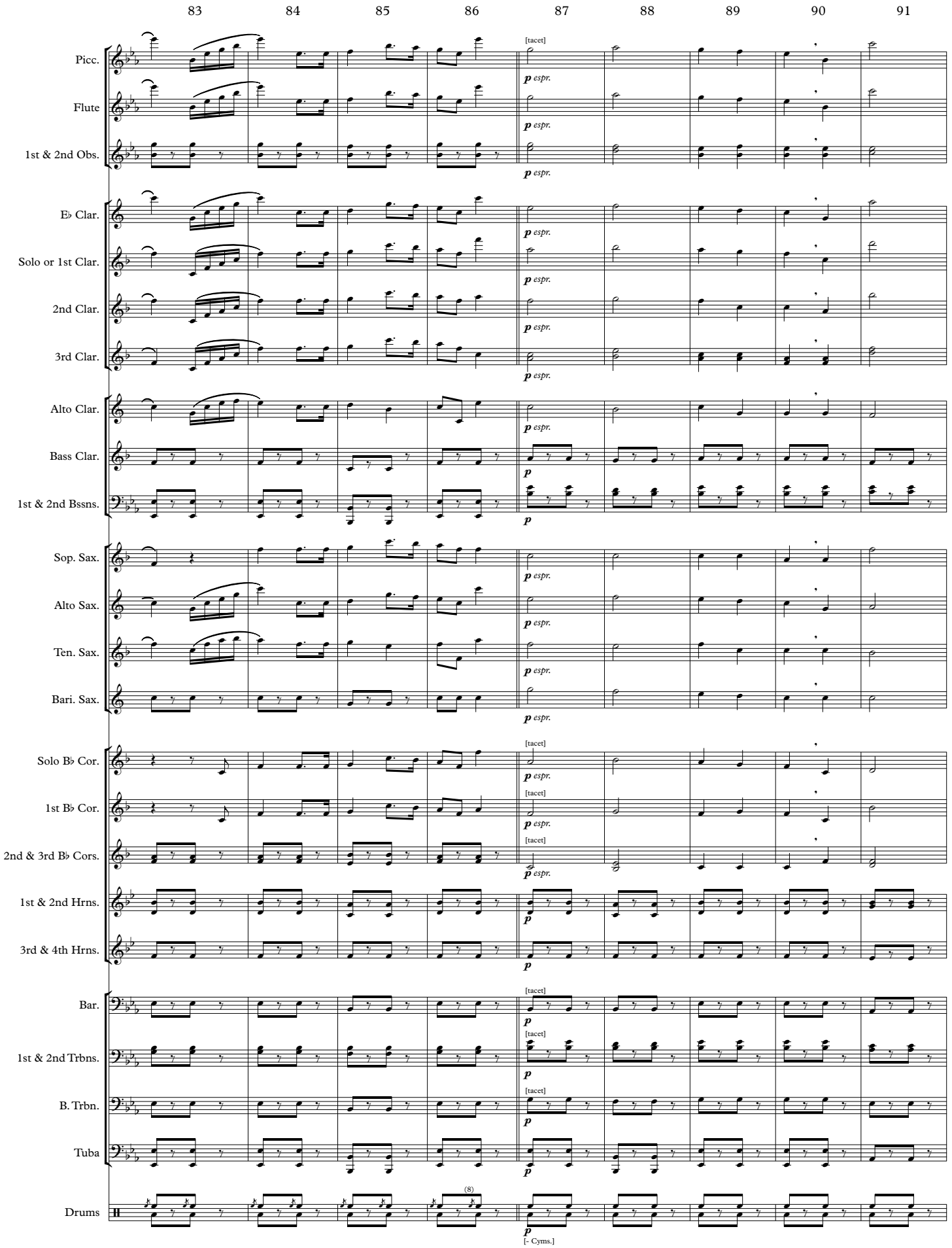

59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
Great Britain
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
[- Cyms.]

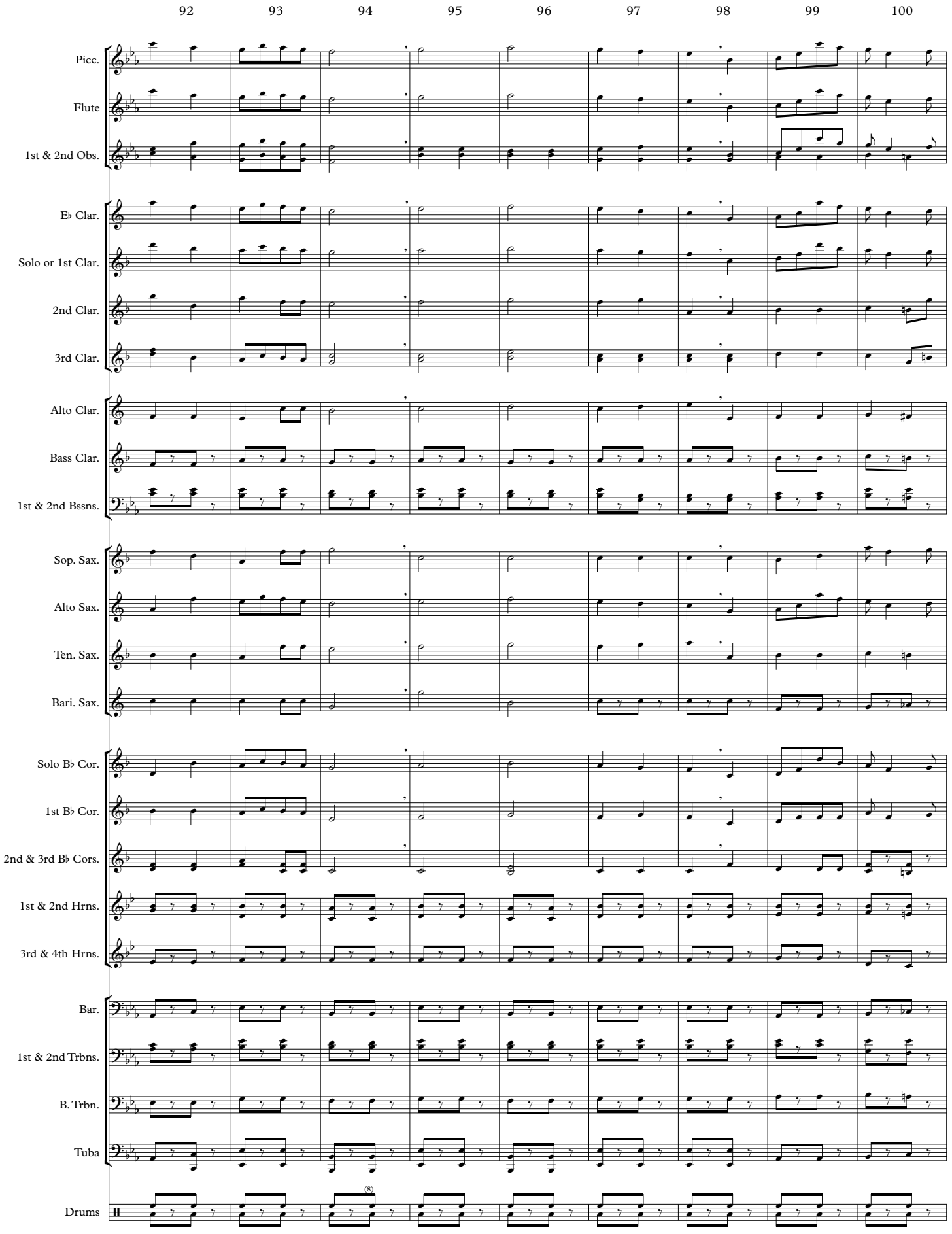
FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score



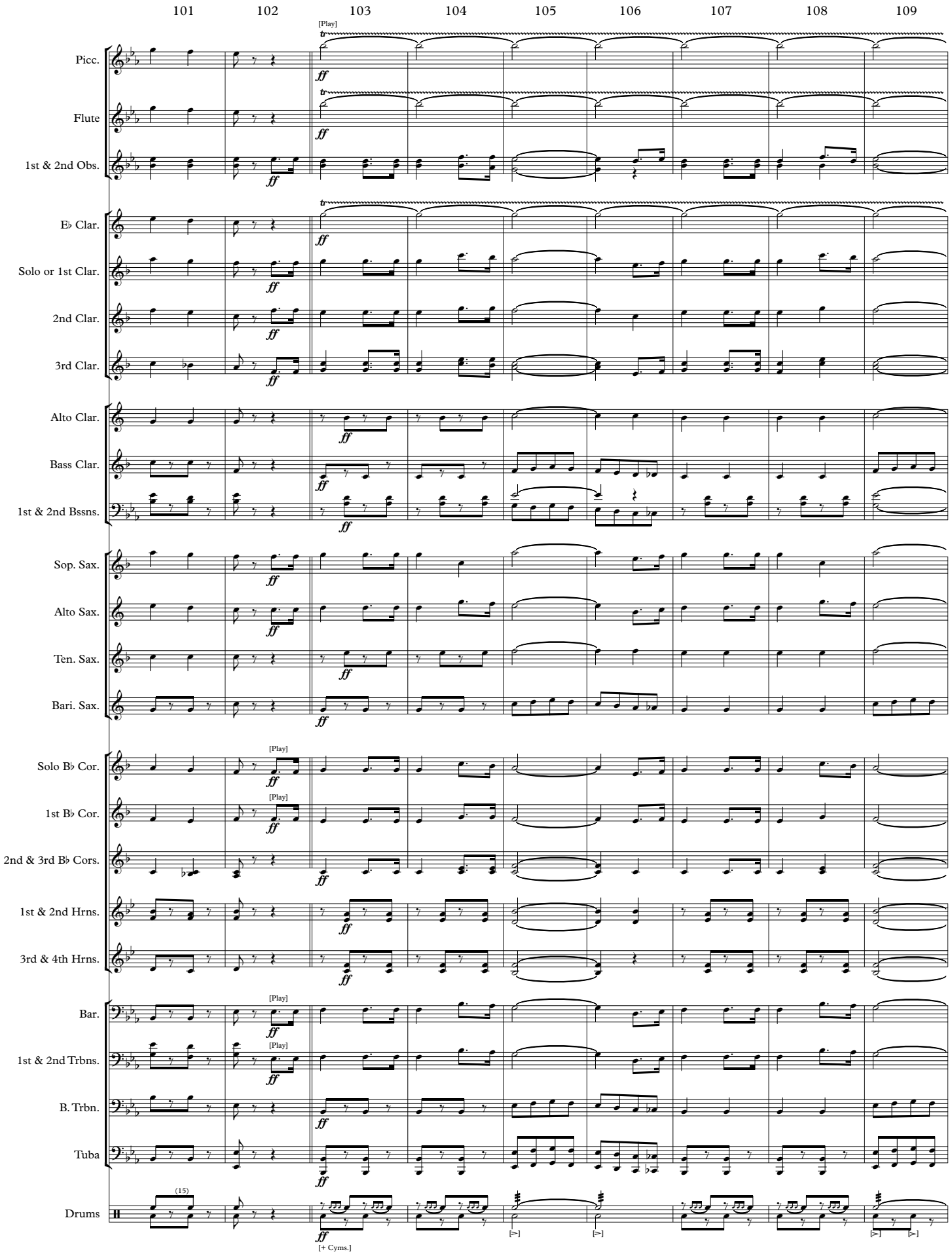

75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
America
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
a2
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
[+ Cyms.]

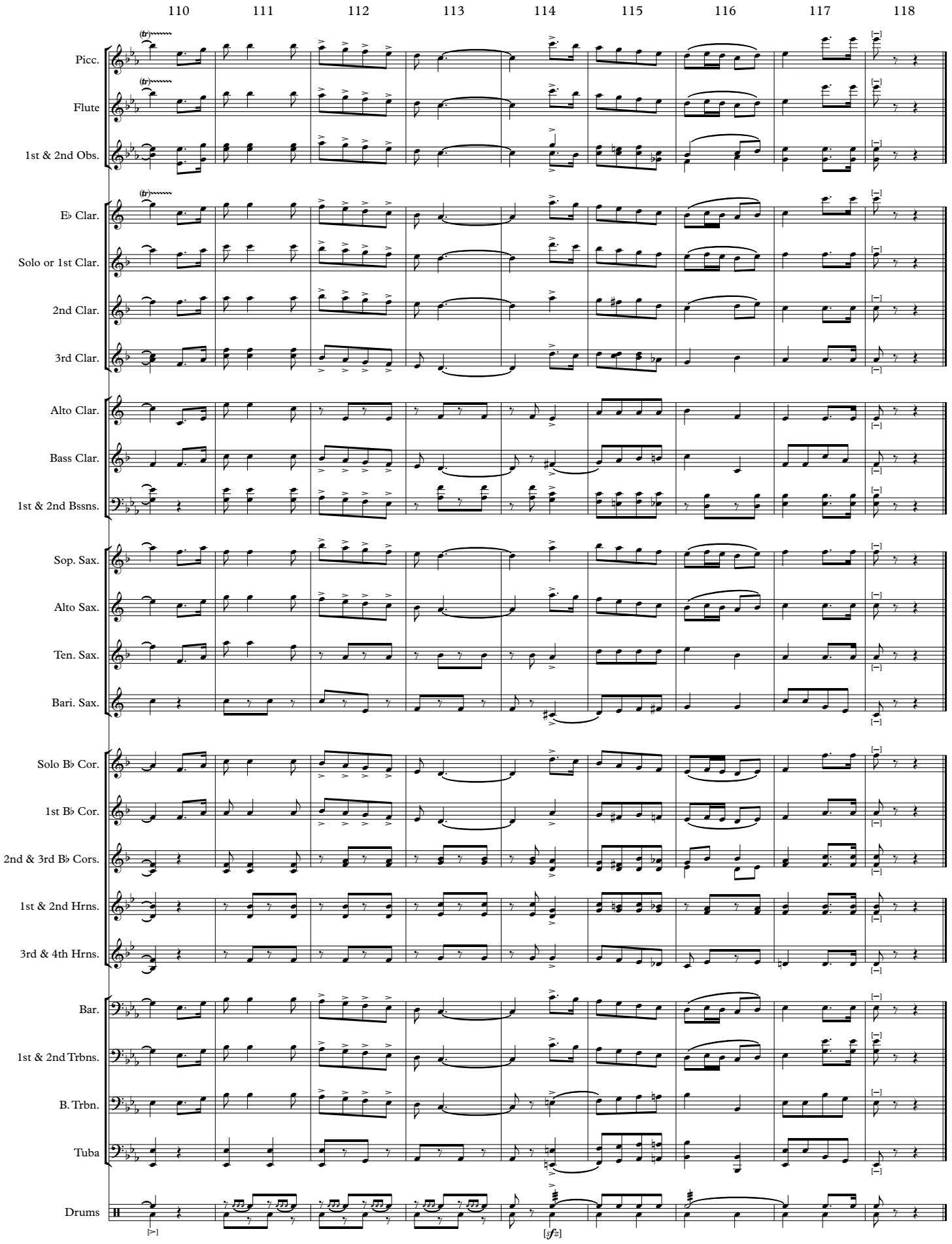
FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score




92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
(8)

FLAGS OF FREEDOM
Full Score




110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
Picc.
Flute
1st & 2nd Obs.
E♭ Clar.
Solo or 1st Clar.
2nd Clar.
3rd Clar.
Alto Clar.
Bass Clar.
1st & 2nd Bssns.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Solo B♭ Cor.
1st B♭ Cor.
2nd & 3rd B♭ Cors.
1st & 2nd Hrns.
3rd & 4th Hrns.
Bar.
1st & 2nd Trbns.
B. Trbn.
Tuba
Drums
[sfz]

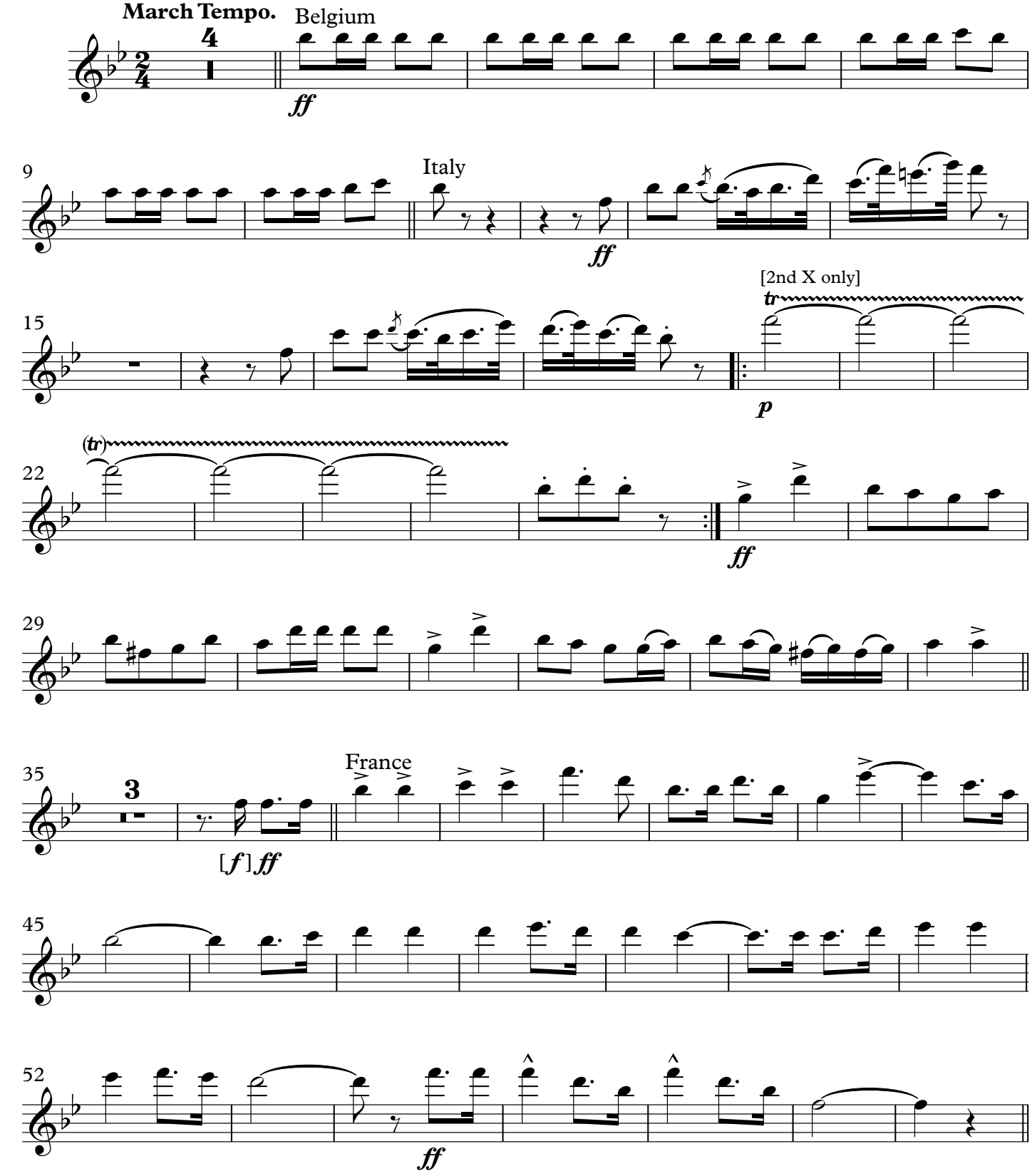
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

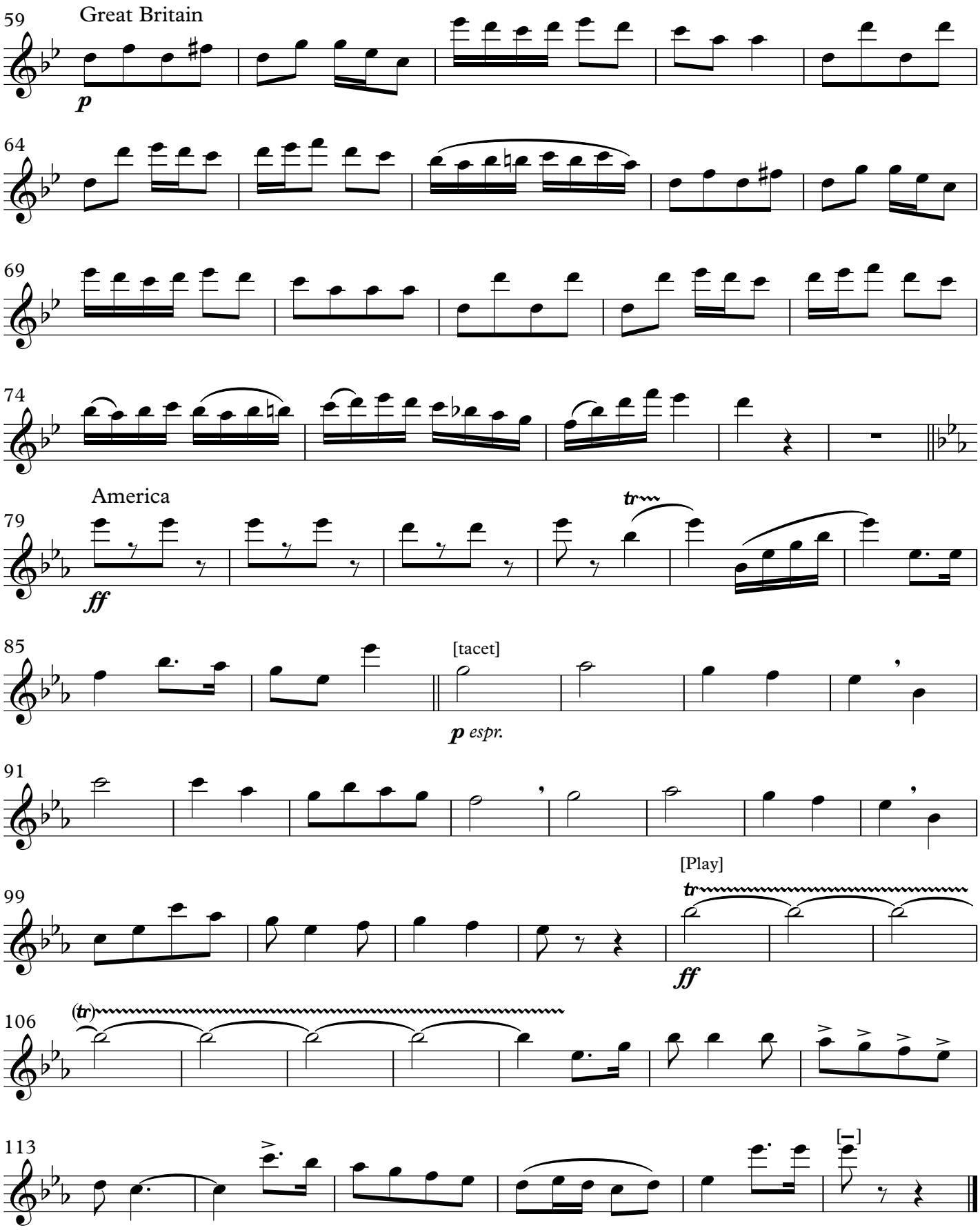
(1918)

Piccolo

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
64
69
74
America
79
ff
tr
85
[tacet]
p espr.
91
99
[Play]
tr
ff
106
(tr)
113
[–]

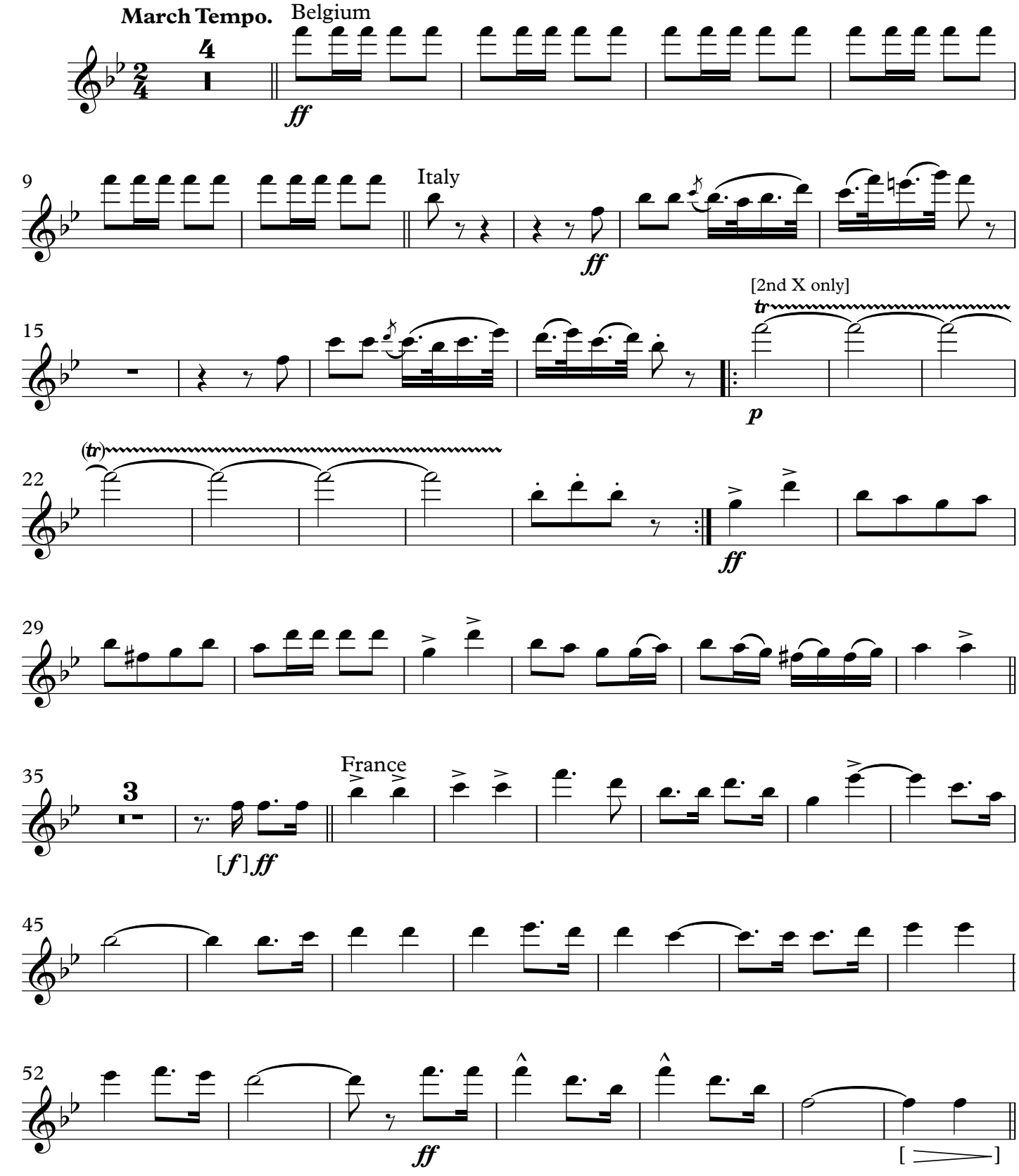
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

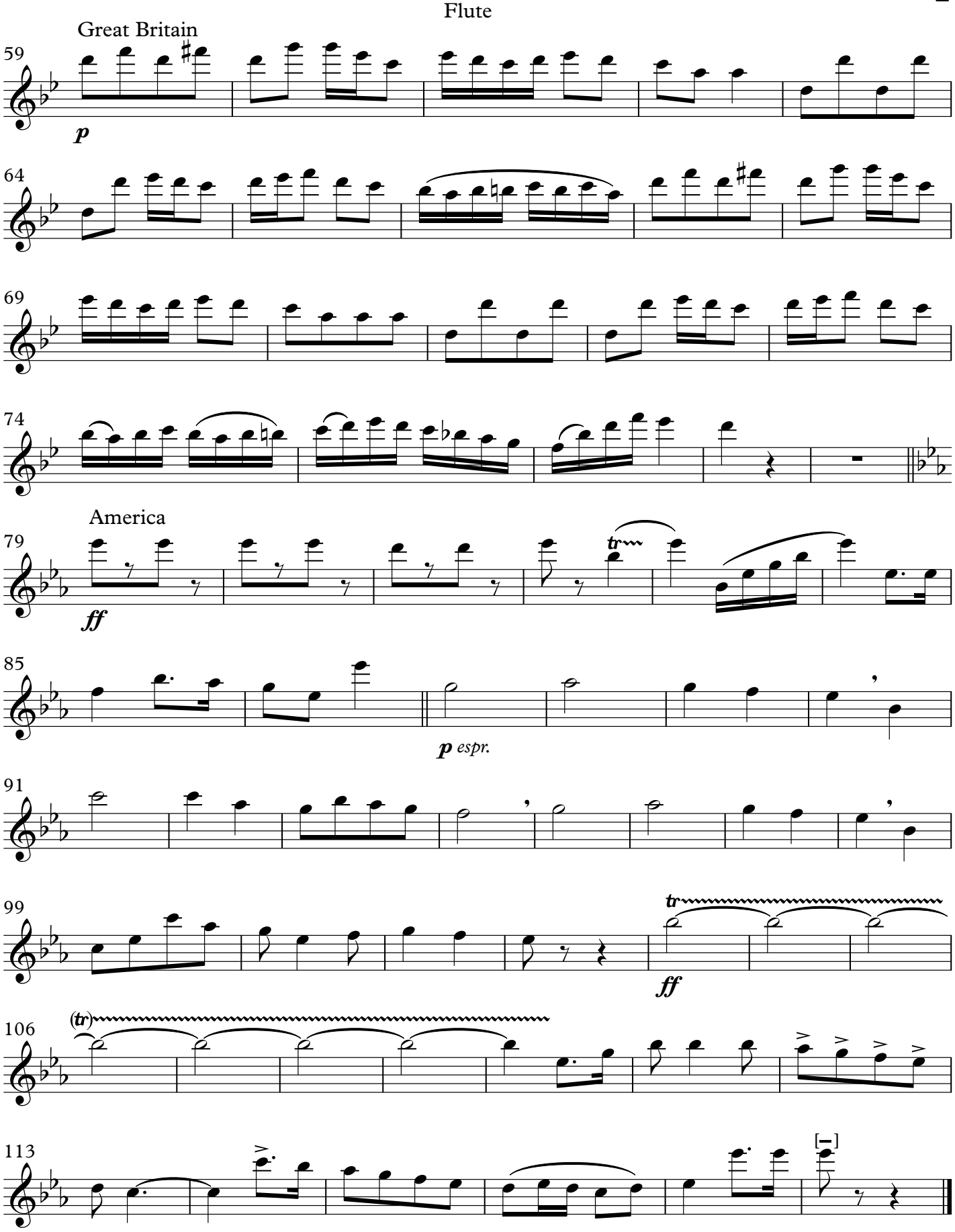
(1918)

