

July 8 '92

Dear Sgt. Villanueva

In reply to yours of June 22, 1992, I am flattered that you know so much about the humble TAPS and its performers. Your letter was forwarded to our summer address in Lovell, Maine.

I retired with 20 years from the U. S. Army Band (Ft. Myers, VA) in 1966, teaching at Houghton (NY) College until another retirement in 1980. We moved to Florida - Ft. Myers - in 1981 and 1988 to Ft. Pierce, FL. I <sup>have</sup> taught part-time at Edison College (FL) and Indian River Community College since 1981. Presently I play first trumpet in the Treasure Coast Symphony and the Atlantic Classical Orchestra (professional chamber orch.).

We purchased a part of my daughter's farm on Lake Keyas where we spend our summers.

Gustav F. Heim built a music camp here in 1920's. Perhaps you have seen the Halton-Heim mouthpiece. I did a history of the trumpet players of the Boston Sym. 1881-1978 in International Trumpet Guild Quarterly that summarizes his playing career.

Regarding your questions: Everything in the Wm Manchester book is factual. In November 1988 The West Palm Beach (FL) paper flew myself, a reporter and photographer to Arlington VA for a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary feature of Kennedy's

Tragic death. Two summers ago I was invited to play a solo with the U.S. Army Band; Capitol Steps concert, June 6, 1990 - this 24 years after my retirement.

While I was in high school in Grand Rapids, MI, I took a few lessons from Harry Glantz in N.Y. City. He was what Paul Hesseck is to the trumpet world today. H. G. was 1st Tr., Philadelphia Orch (at 19) 1915-1918; U.S. Marine Band 1918-19; N.Y. Symphony (Damrosch) 1919-22; San Francisco Sym. Orch (1922-23, N.Y. Philharmonic 1923-42; NBC Symphony (Arturo Toscanini) 1942-54. My concepts of tone, style and musicianship were much influenced by his playing. Incidentally he recorded the bugle calls (TAPS) in ca. 1931.

I let words guide my style of playing TAPS

Jesus saves;  
Jesus saves,  
Praise the Lord  
" " "

Jesus saves!  
He is God,  
He is Lord;  
Jesus saves.

Several of my trumpet pupils have played with three of official Washington Bands. I was stationed with the then U.S. Army Air Force Band, Bolling Field, from June 1946 - Jan. 1947. David Sapp, pupil 1952-57, just retired from Marine Band, 8th & Eye St., last March.

Good luck in your search for answers about  
TAPS. Perhaps there is no "correct" way to  
play TAPS. Its history is just as contradictory  
as its "true" rhythms.

I feel the thought behind the playing and  
the feeling used in its performance are the  
most important parts of each sounding  
of TAPS.

Sincerely yours,  
Keith C. Clark