

## Modern-Day “Taps”

*Andante* ♩=42



*mf*

The musical notation for Modern-Day Taps is written on a single staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked *Andante* with a quarter note equal to 42 beats per minute (♩=42). The dynamic is marked *mf*. The melody consists of eight measures: four eighth notes (G4, A4, B4, C5), a dotted quarter note (D5), a quarter note (E5), a quarter note (F5), a quarter note (G5), a quarter note (F5), a quarter note (E5), and a quarter note (D5). The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The signal to extinguish all lights and cease talking, this is the call as it is sounded at Arlington National Cemetery. It is used today as the final call of the day on U.S. military bases world-wide and as honors at funerals, memorial services, and wreath-laying services. When sounded at a funeral or memorial service, military members should render the hand salute and civilians should place their right hand over their heart

## “Echo Taps”



The musical notation for Echo Taps is presented in two systems, each with two staves. The first system shows the first four measures. The top staff contains the melody, and the bottom staff contains the accompaniment. The second system shows the final four measures, including a double bar line and repeat dots. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings.

Echo Taps is a custom of sounding the call with two buglers standing at some distance apart to achieve an echo effect. Arlington National Cemetery does not permit it to be performed that way during services at the cemetery. This version was taken from the *U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps Manual* of 1959. Notice that it has the incorrect rhythms in the third and fourth measures. This version was dropped from later editions of the manual. Although a popular way of sounding Taps, this is not authorized by the U.S. military and not accepted as correct. This idea of sounding Echo Taps may have started right at the creation of the new call, when Union buglers played the tune for the first time at Harrison’s Landing (now Berkeley Plantation). Confederates across the James River repeated the new sound, thus introducing it into both armies. As the call grew in popularity, it was not uncommon to hear the sound of Taps being performed at the same time each evening by buglers in other companies, thereby giving an echo effect. The call is meant to be sounded by a solo bugler and really should be performed that way.