Flute

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


Great Britain
59
p
64
69
74
America
79
ff
85
p espr.
91
99
ff
106
113

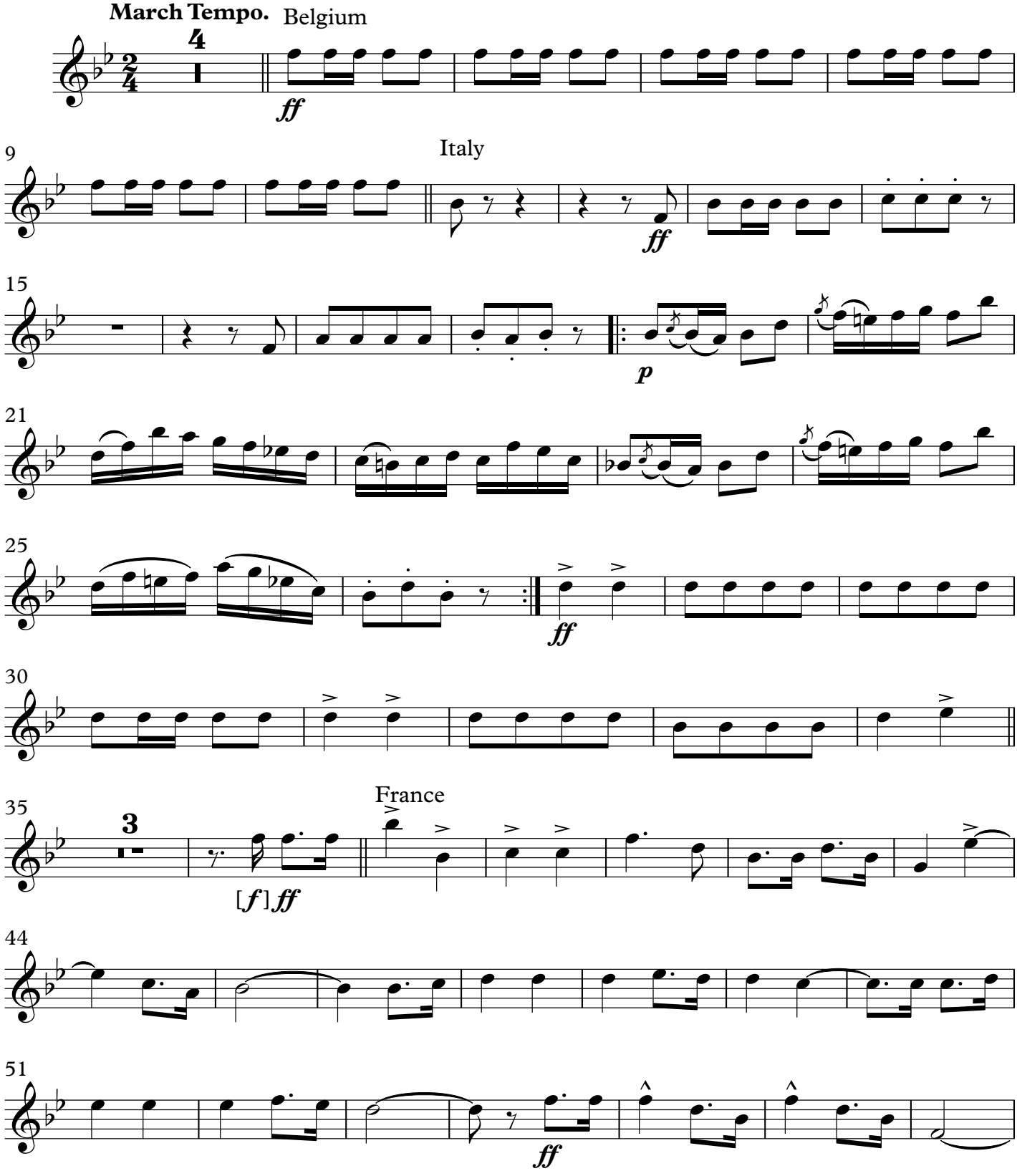
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

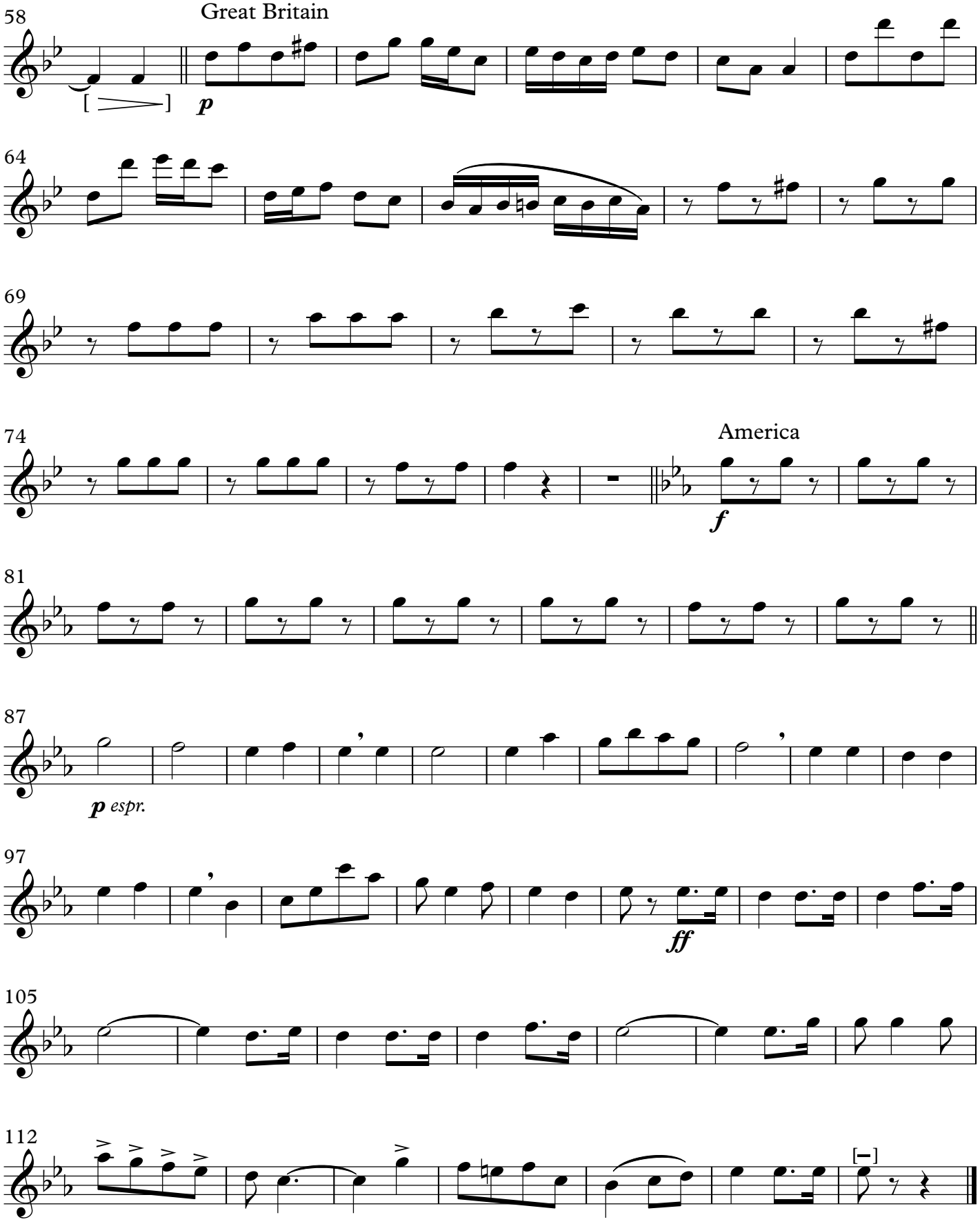
(1918)

1st Oboe

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


58
Great Britain
p
64
69
74
America
f
81
87
p espr.
97
ff
105
112

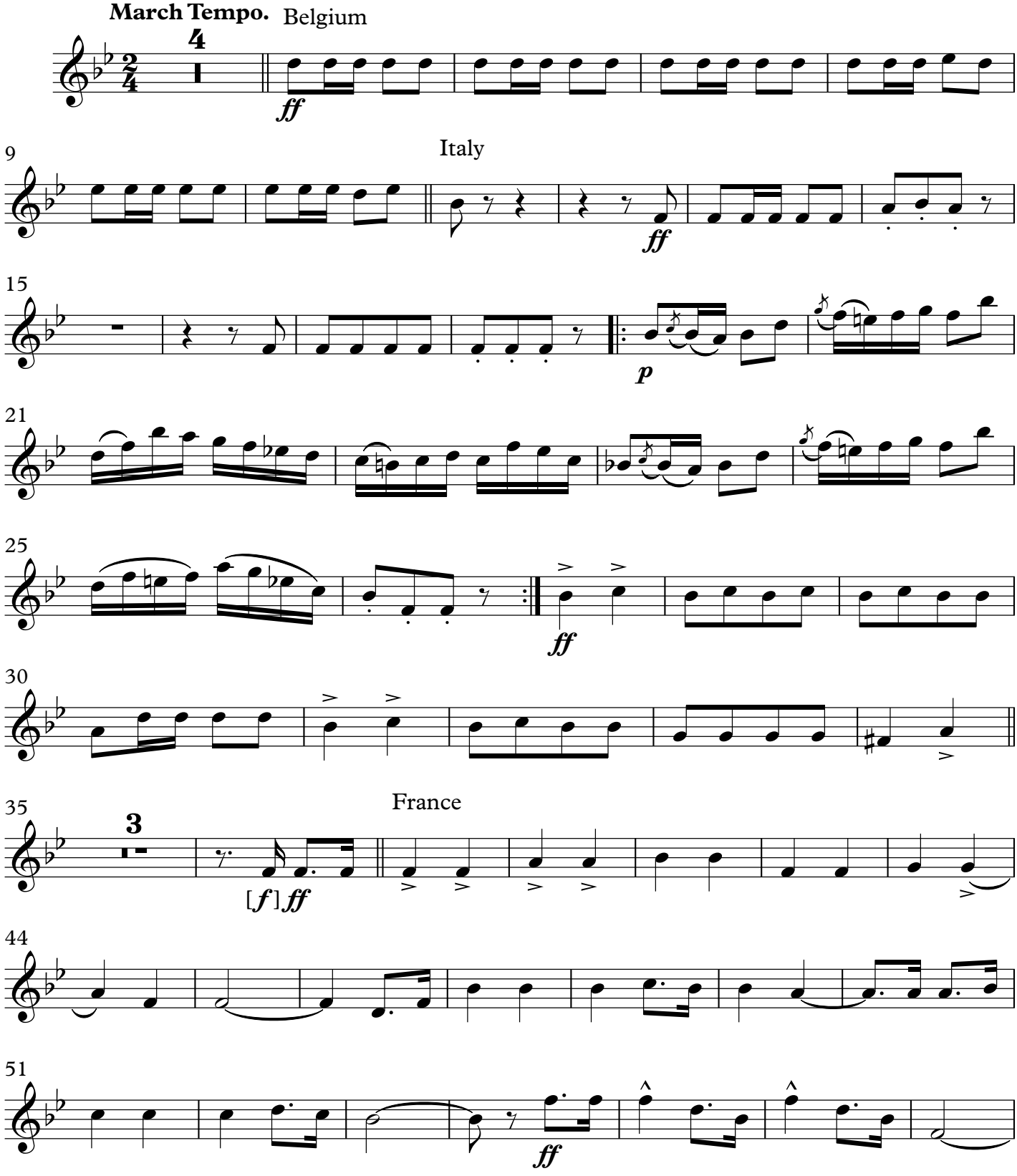
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

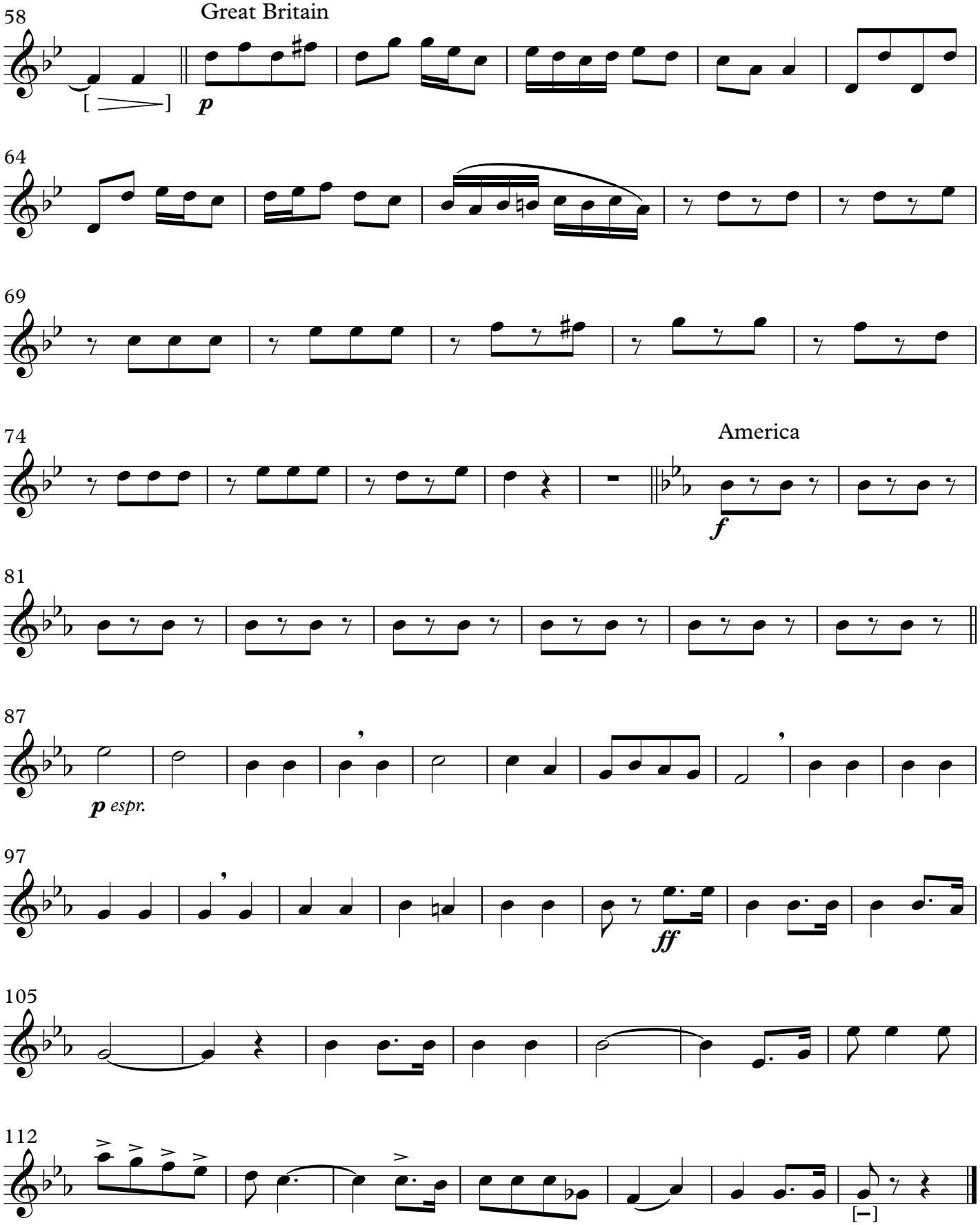
(1918)

2nd Oboe

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


58
Great Britain
p
64
69
74
America
f
81
87
p espr.
97
ff
105
112

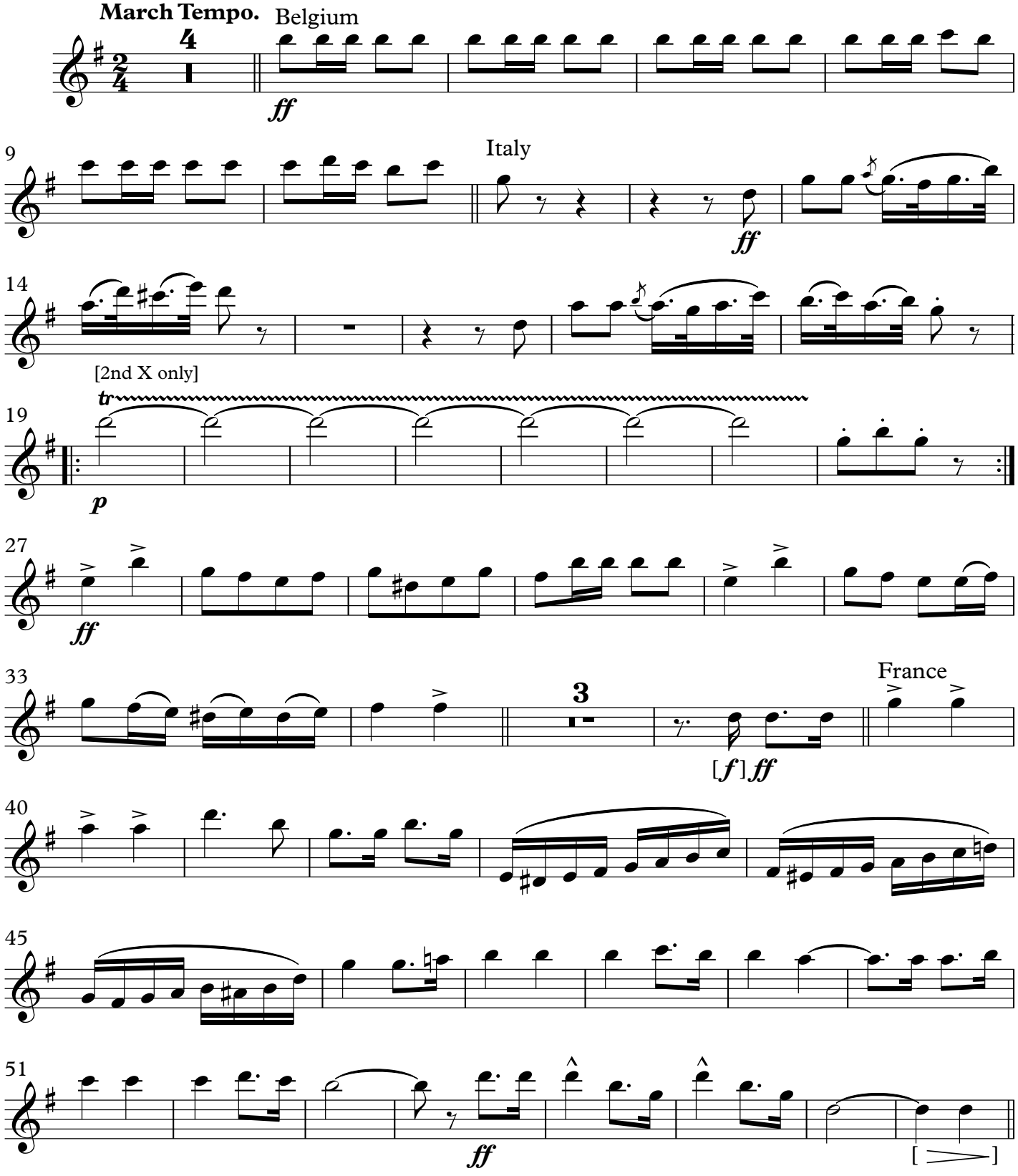
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

E♭ Clarinet



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band

59 Great Britain

p

64

69

74

79 America

f

86

p espr.

96

103

ff

112

March

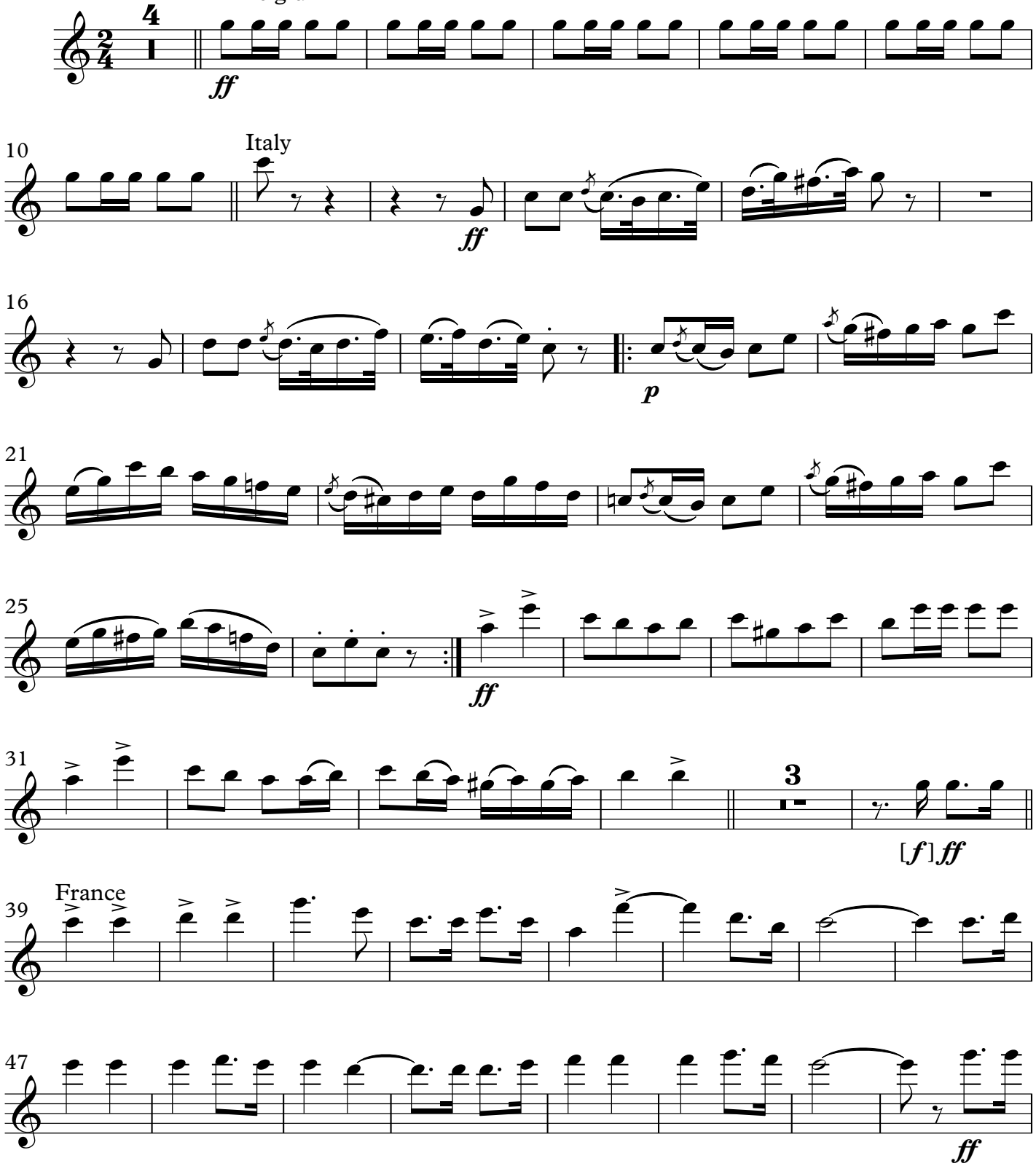
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

Solo or 1st B♭ Clarinet

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo. Belgium



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band

55 Great Britain

62

67

73

79 America

86

95

104

112

March

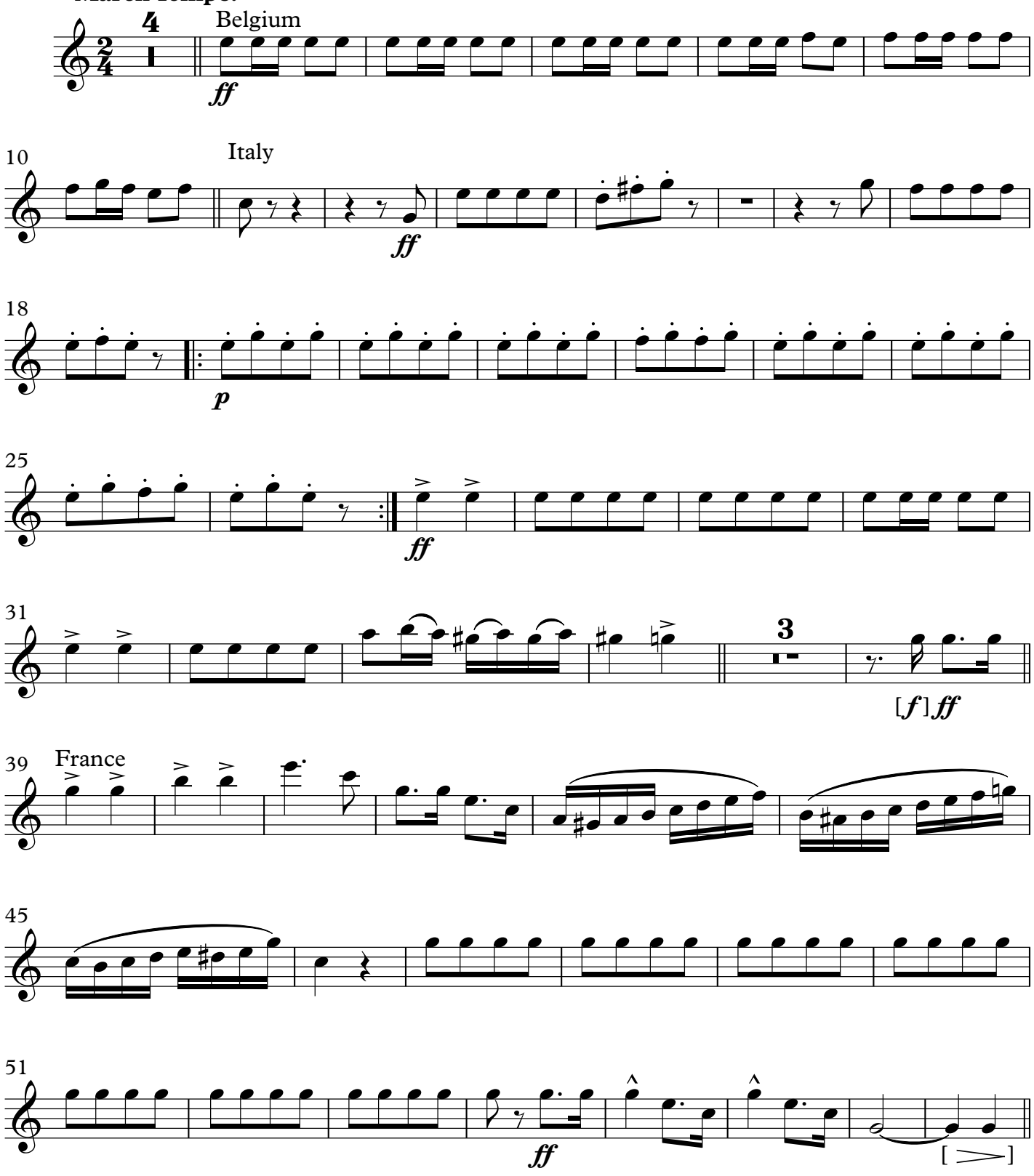
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

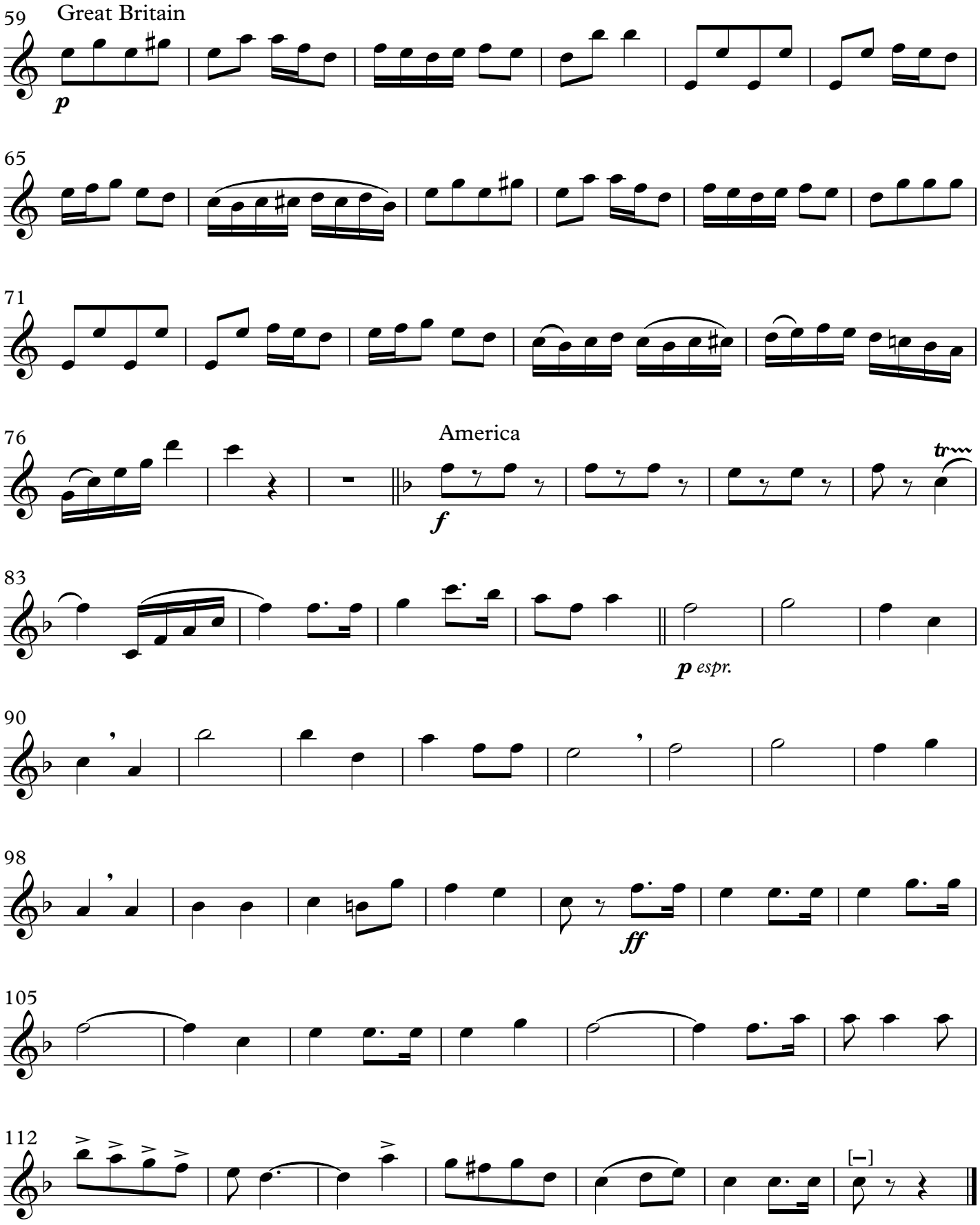
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

2nd B♭ Clarinet

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
65
71
76
America
f
tr
83
p espr.
90
98
ff
105
112
[–]

March

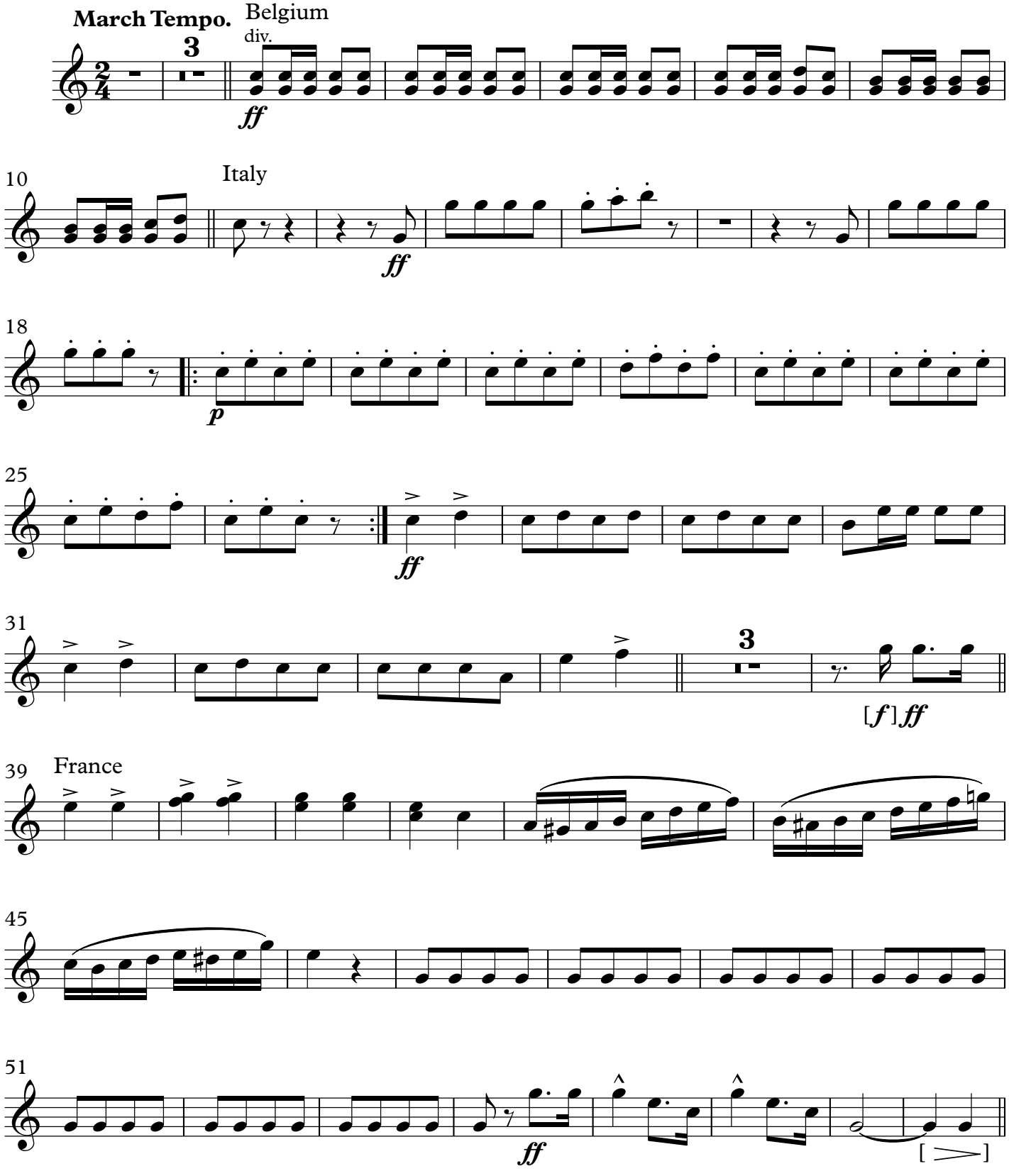
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

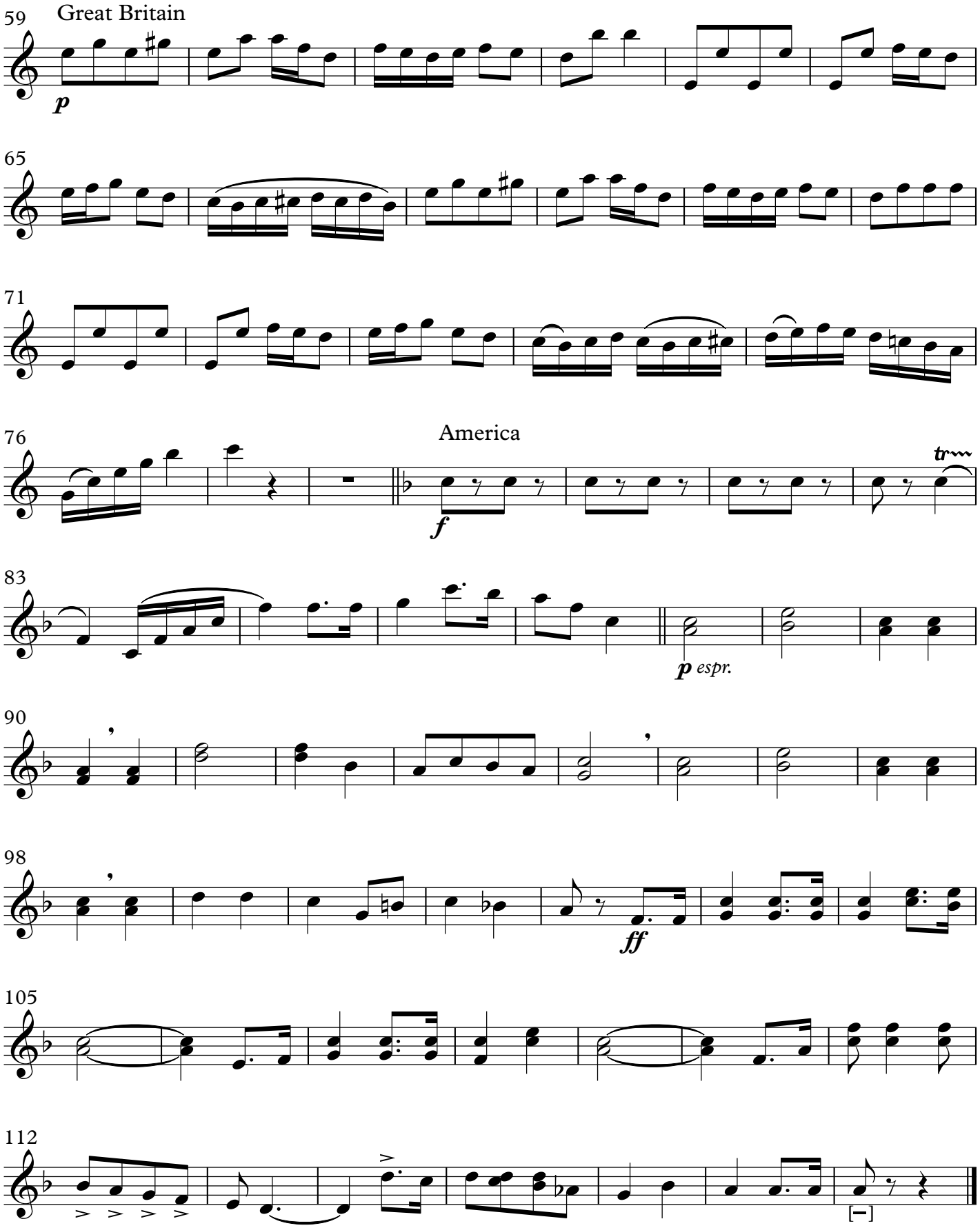
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

3rd B♭ Clarinet

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
65
71
76
America
f
tr
83
p espr.
90
98
ff
105
112
[–]

March

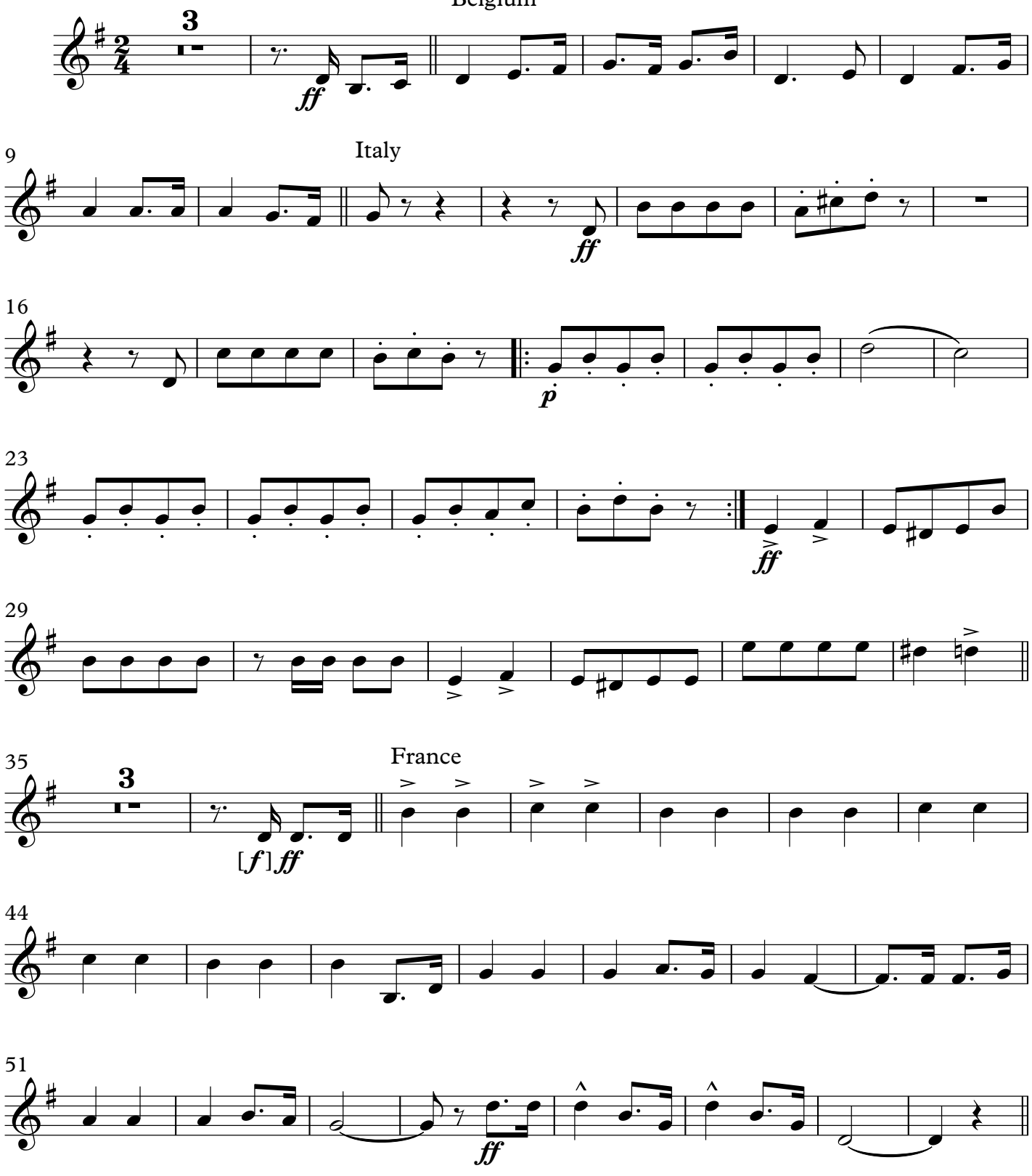
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

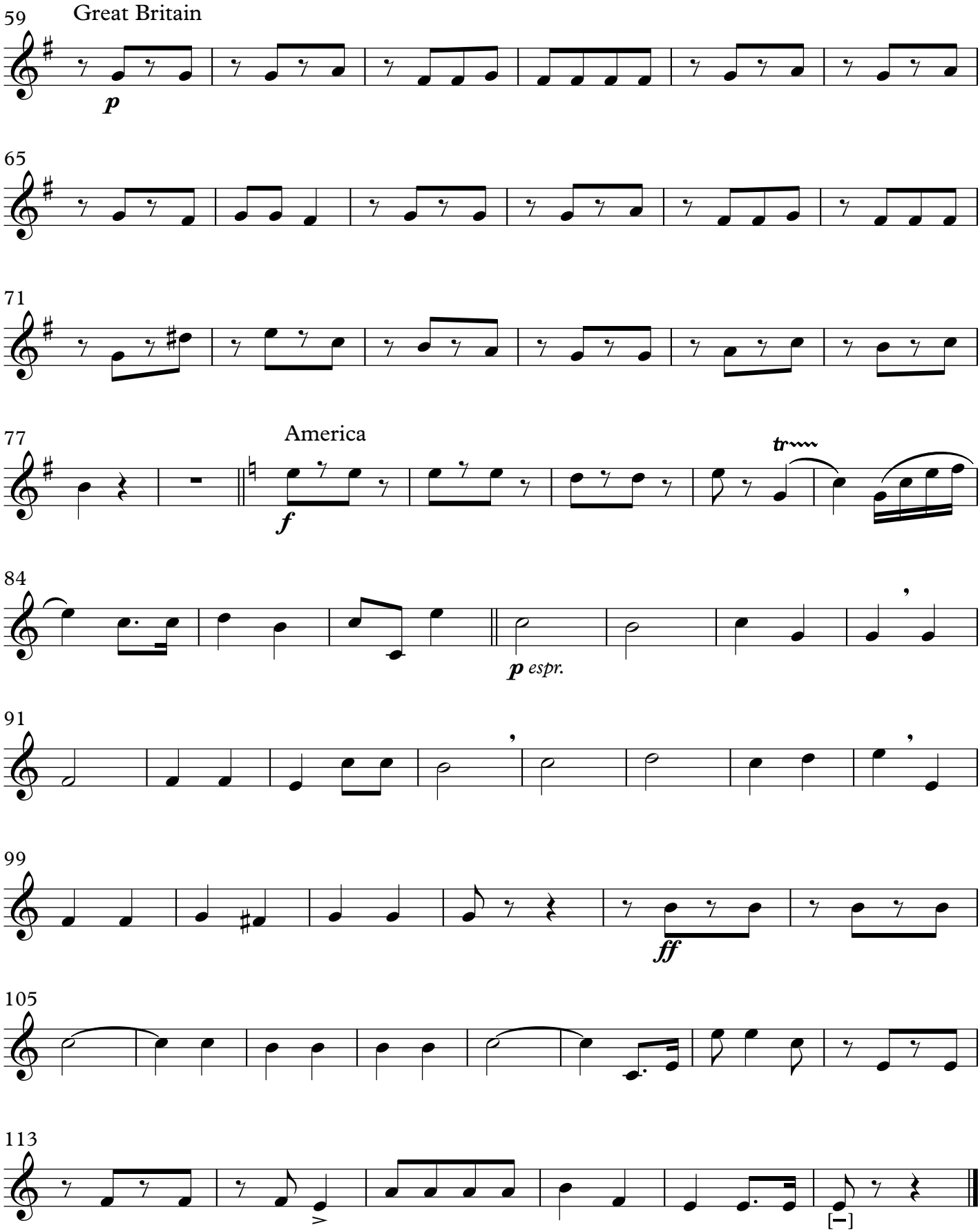
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

E♭ Alto Clarinet
[optional]

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
65
71
77
America
f
tr
84
p espr.
91
99
ff
105
113

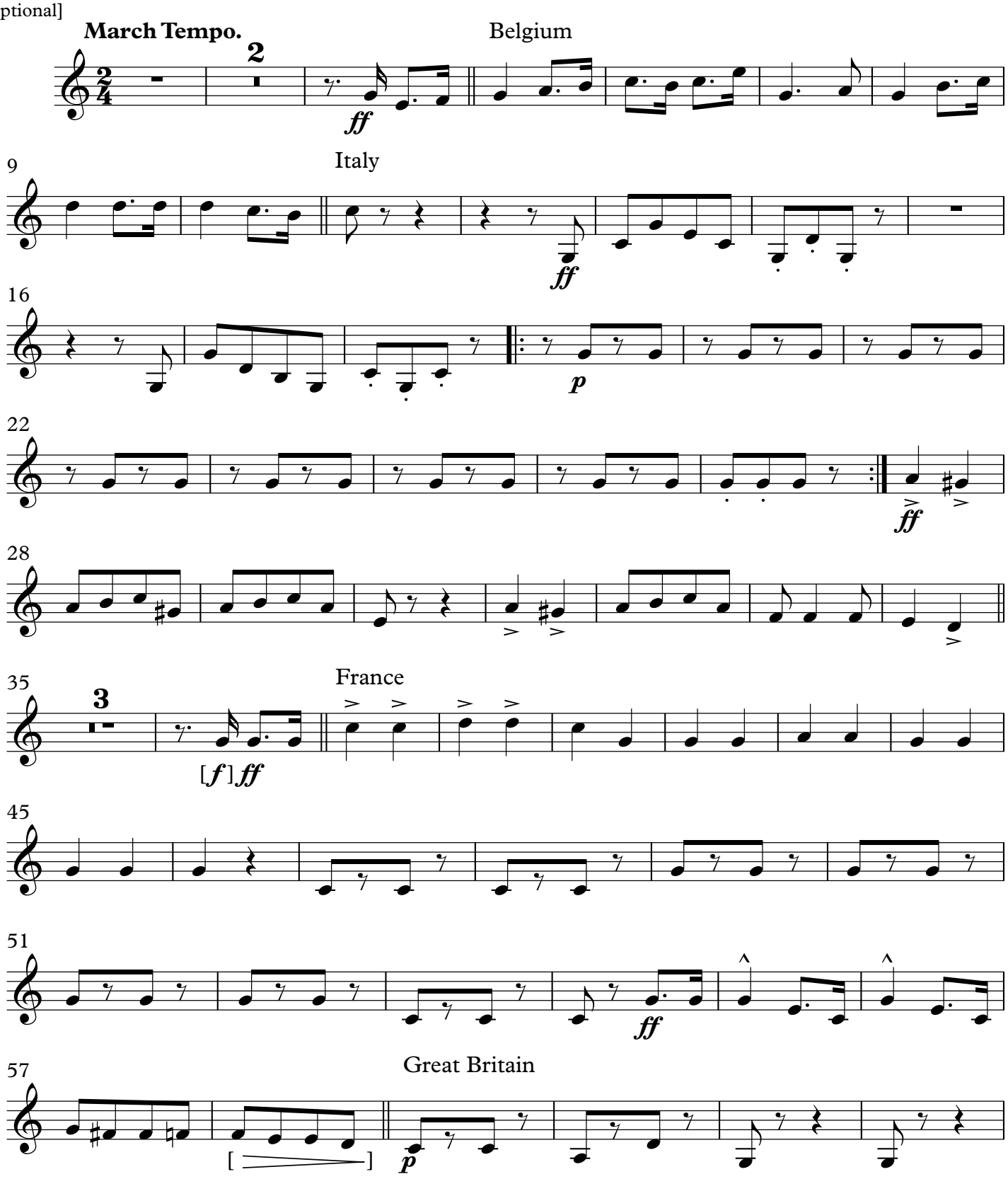
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

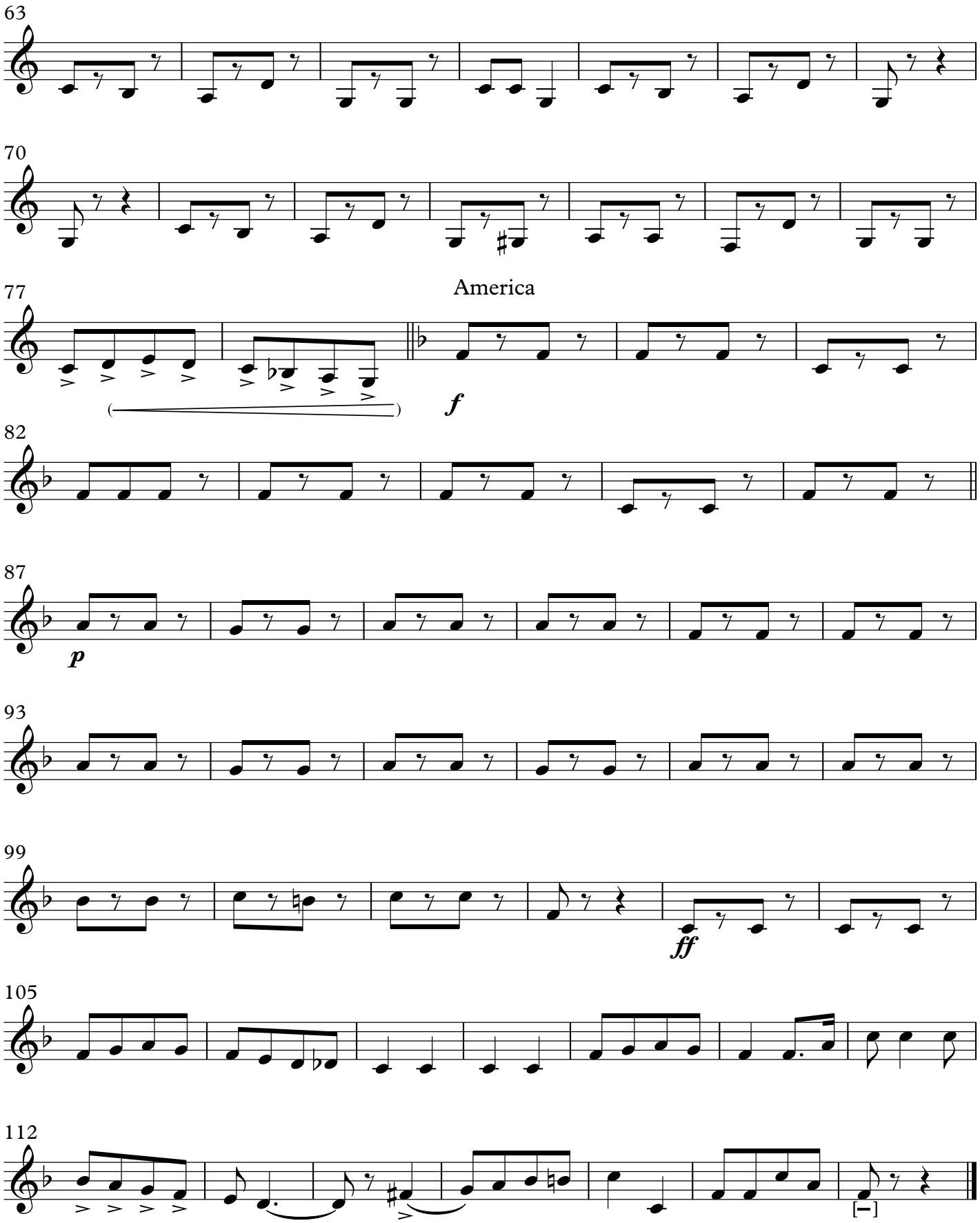
(1918)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

B♭ Bass Clarinet
[optional]



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


63
70
77
America
f
82
87
p
93
99
ff
105
112

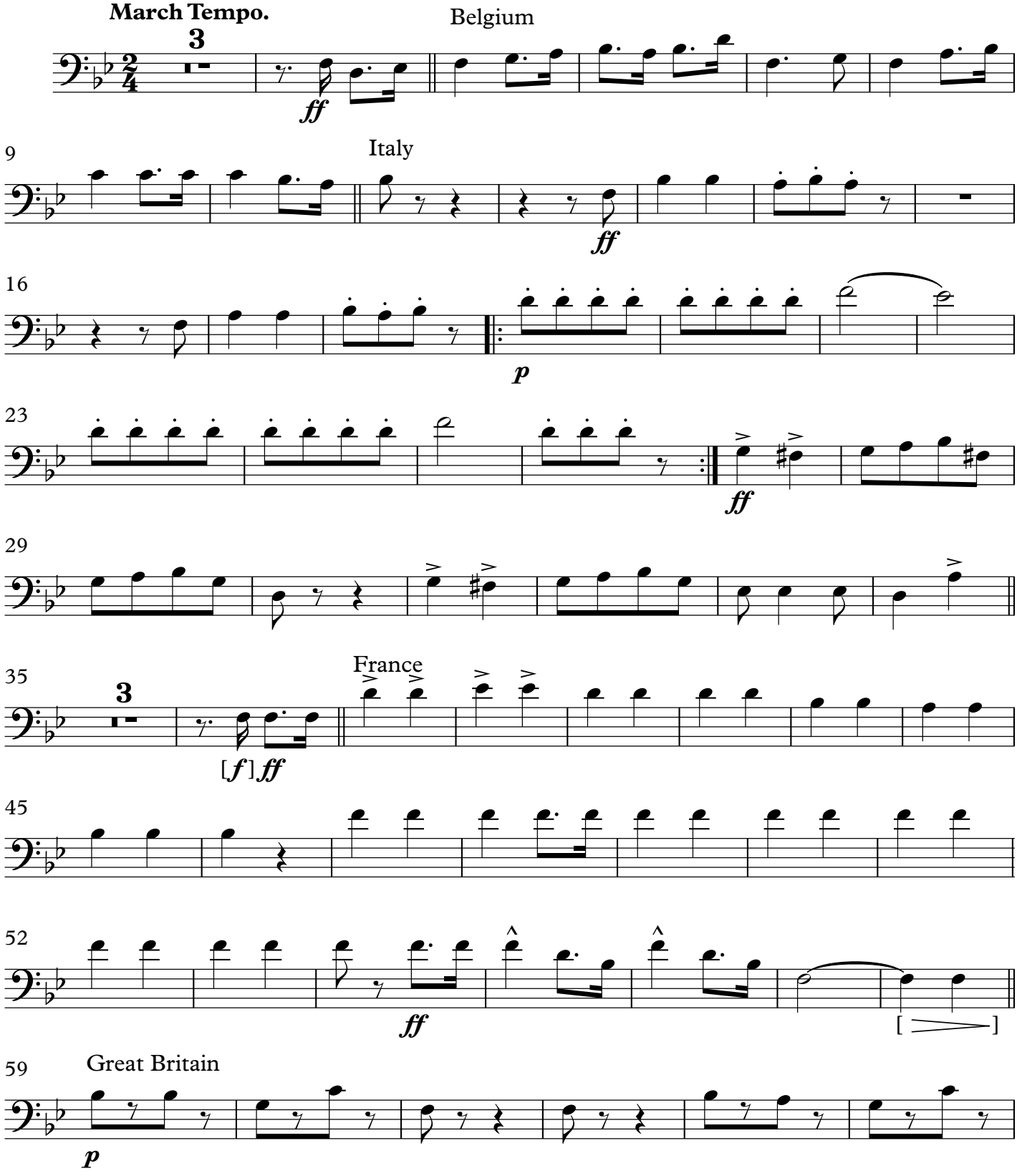
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

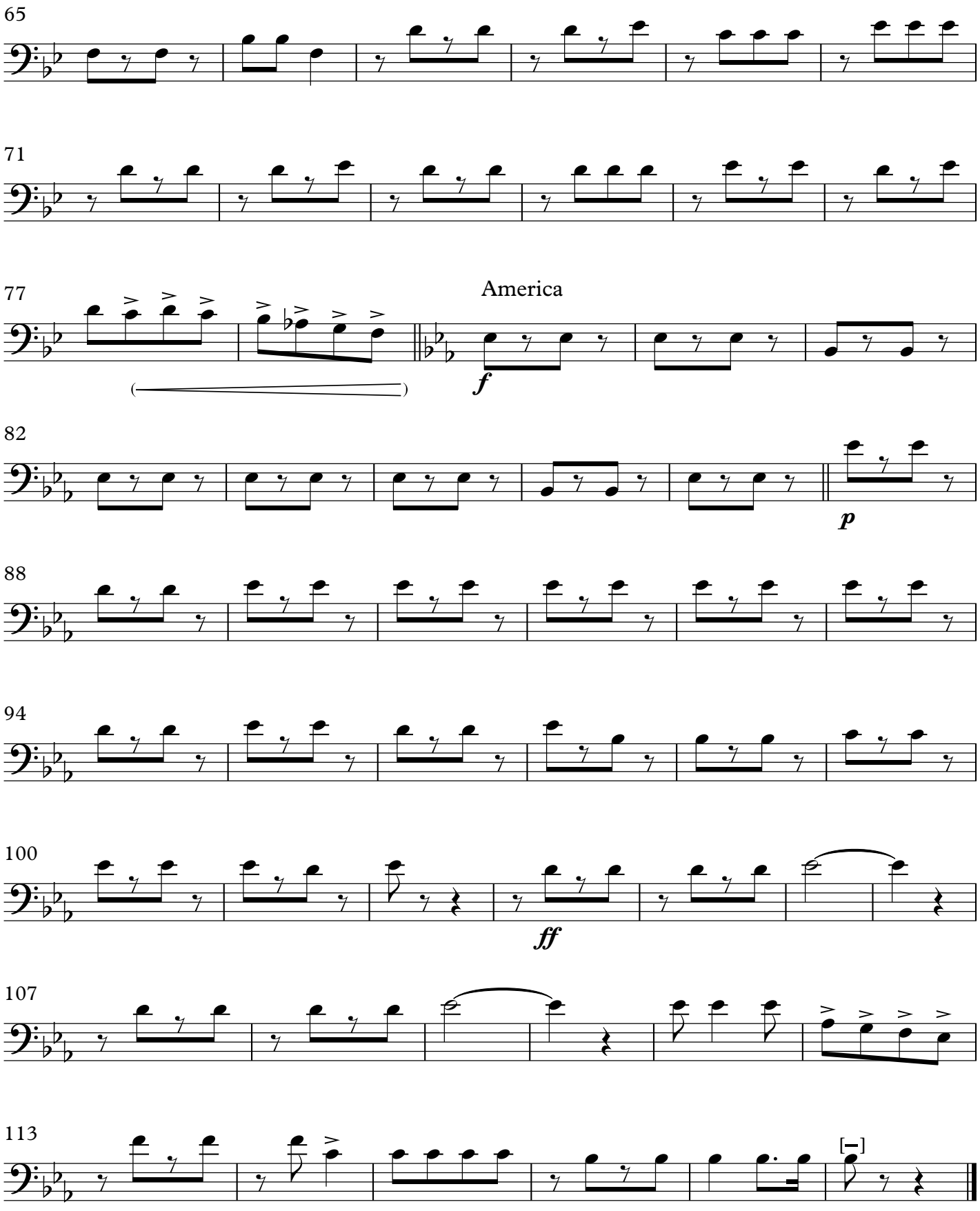
(1918)

1st Bassoon

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


65
71
77
America
f
82
p
88
94
100
ff
107
113

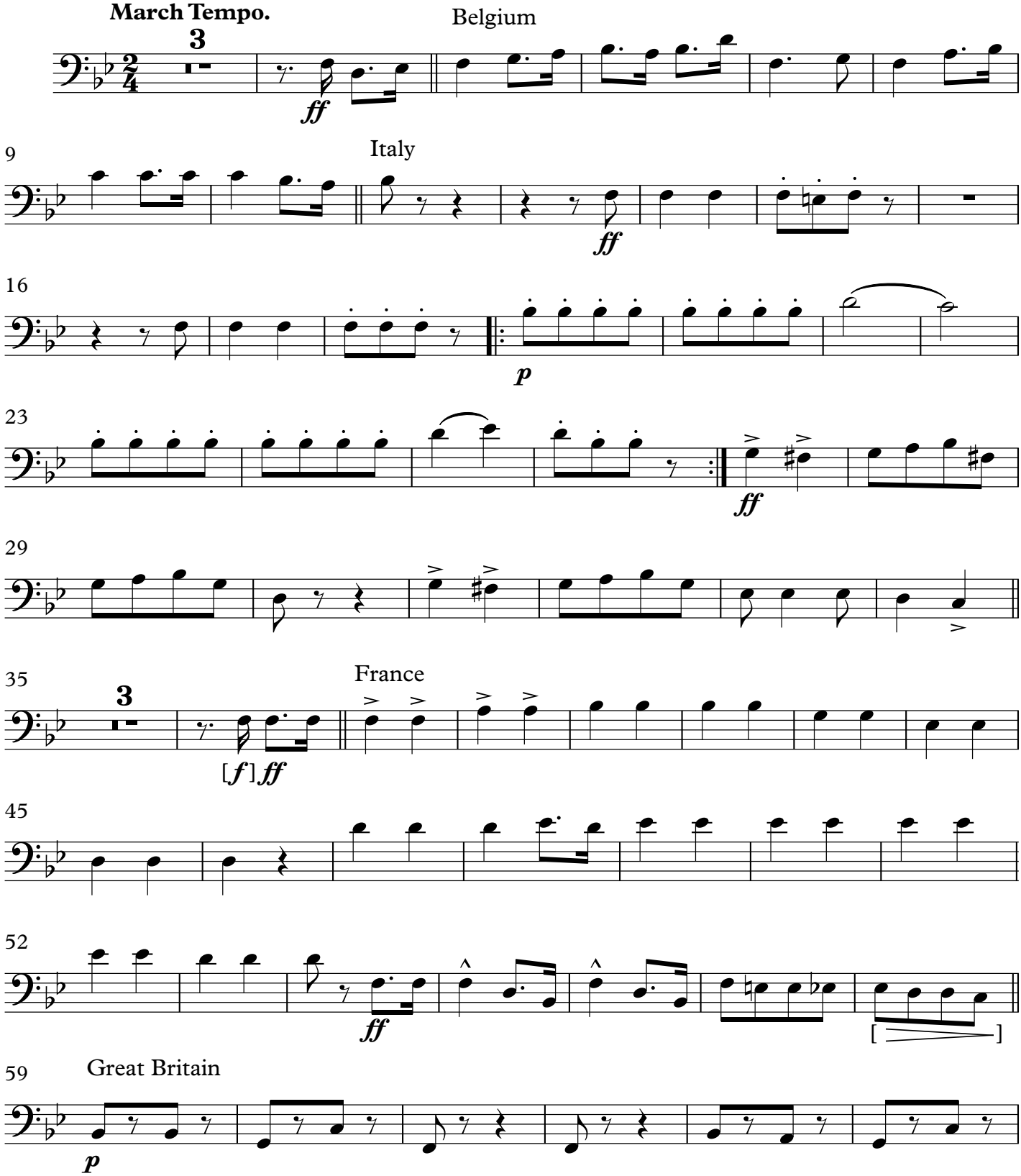
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

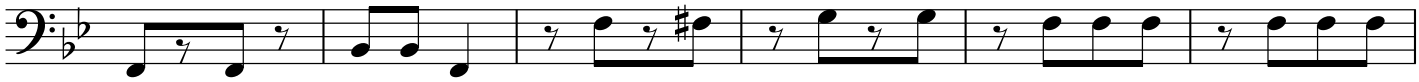
2nd Bassoon

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

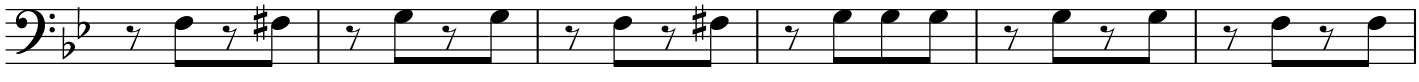


This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band

65

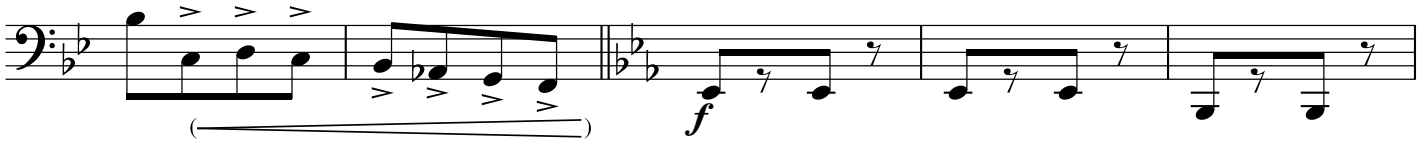


71

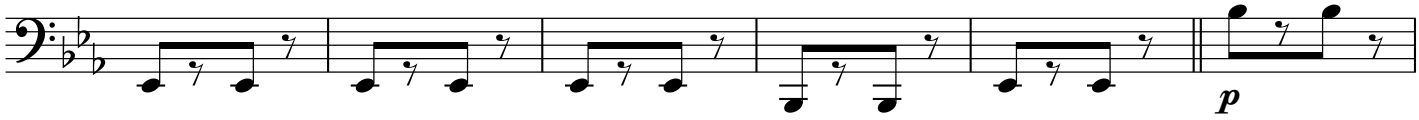


77

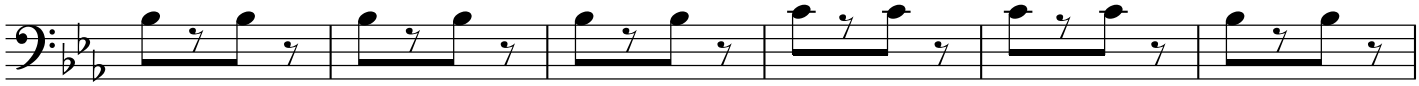
America



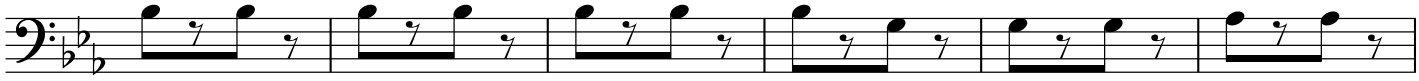
82



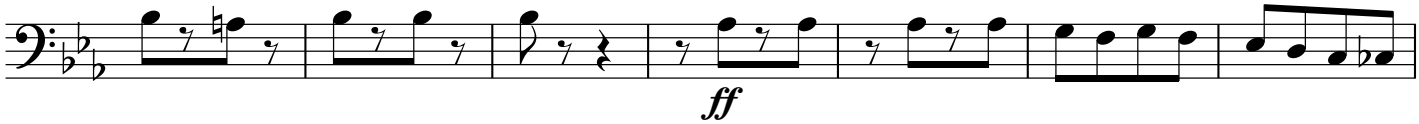
88



94

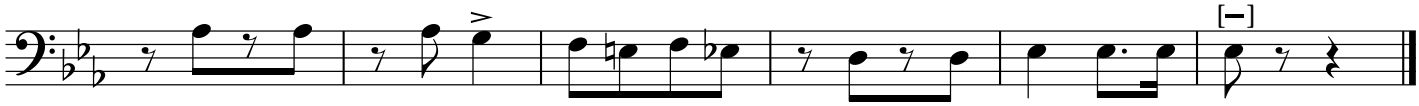


100



107

113



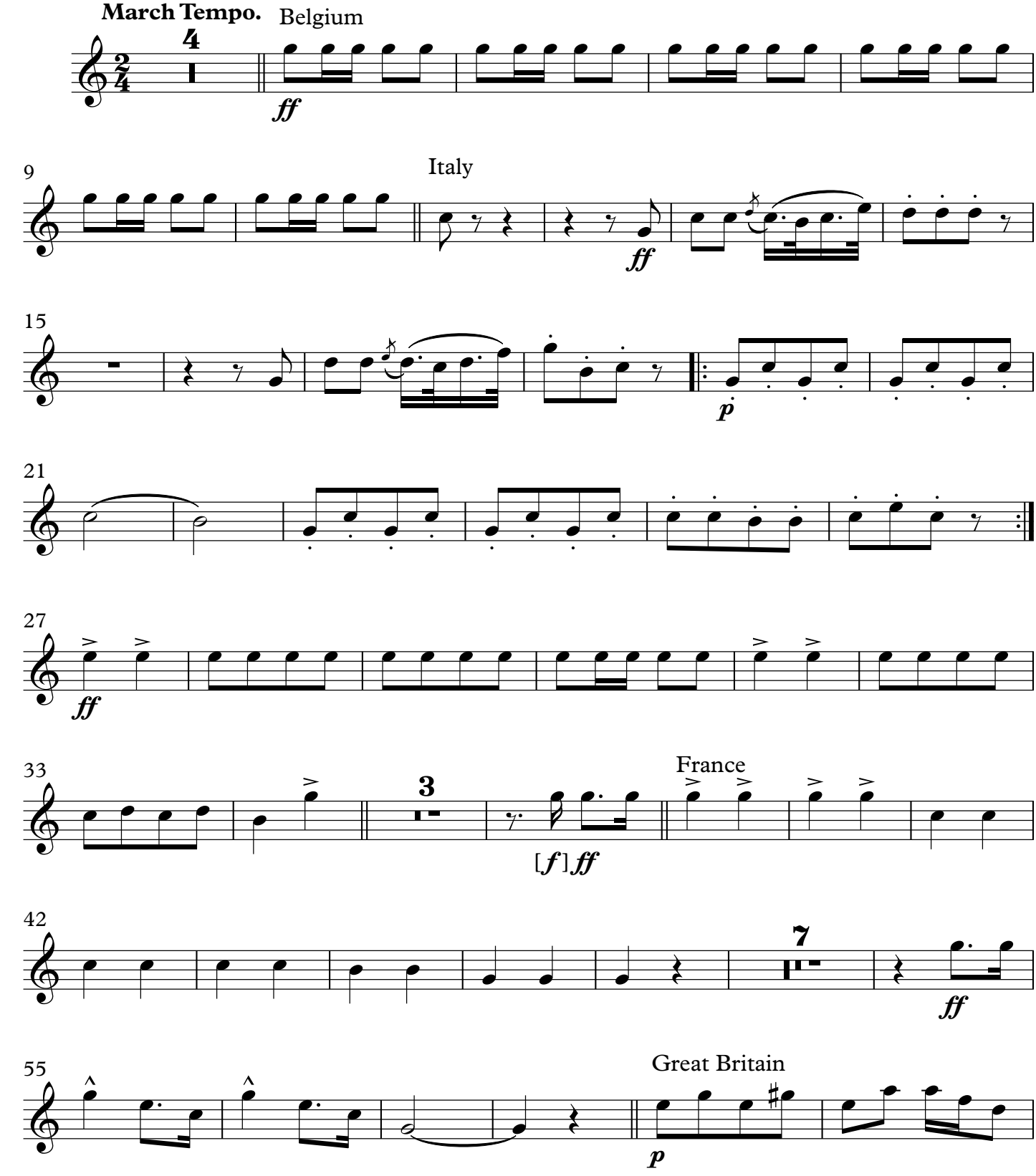
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

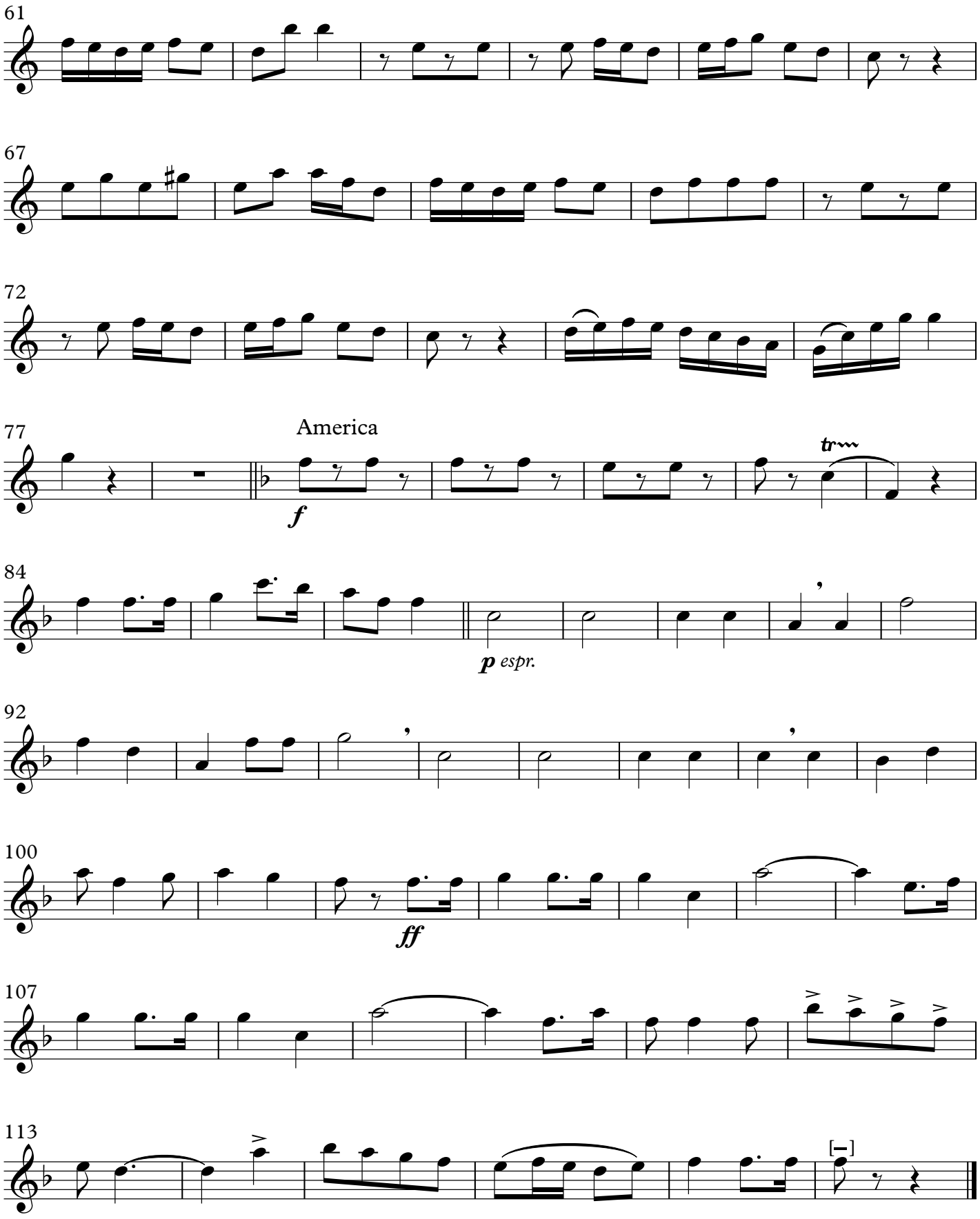
(1918)

B♭ Soprano Saxophone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


61
67
72
77
America
f
tr
84
p espr.
92
100
ff
107
113
[–]

March

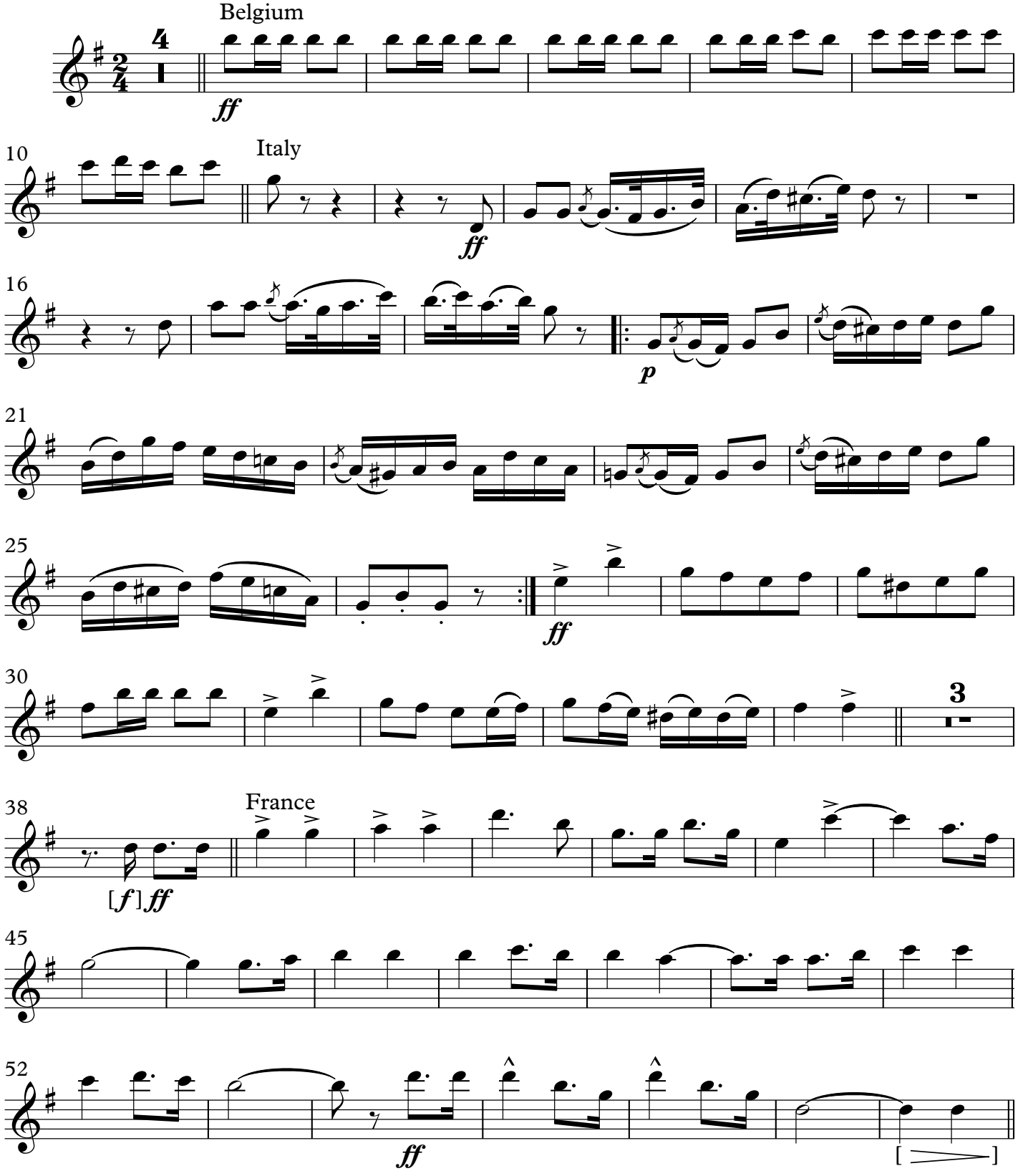
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

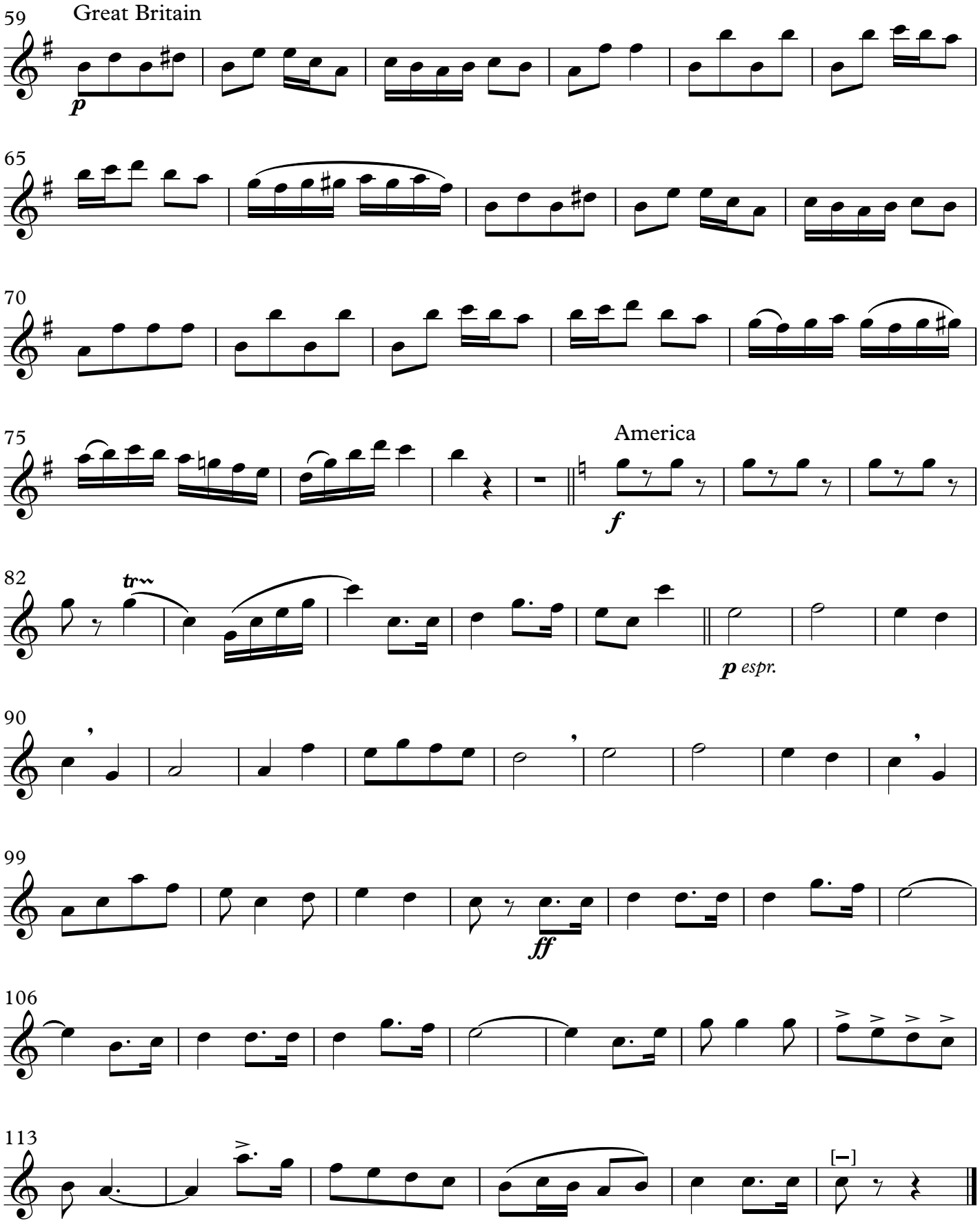
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

E♭ Alto Saxophone

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
65
70
75
America
f
82
tr
p espr.
90
99
ff
106
113
[–]

March

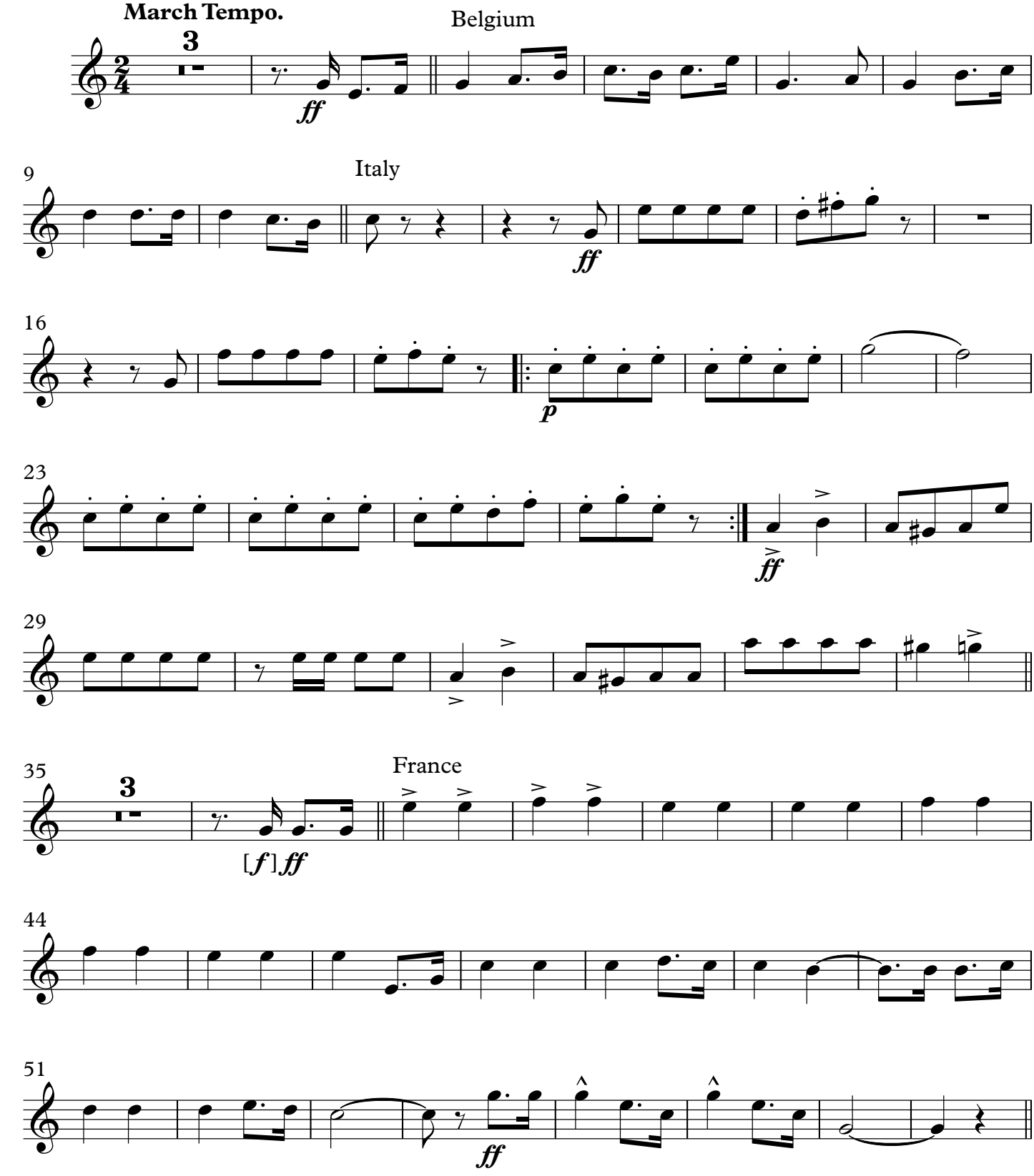
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

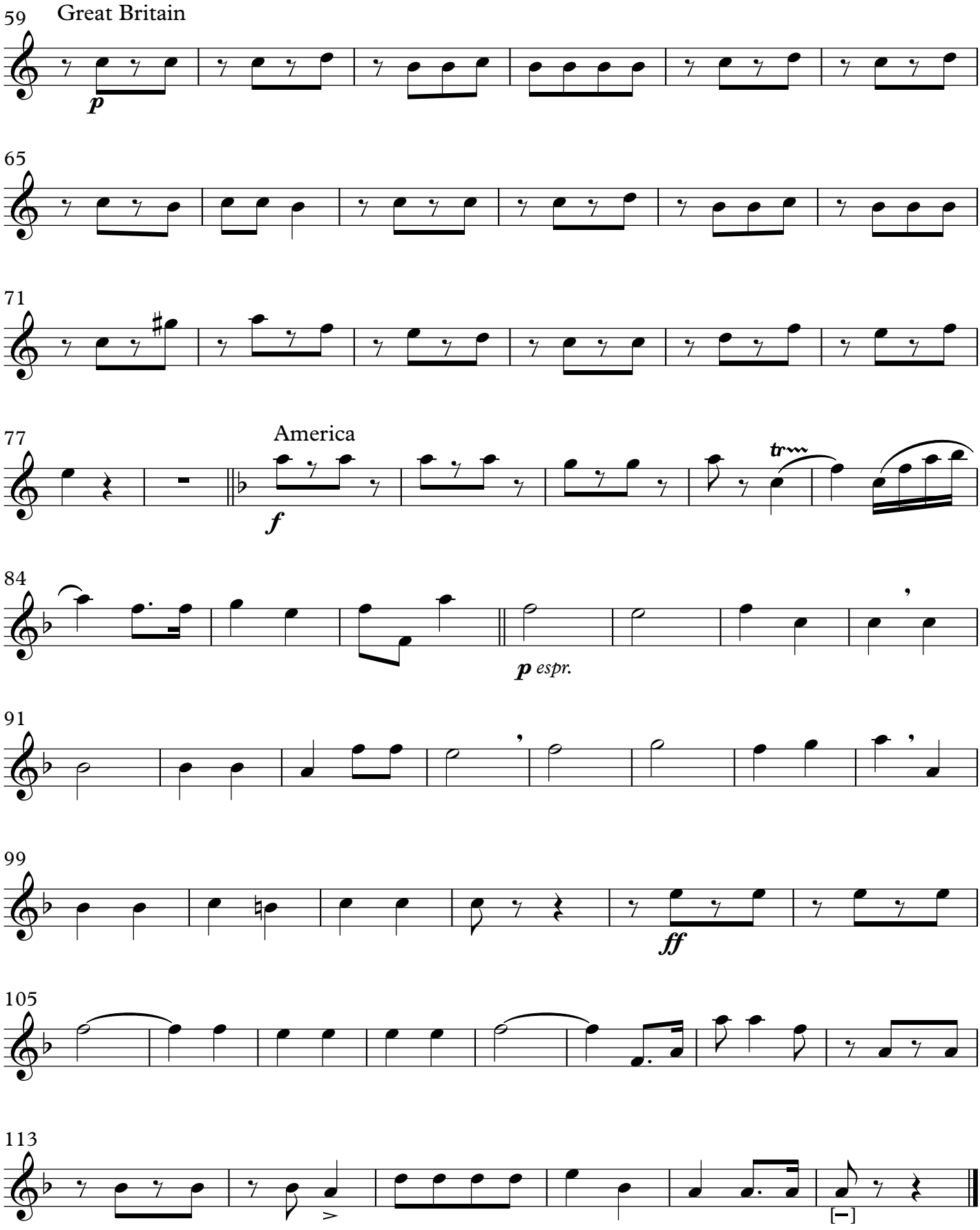
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
65
71
77
America
f
tr
84
p espr.
91
99
ff
105
113
[–]

March

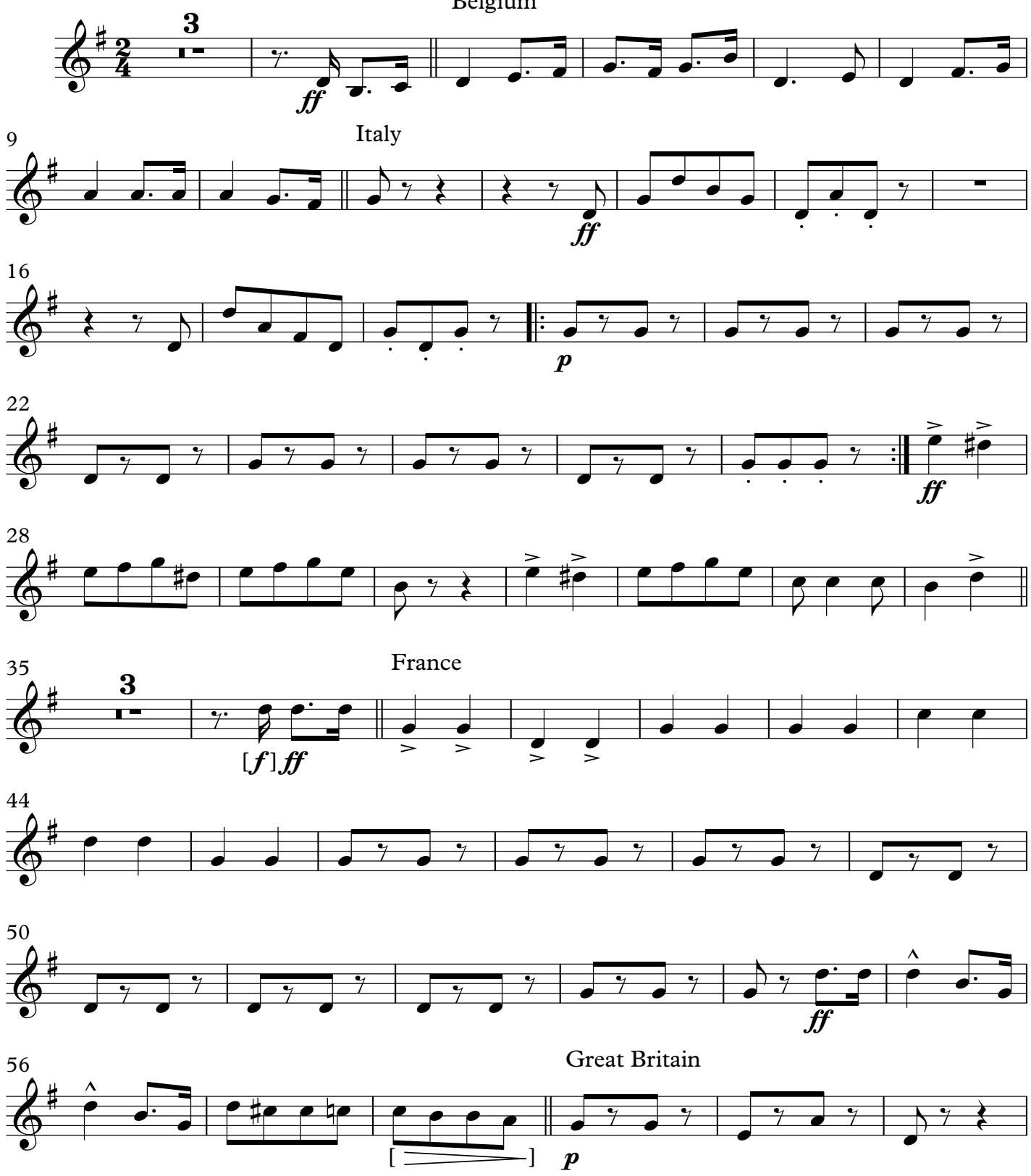
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

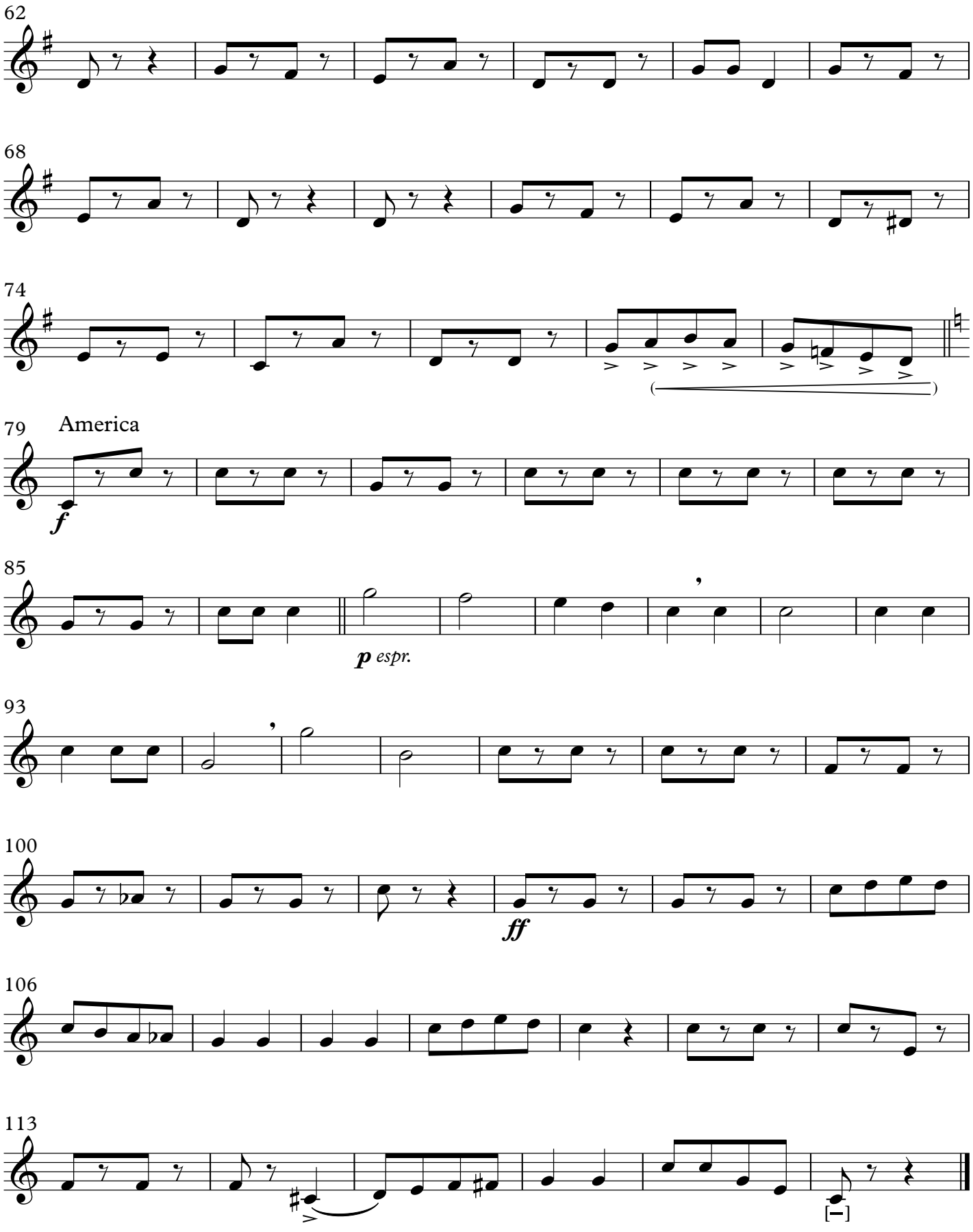
E♭ Baritone Saxophone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


62
68
74
79
America
f
85
p espr.
93
100
ff
106
113

March

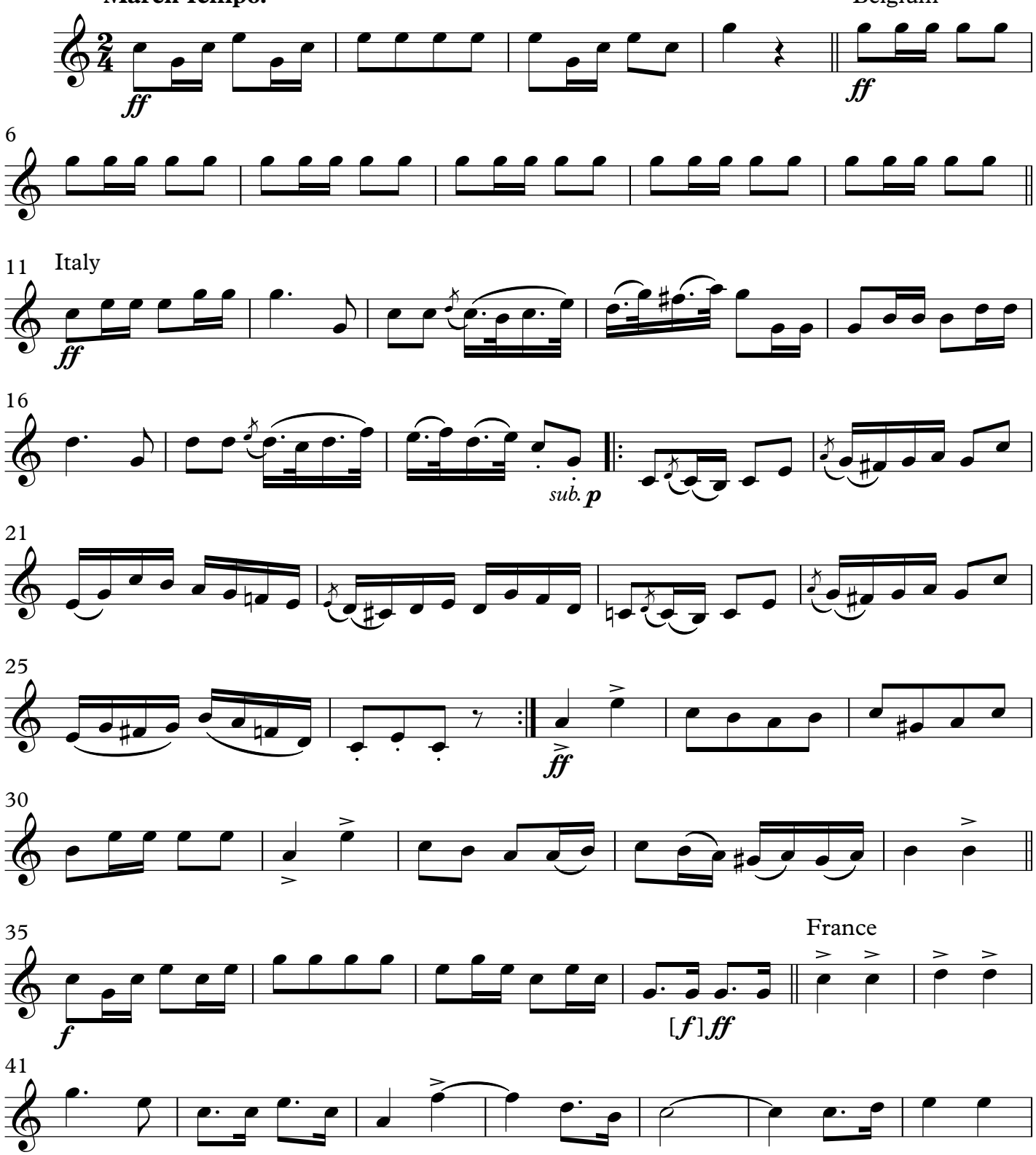
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

Solo B♭ Cornet

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band

48

ff

56

Great Britain

[ ]

p

62

69

79

America

f

87

[tacet]

p espr.

97

[Play]

ff

105

112

[–]

March

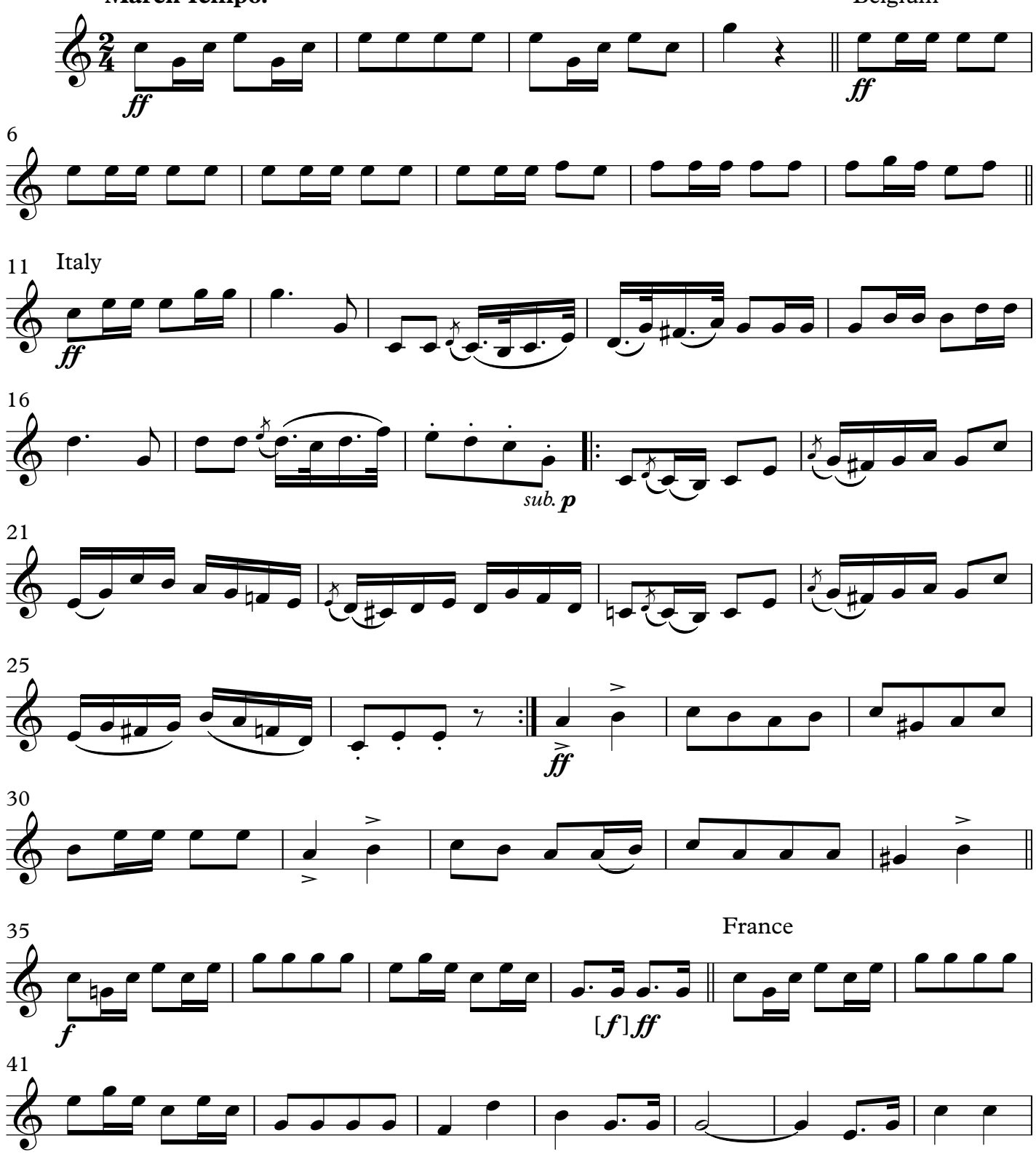
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

1st B♭ Cornet

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band

48

ff

56

Great Britain

[ ]

p

62

69

79

America

f

87

[tacet]

p espr.

97

[Play]

ff

105

112

[–]

March

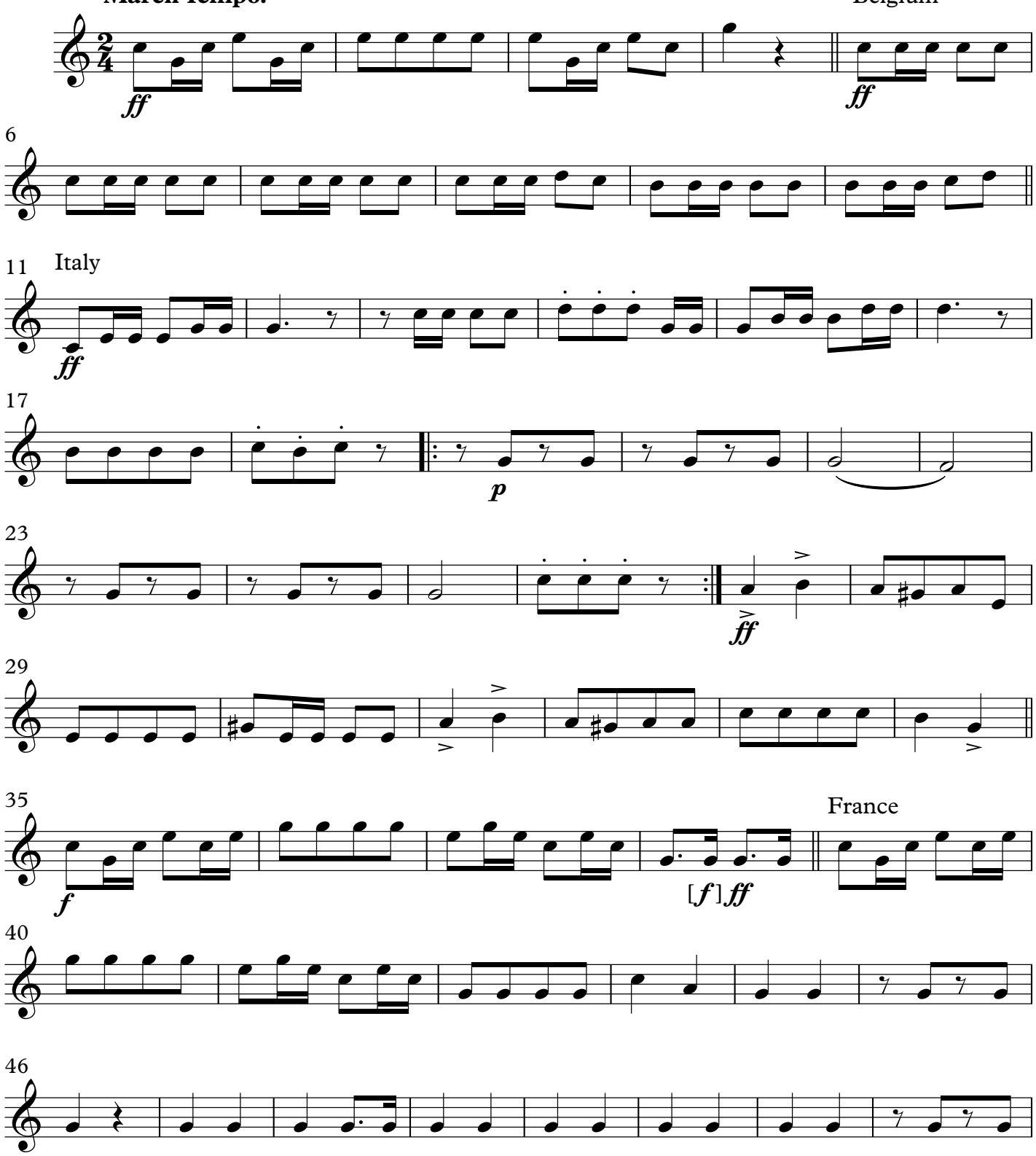
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

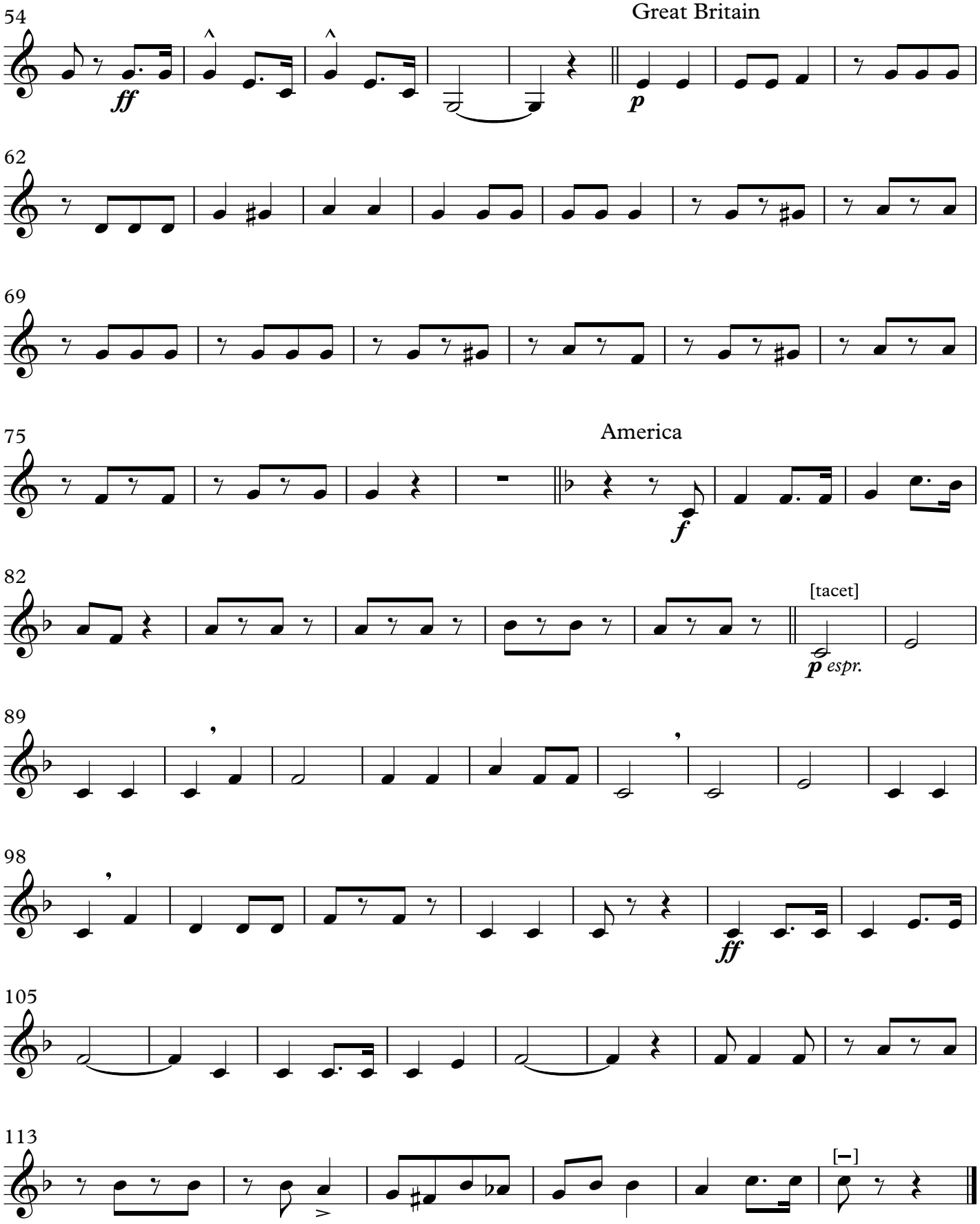
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

2nd B♭ Cornet

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


54
Great Britain
ff
p
62
69
75
America
f
82
[tacet]
p espr.
89
98
ff
105
113
[–]

March

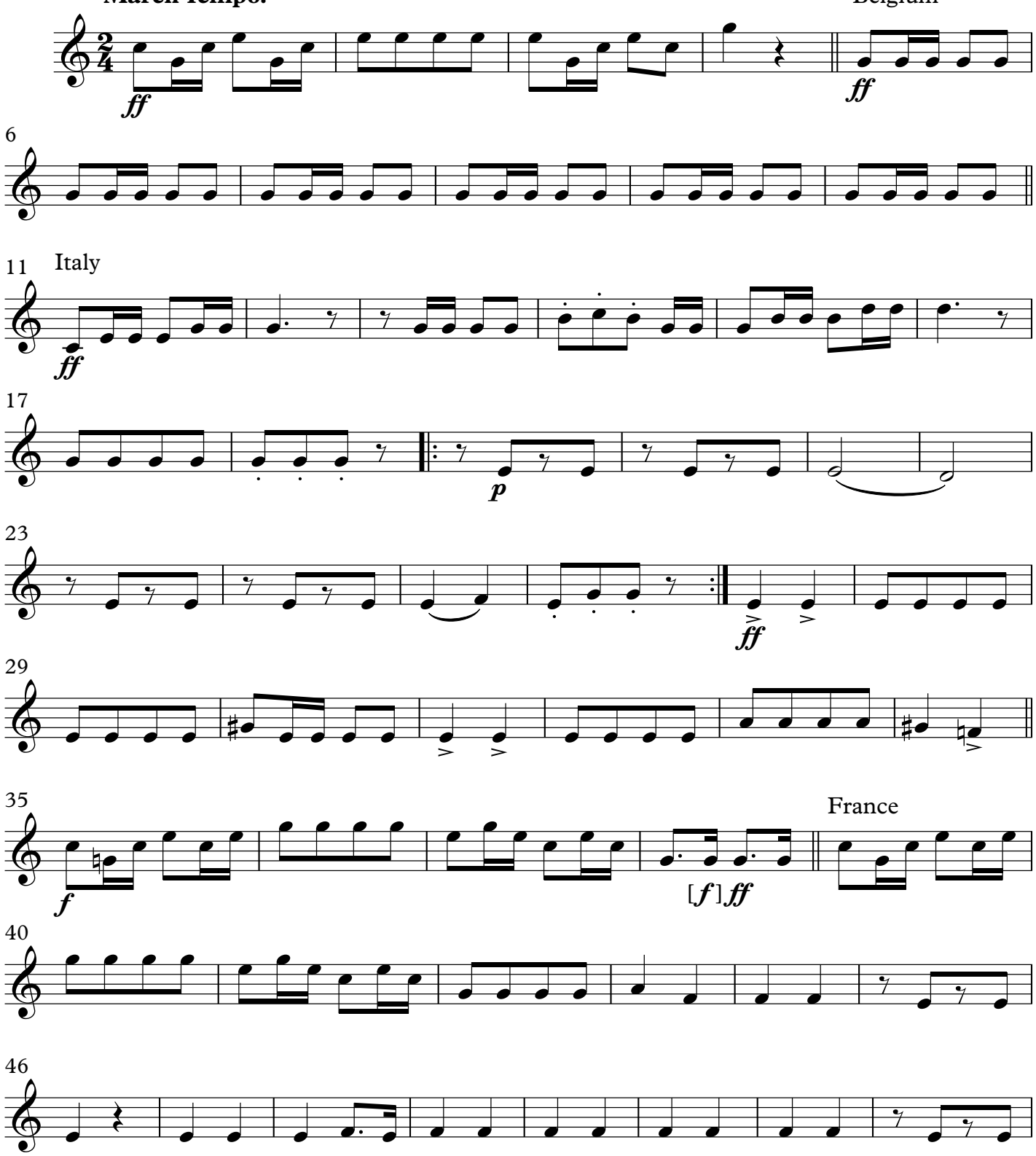
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

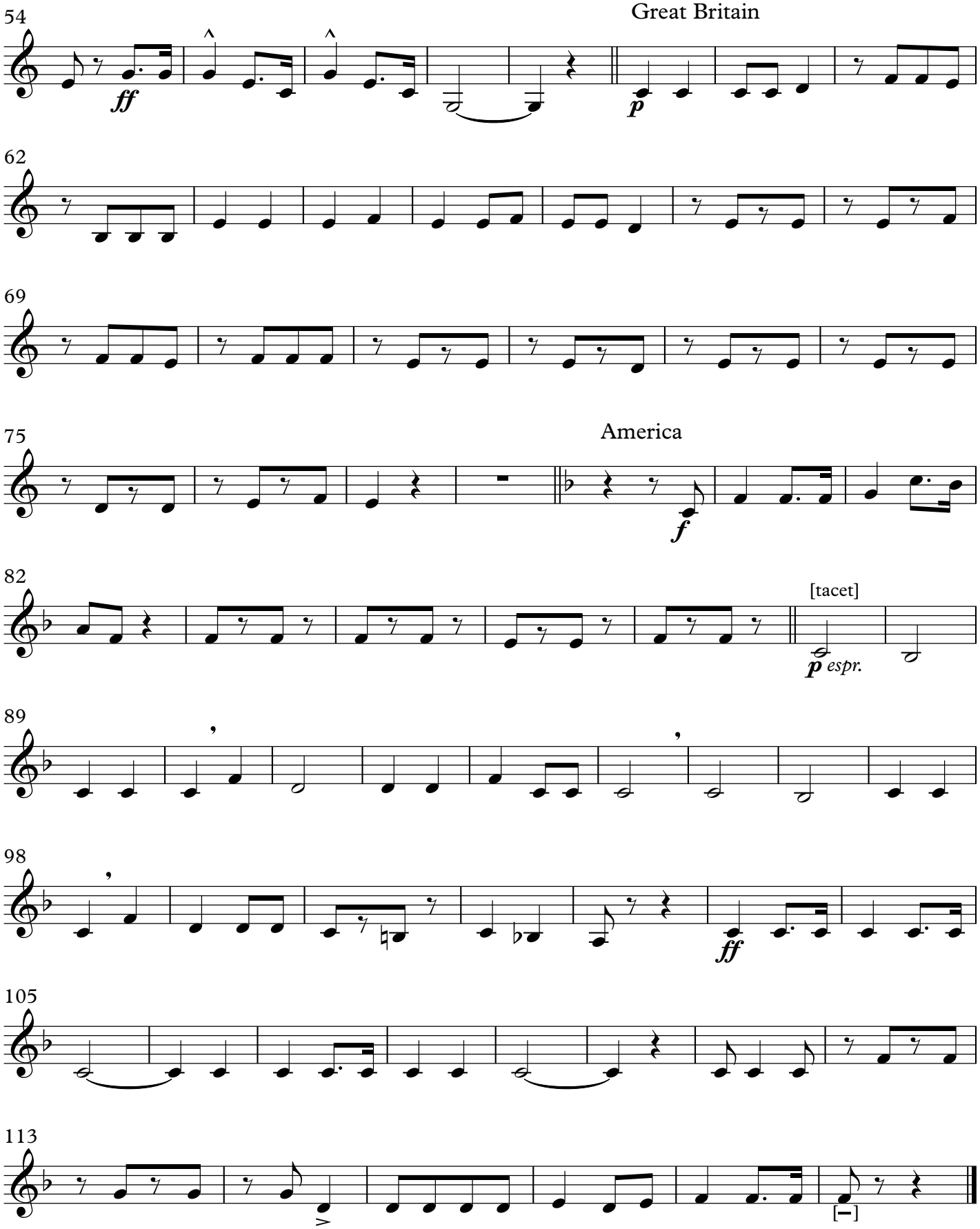
3rd B♭ Cornet

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band


54
Great Britain
ff
p
62
69
75
America
f
82
[tacet]
p espr.
89
98
ff
105
113
[–]

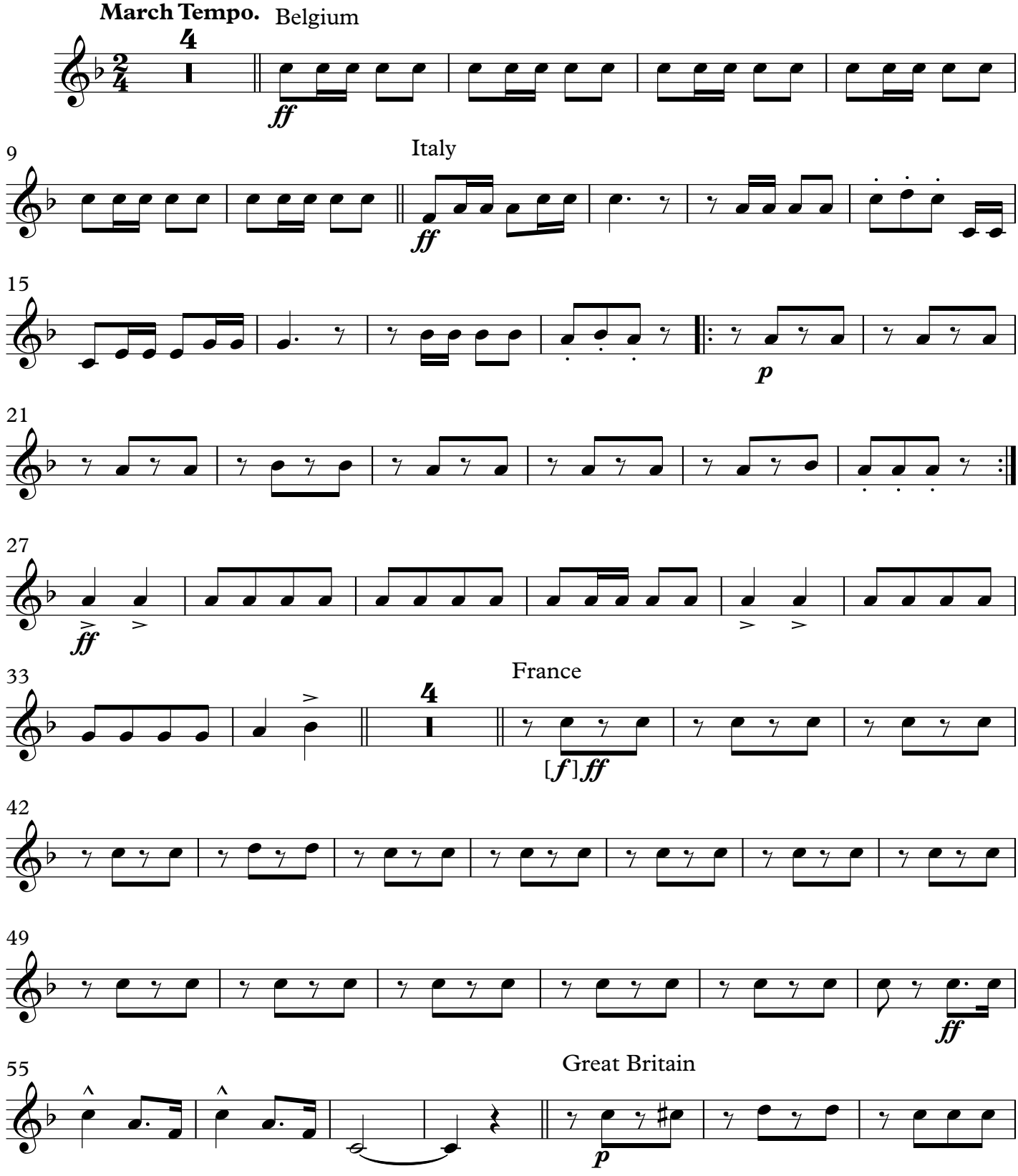
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

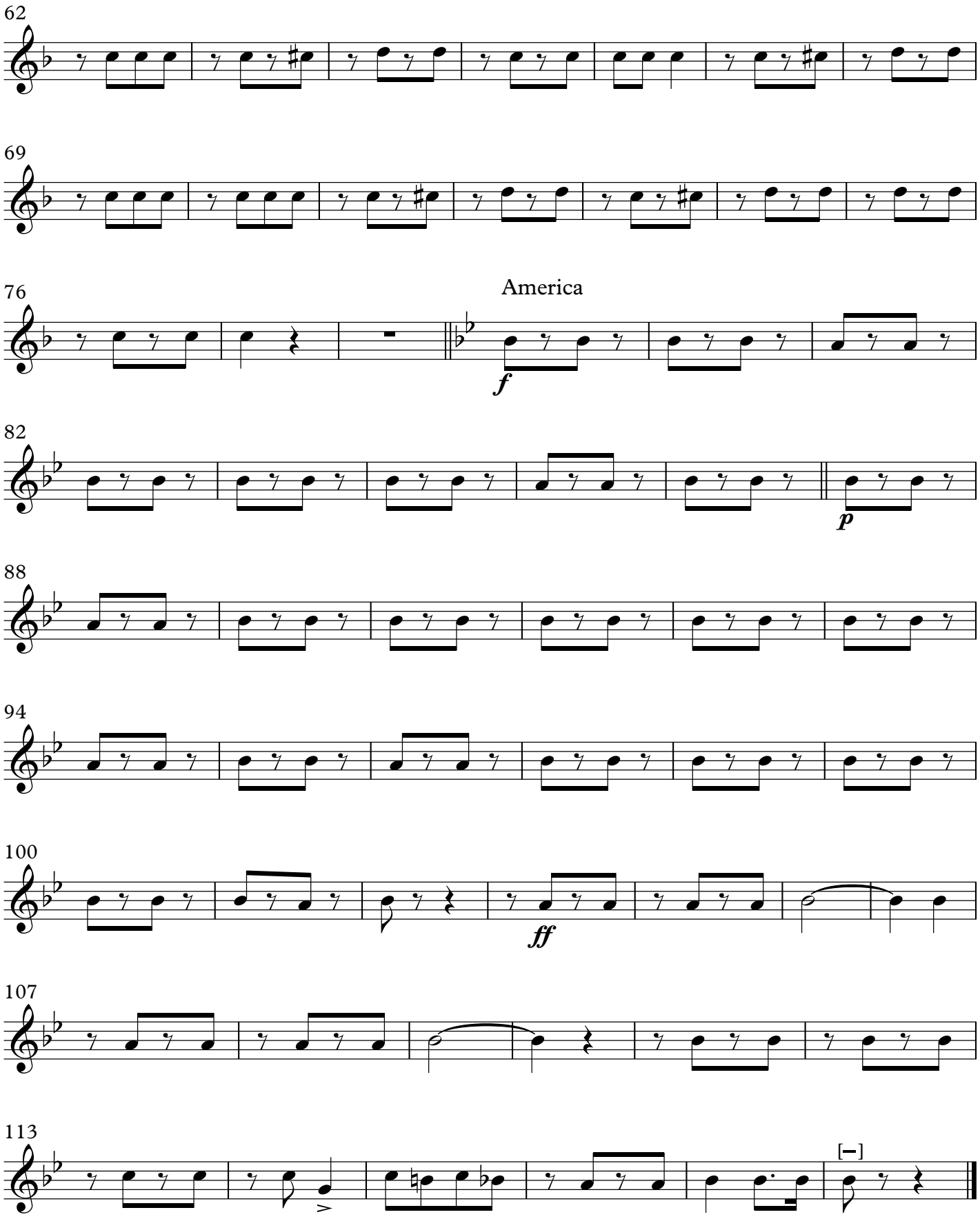
(1918)

1st F Horn

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


62
69
76
America
f
82
p
88
94
100
ff
107
113
[–]

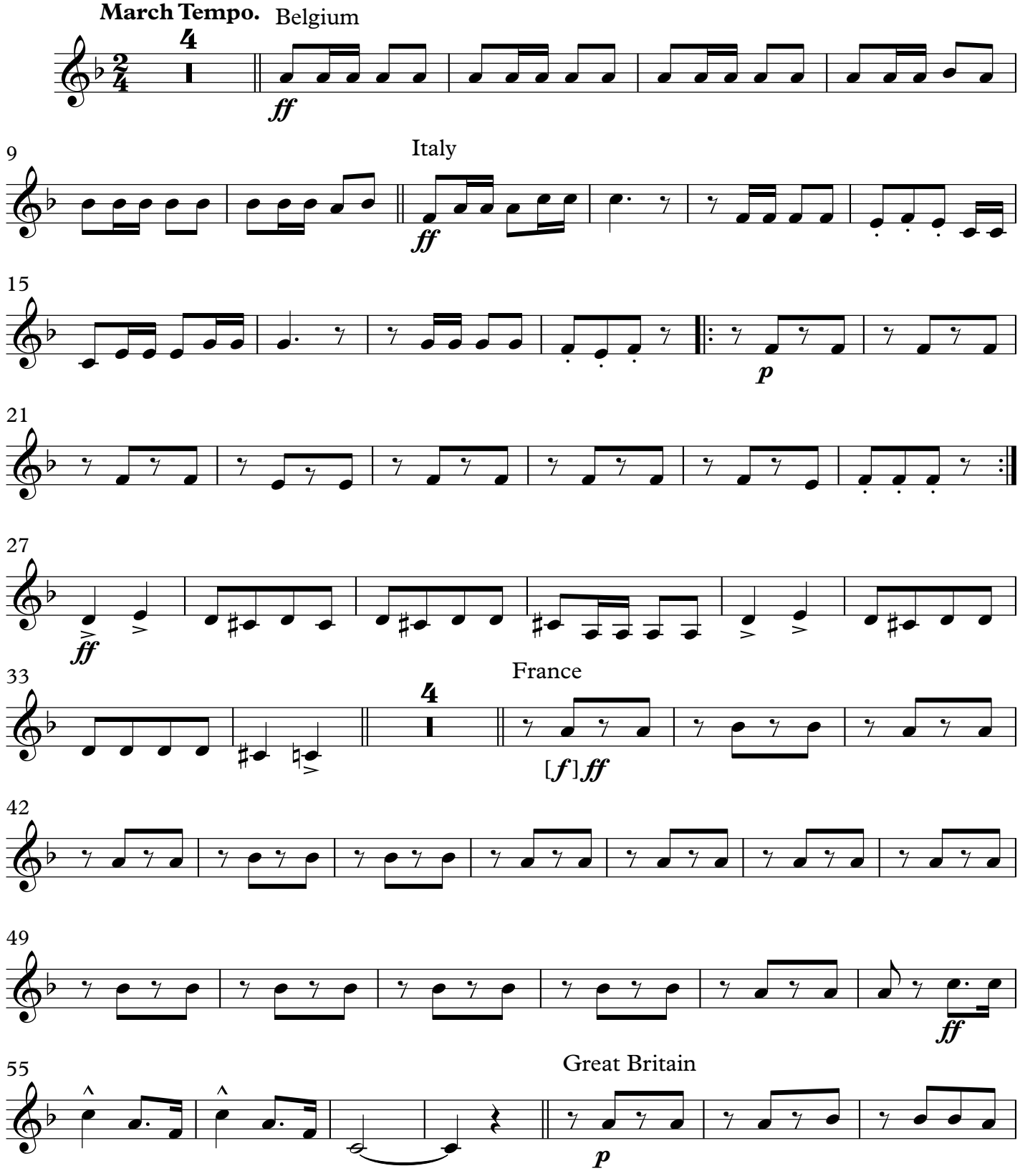
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

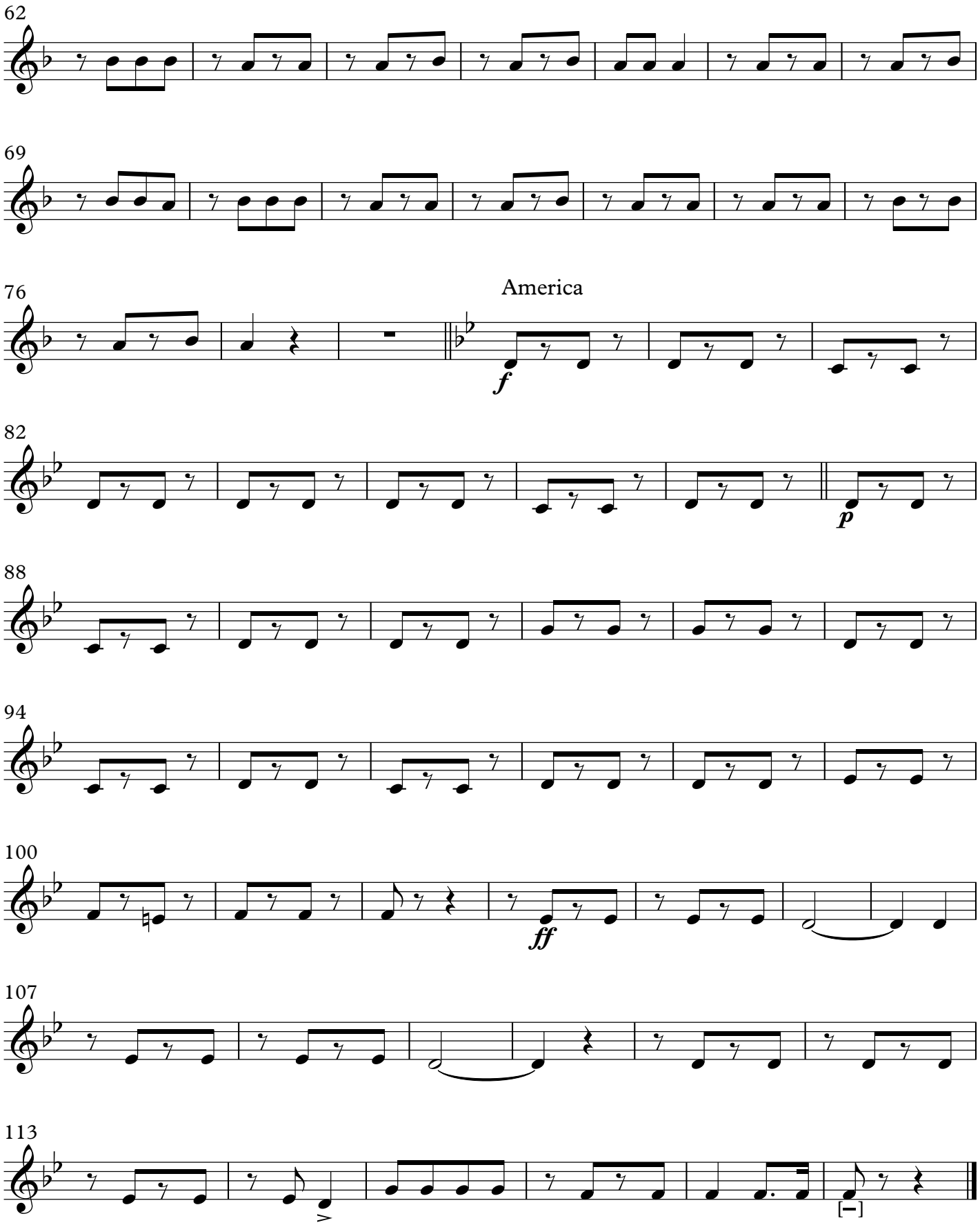
(1918)

2nd F Horn

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


62
69
76
America
f
82
p
88
94
100
ff
107
113

March

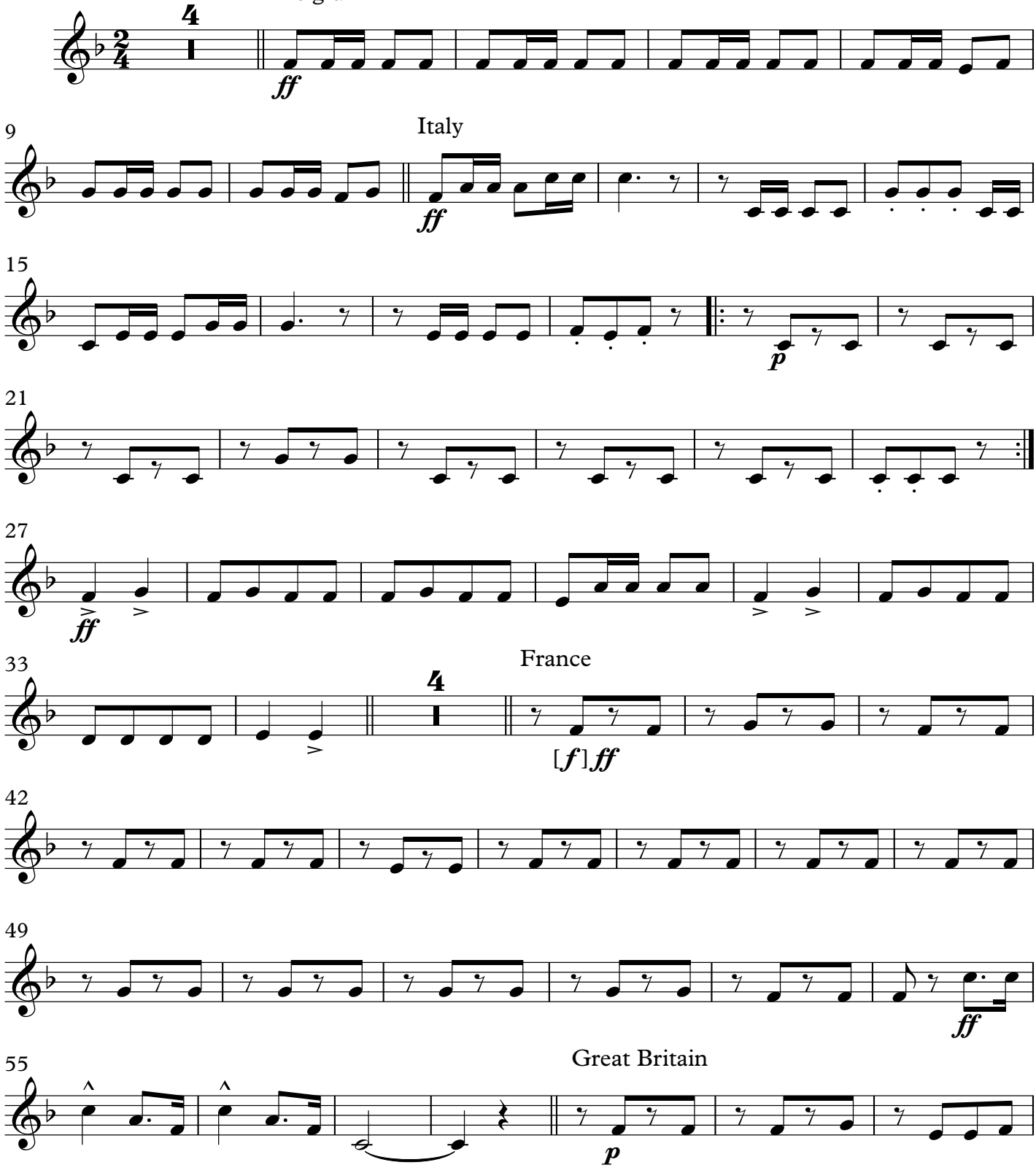
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

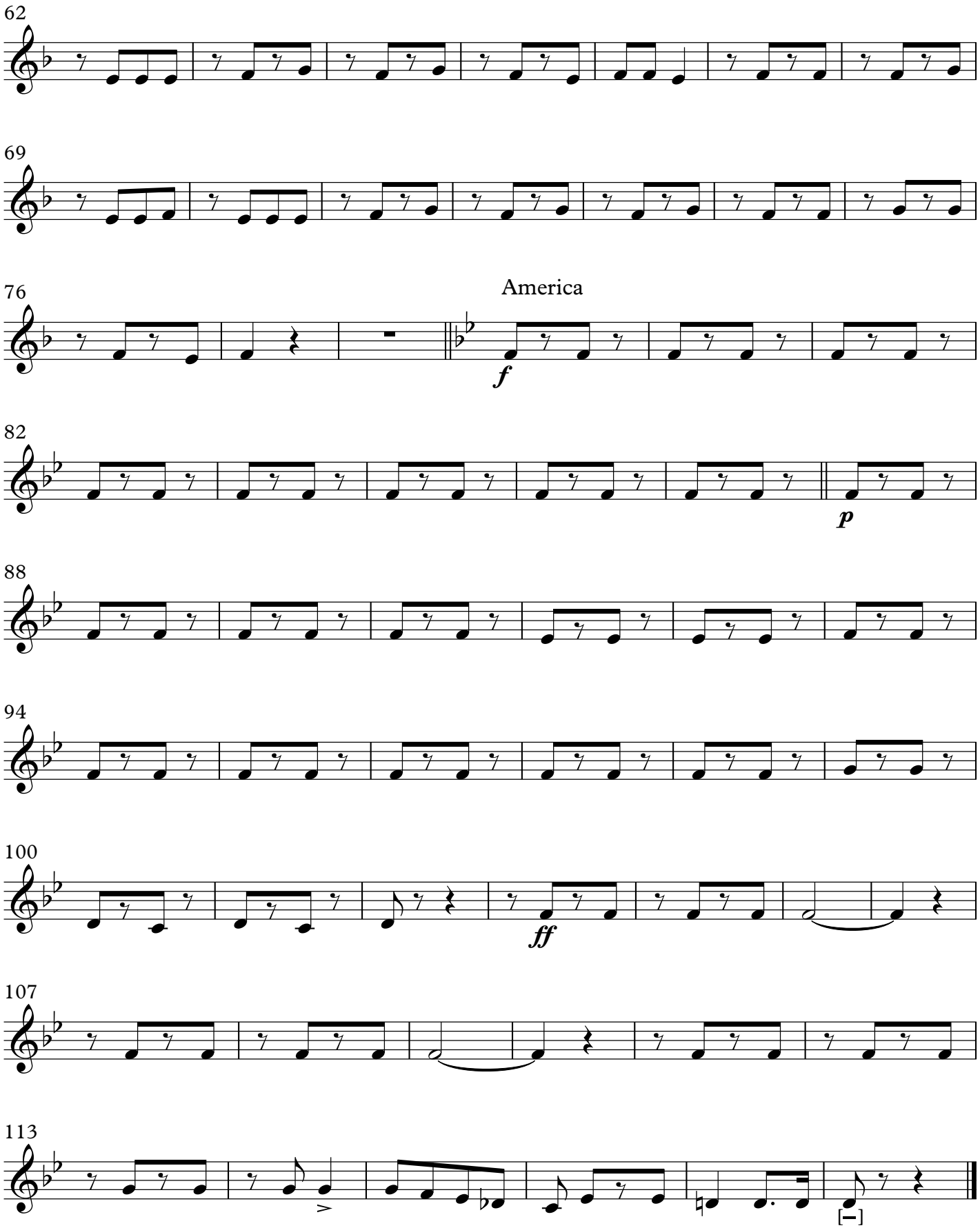
3rd F Horn

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo. Belgium



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


62
69
76
America
f
82
p
88
94
100
ff
107
113

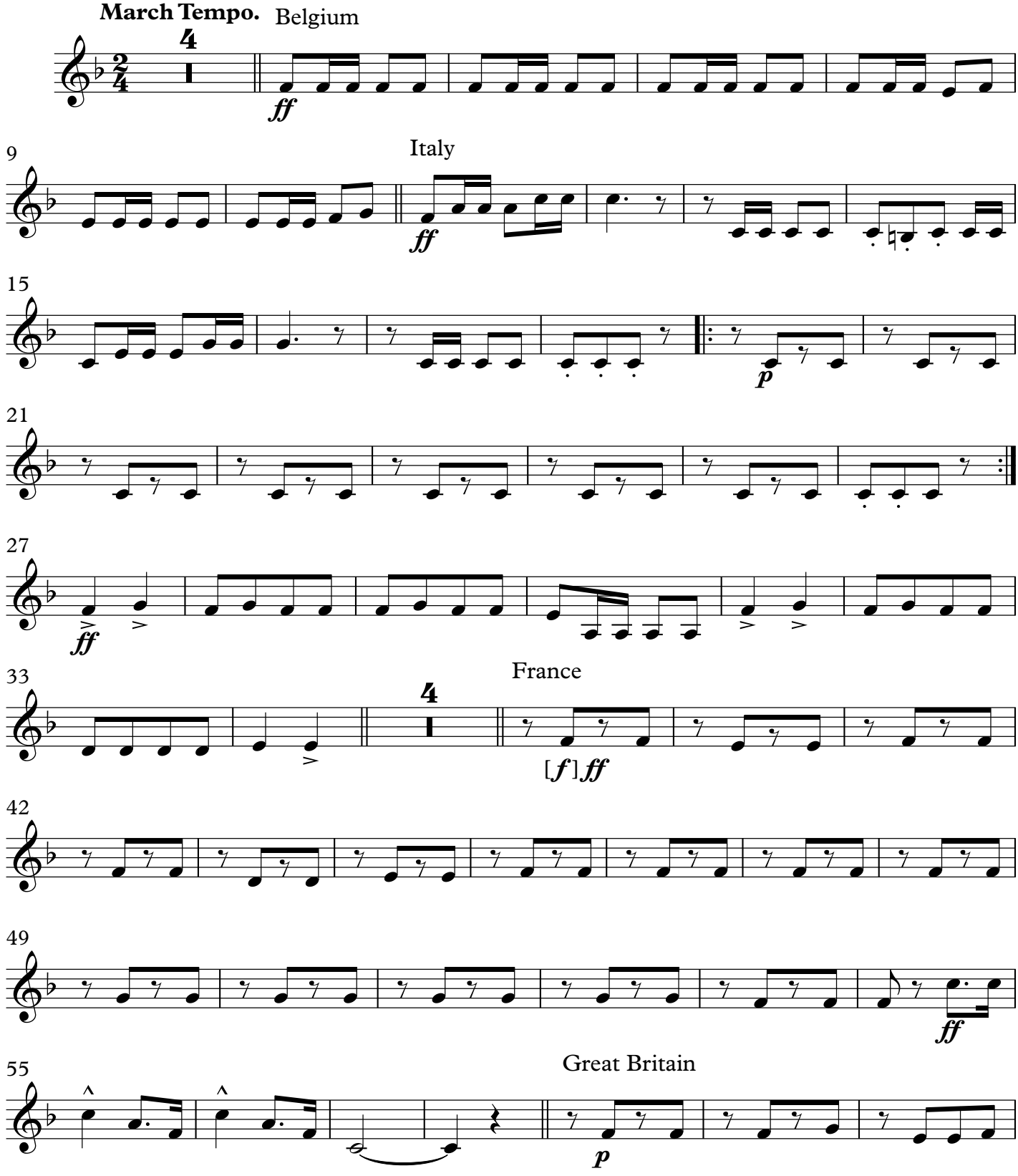
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

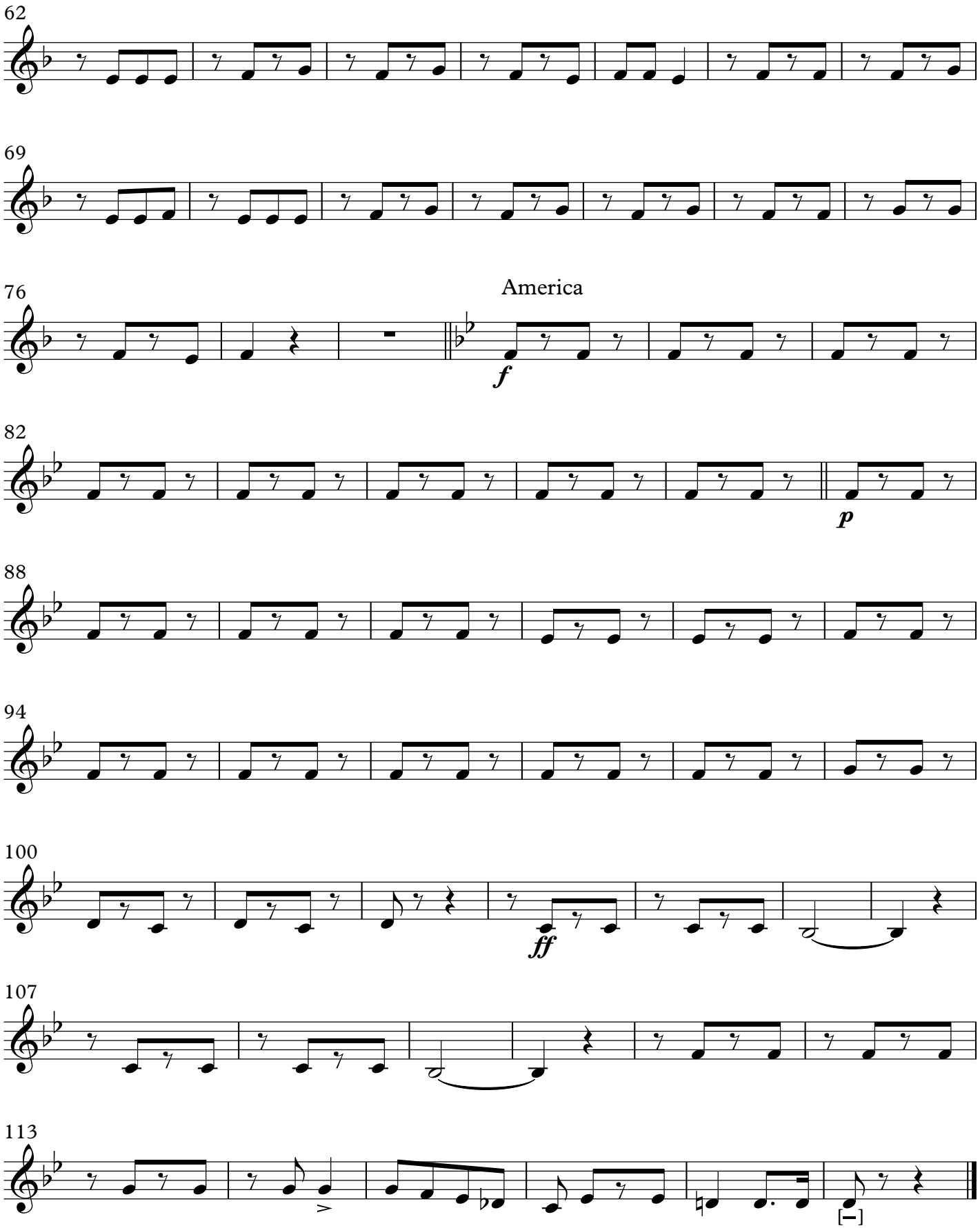
(1918)

4th F Horn

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


62
69
76
America
f
82
p
88
94
100
ff
107
113

March

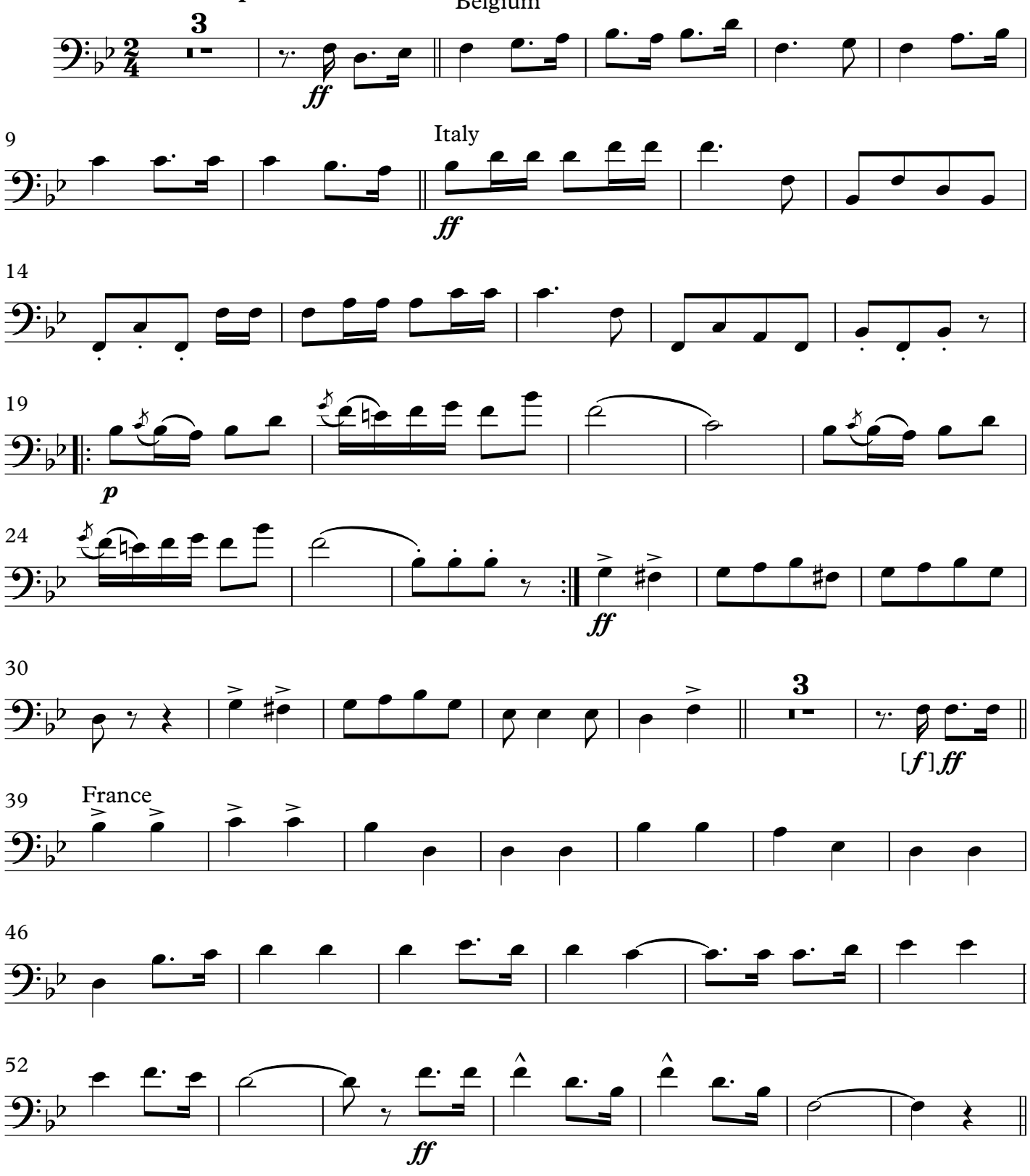
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

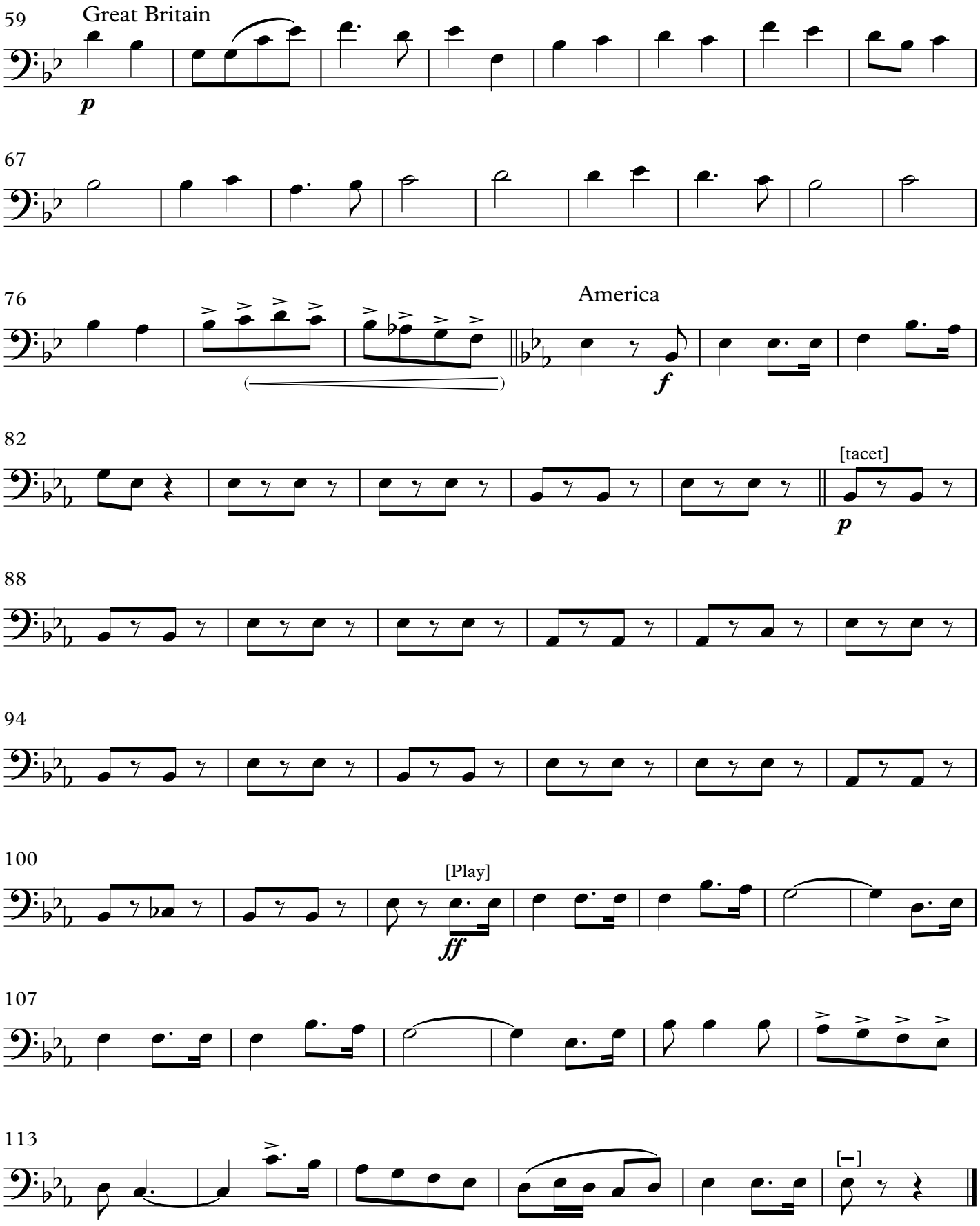
Baritone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
67
76
America
f
82
[tacet]
p
88
94
100
[Play]
ff
107
113
[–]

March

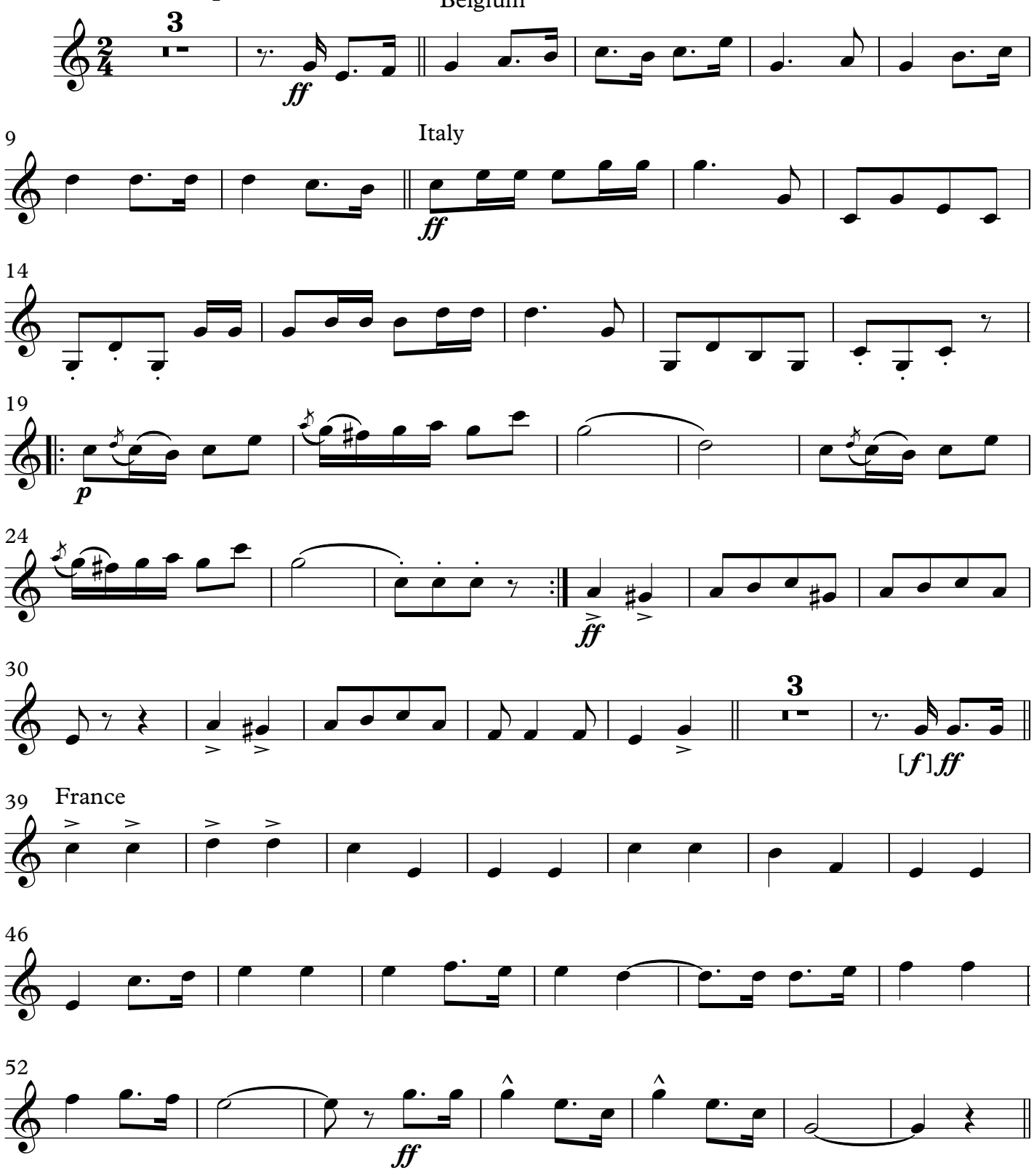
FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

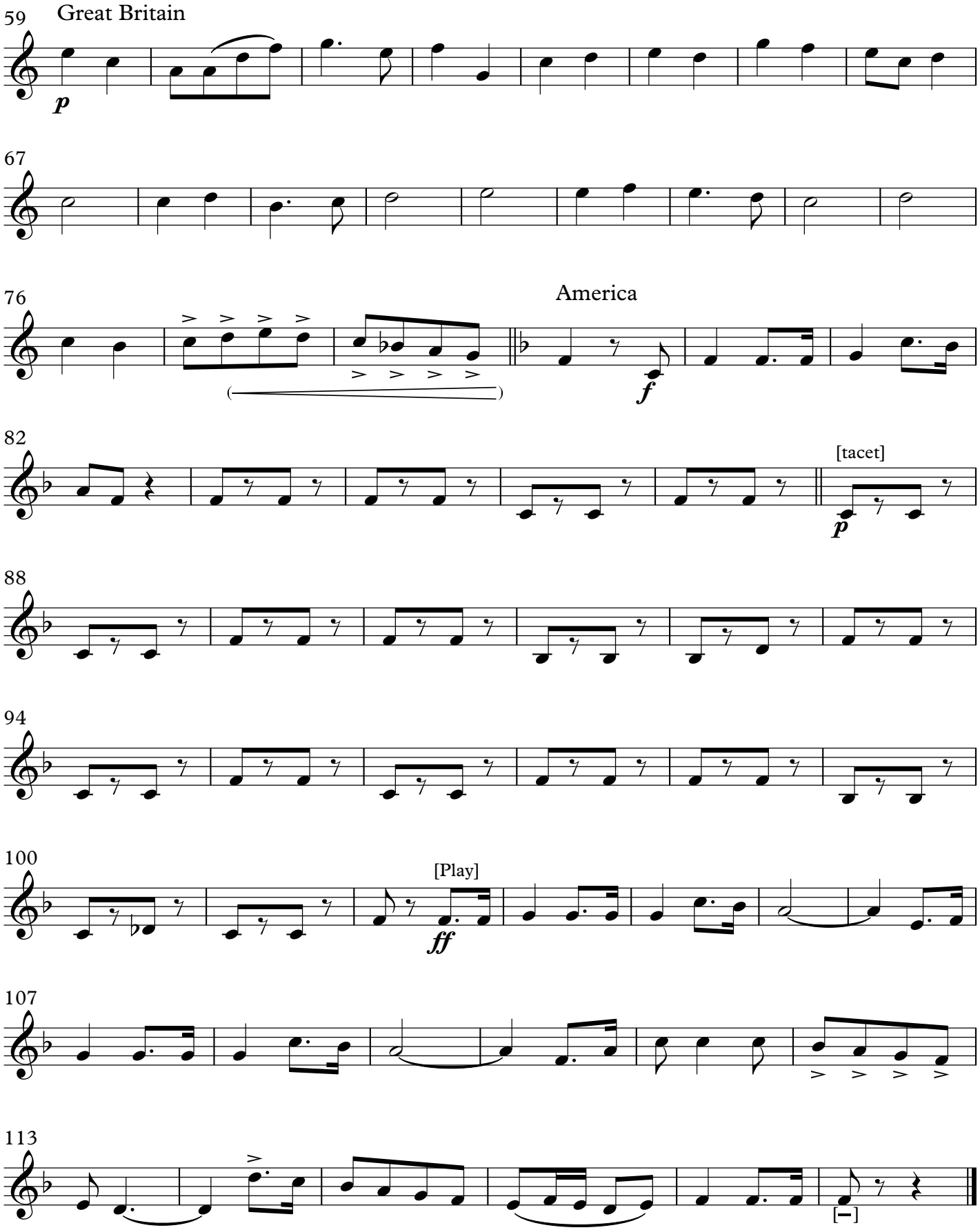
Baritone, T.C.

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA

March Tempo.



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
67
76
America
f
82
[tacet]
p
88
94
100
[Play]
ff
107
113
[–]

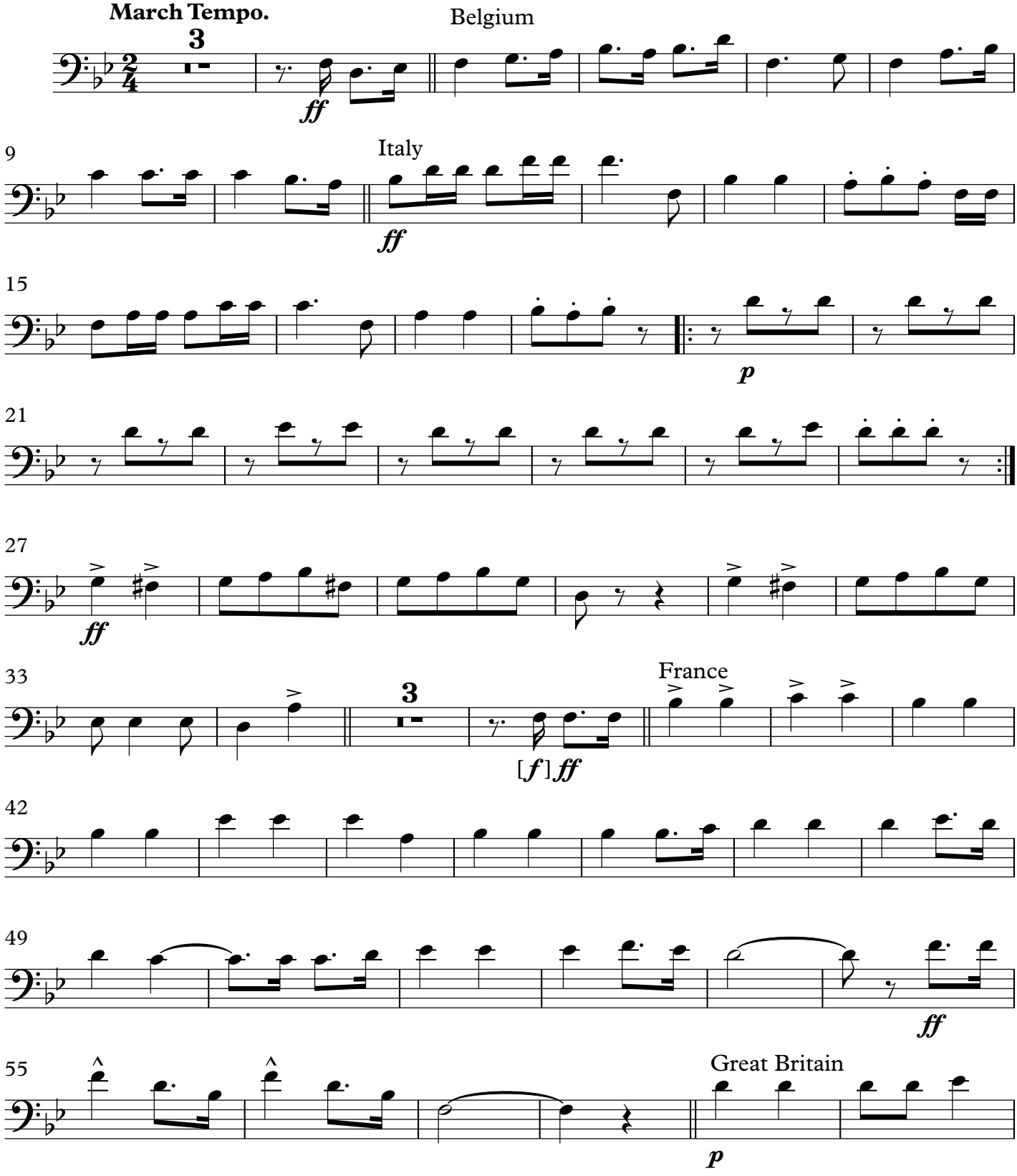
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

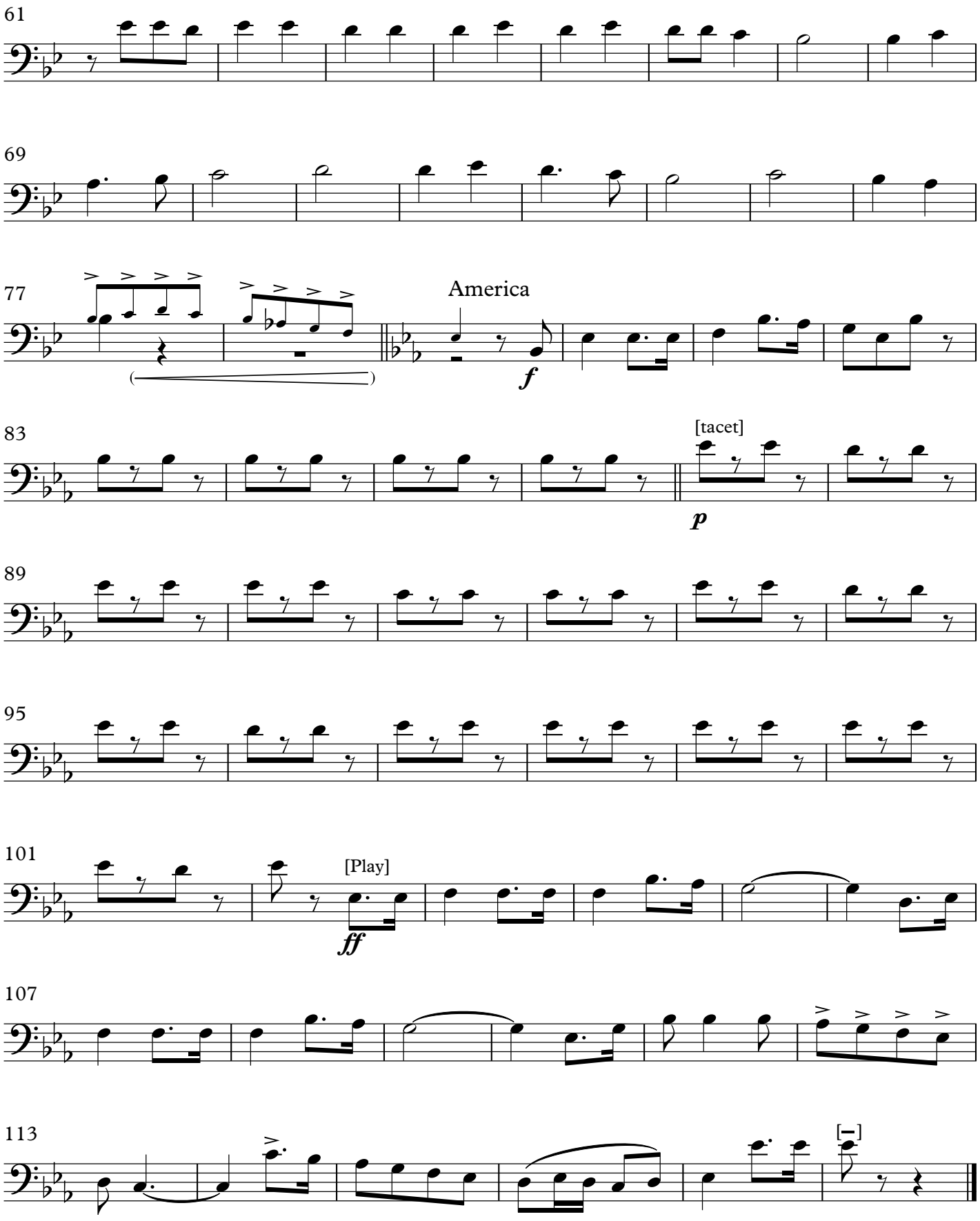
(1918)

1st Trombone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


61
69
77
America
f
83
[tacet]
p
89
95
101
[Play]
ff
107
113
[–]

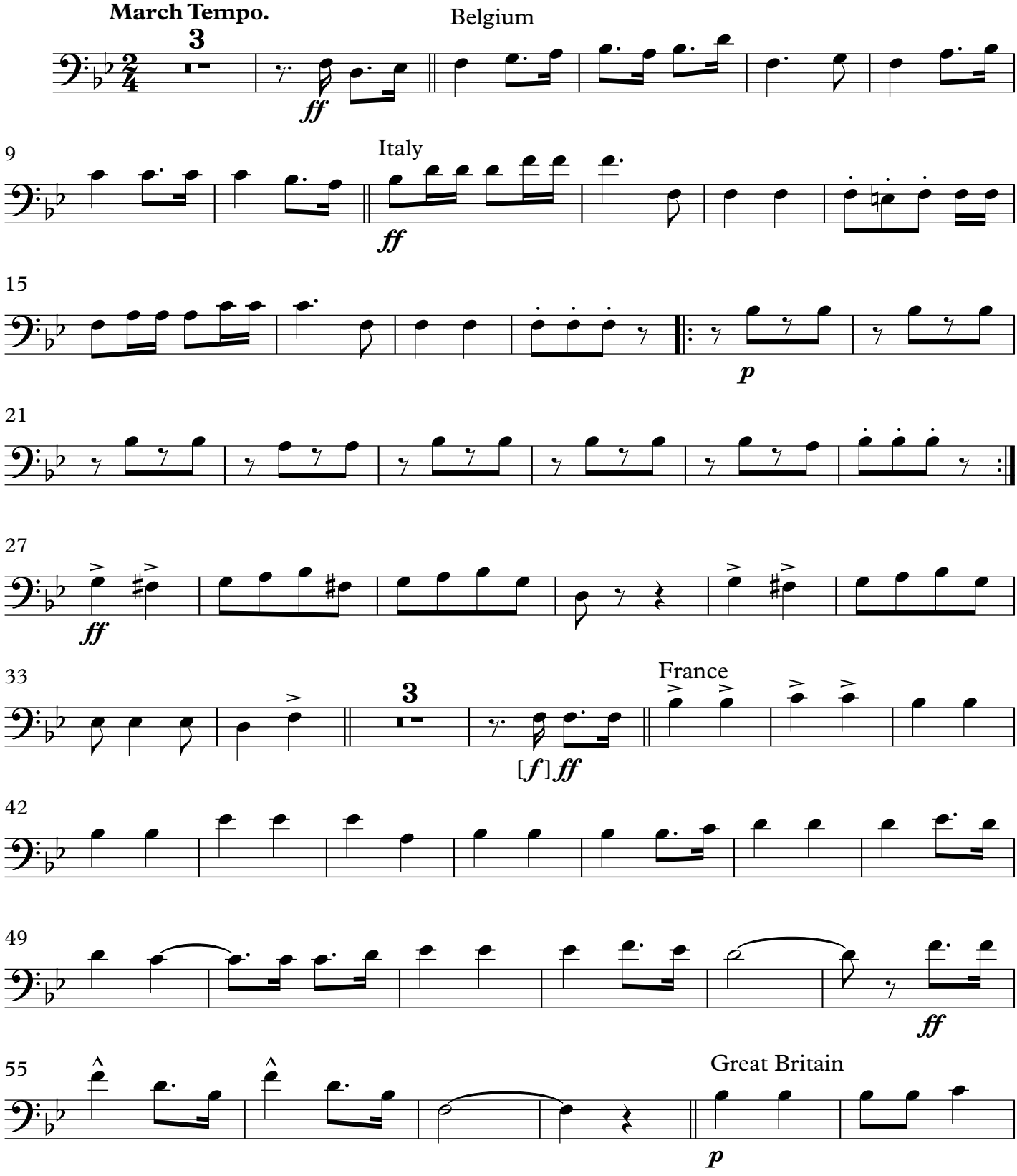
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

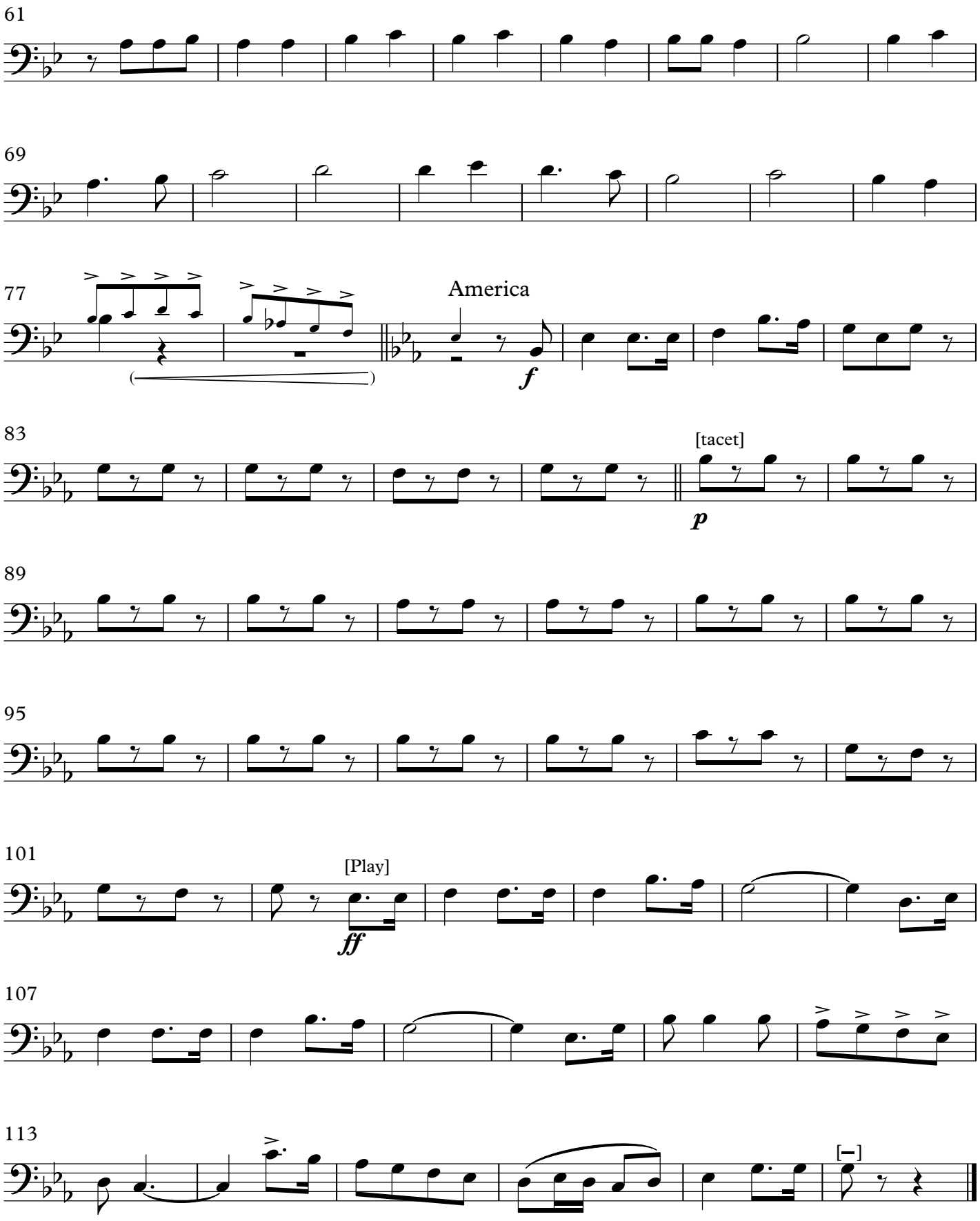
(1918)

2nd Trombone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


61
69
77
America
f
83
[tacet]
p
89
95
101
[Play]
ff
107
113
[–]

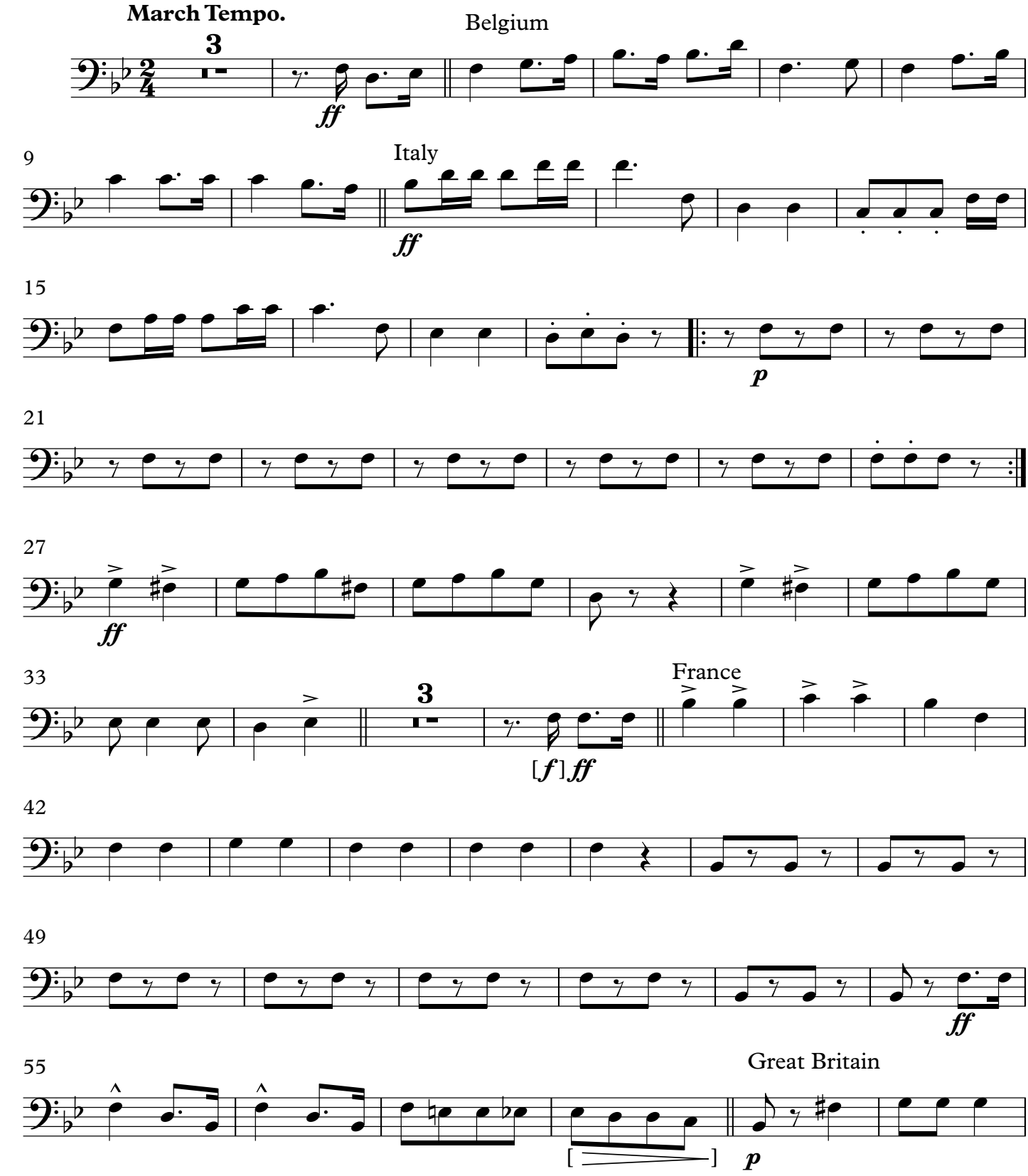
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

(1918)

Bass Trombone

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band

61

69

77

America

f

82

[tacet]

p

88

94

100

ff

106

113

[–]

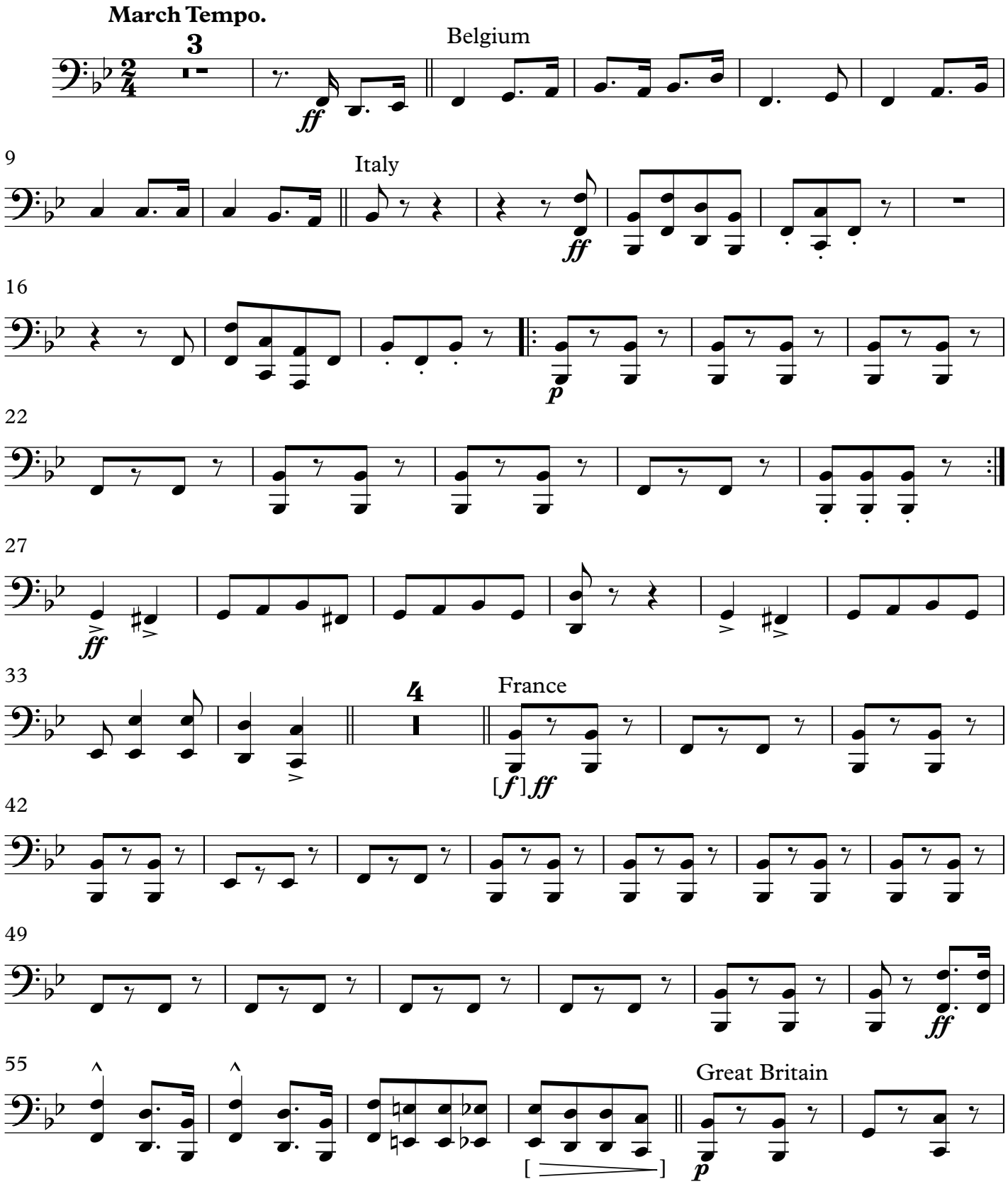
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

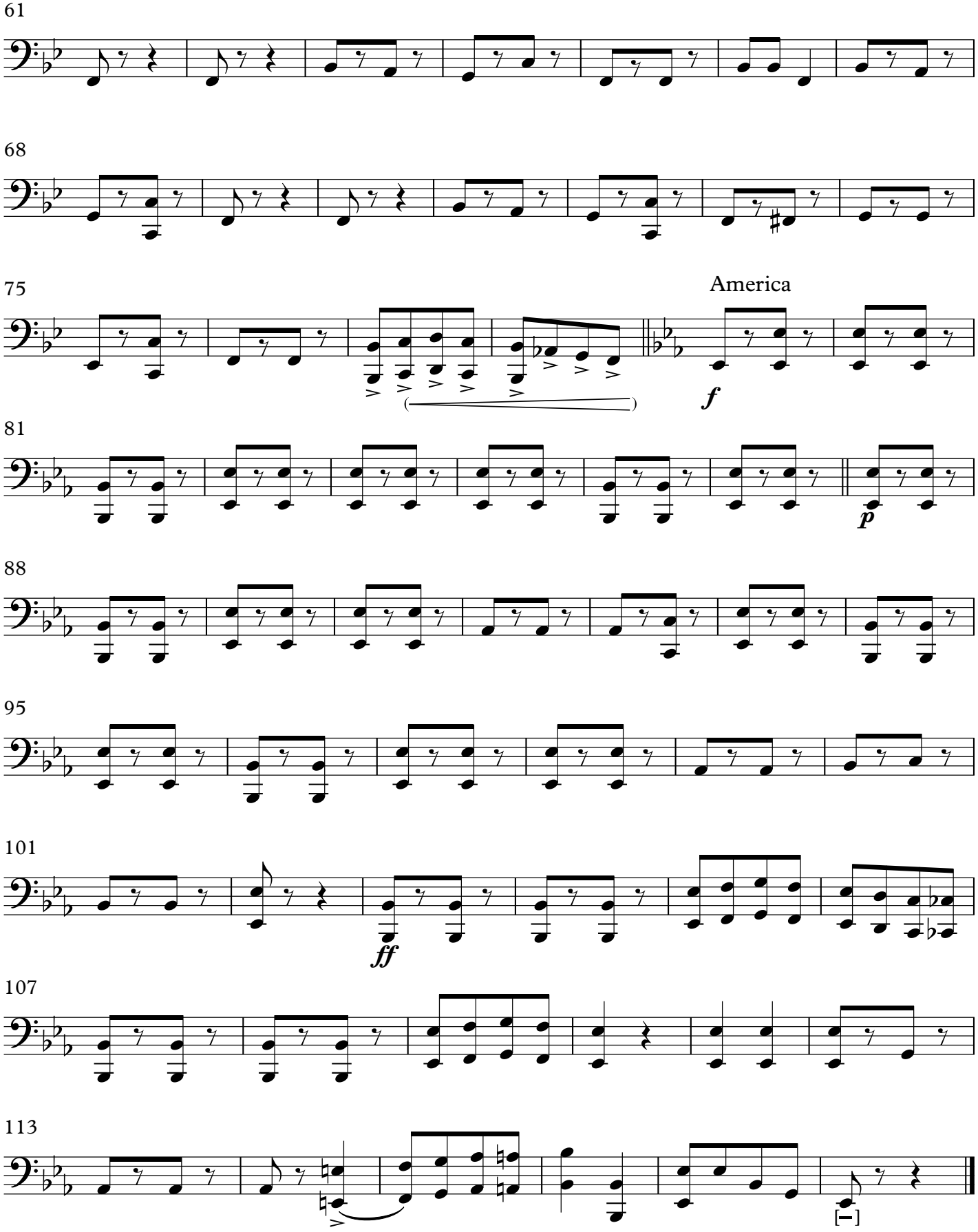
(1918)

Tuba

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


61
68
75
America
f
81
p
88
95
101
ff
107
113

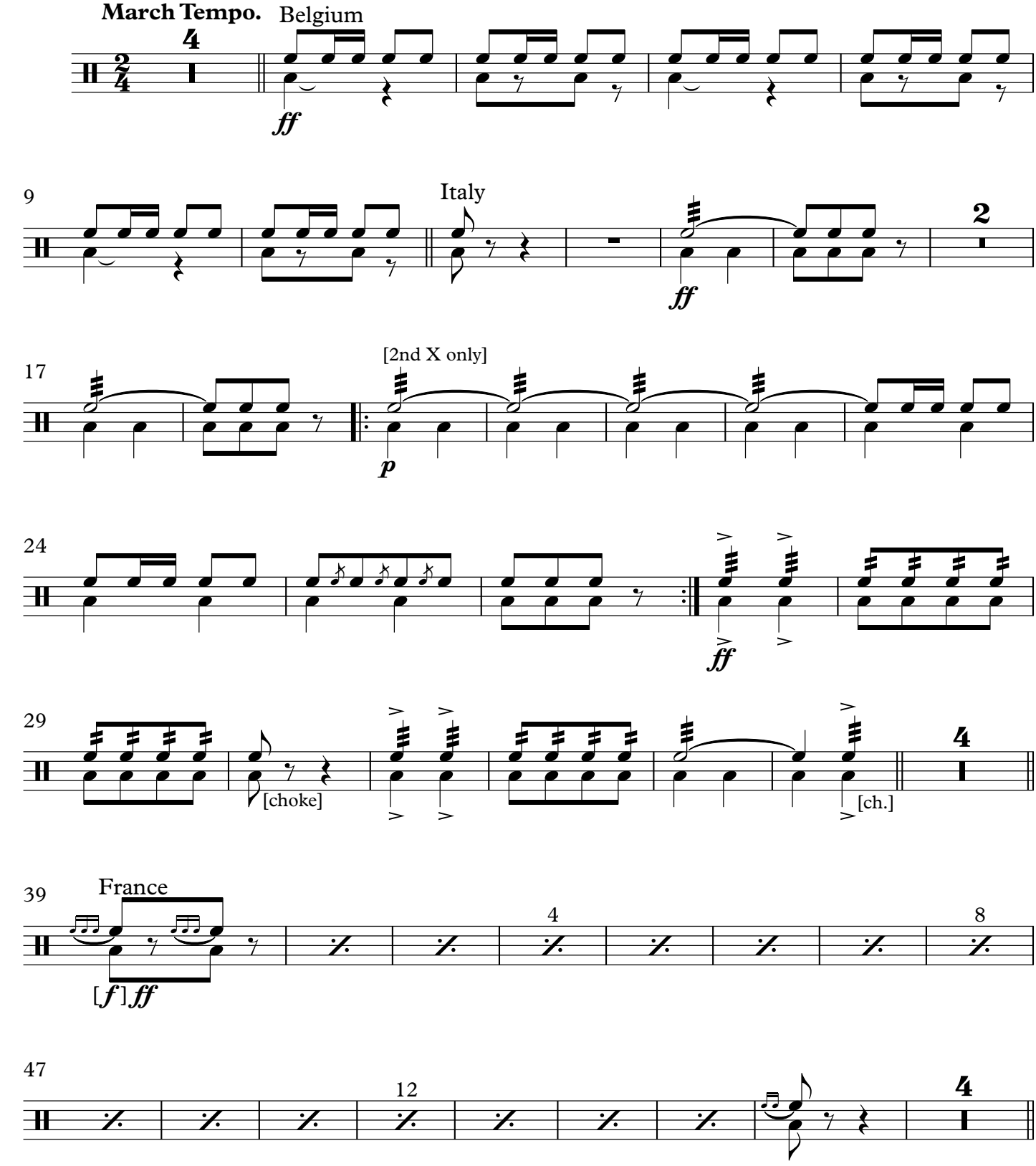
March

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

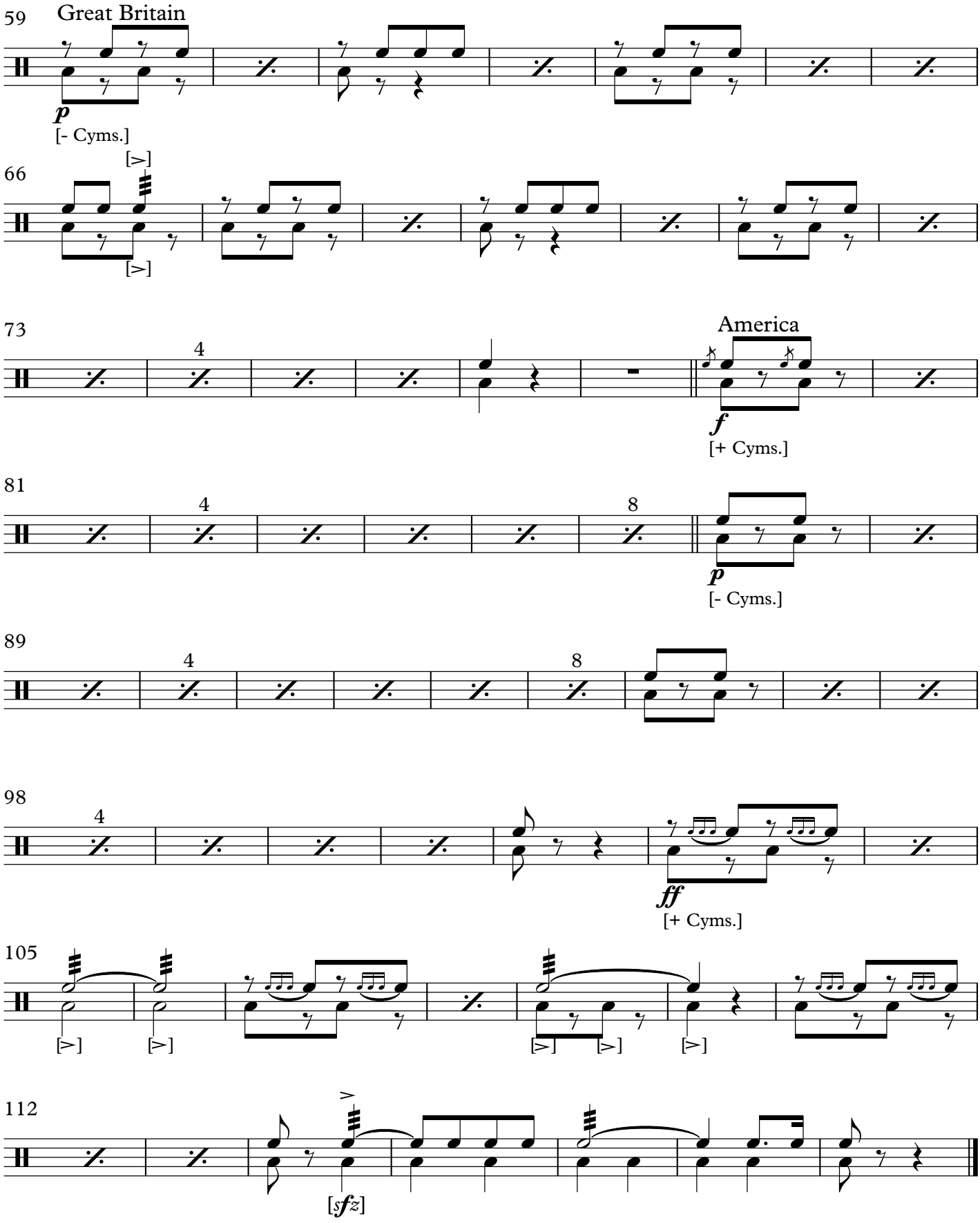
(1918)

Drums

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



This Edition in the Public Domain - 2019
As played by “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band


59
Great Britain
p
[- Cyms.]
66
[>]
[>]
73
4
America
f
[+ Cyms.]
81
4
8
p
[- Cyms.]
89
4
8
98
4
ff
[+ Cyms.]
105
[>]
[>]
[>]
[>]
[>]
112
[sfz]