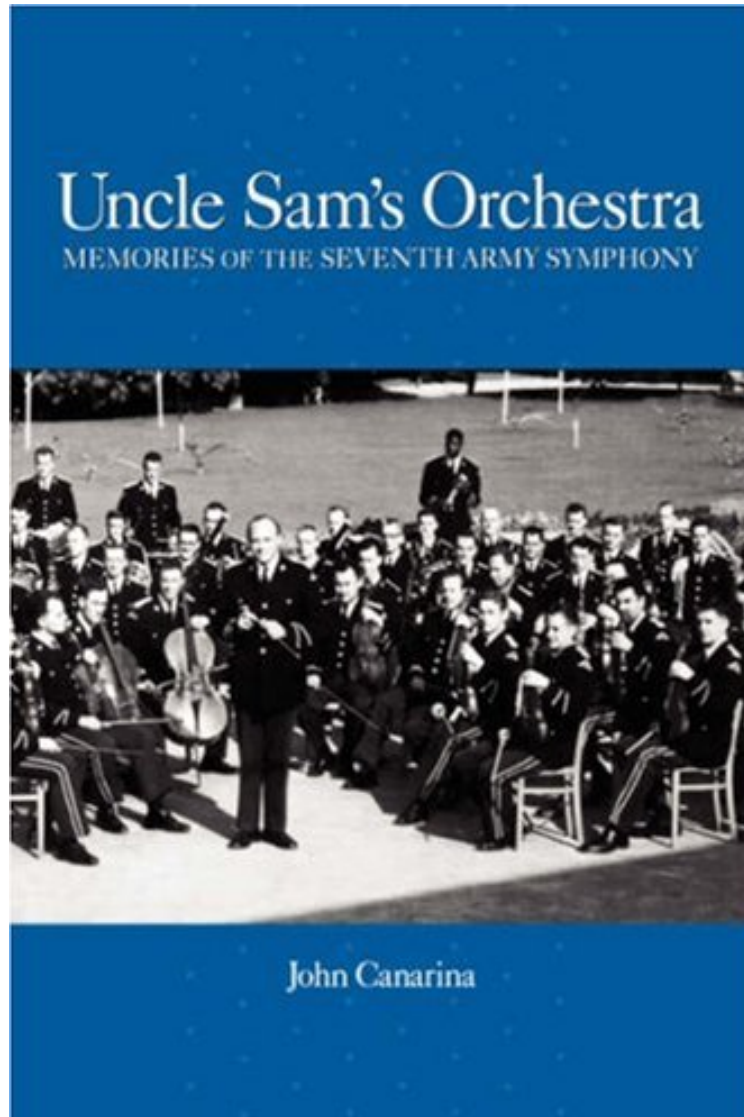


[Download] Uncle Sam's Orchestra: Memories of the Seventh Army Symphony

Uncle Sam's Orchestra: Memories of the Seventh Army Symphony

John Canarina

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John Canarina : Uncle Sam's Orchestra: Memories of the Seventh Army Symphony before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Uncle Sam's Orchestra: Memories of the Seventh Army Symphony:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A piece of HistoryBy Mark B AnstendigThis book is a fine piece of history. We forget the role of music in our war efforts and this documents an important part of that.Great for thumbing through. The seriousness is affecting. And the research is awesome. It fills an important role.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beethoven and the M-1 RifleBy Dixie BobAs a former member of the 7th Army Band and

occasional performer with the Orchestra, I thoroughly enjoyed John's well written and factual book. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Uncle Sam's Orchestra review By Robert G. Rushford This was a great, review of the 7th Army Symphony Orchestra. I was a member of that orchestra from 1958-1960. John Canarina, who was the conductor when I left, did some excellent, time consuming research to get information on the preceding years accurately. The 7th Army Symphony Orchestra was the most anti military orchestra I'd ever imagine, even in those days. It was extremely funny, or in one word, hilarious. Here is a bunch of musicians who were drafted, all eager to get on with their personal careers, and all but one of us in an 80 piece orchestra was drafted. They kept us off our official base, which was located in Stuttgart Vaighingen, Germany, probably to avoid embarrassment to our commanding officers. I bought several copies of the book, one a personally autographed copy, to pass out to friends.

The United States once maintained a symphony orchestra, the Seventh Army Symphony, based in Stuttgart, Germany. Formed in 1952 as a public relations measure, it was intended to demonstrate to the Europeans, and the Germans in particular, that American soldiers were young men of culture capable of appreciating and performing the music of Beethoven, Brahms, and other great composers with feeling and understanding. In this the orchestra was extremely successful, touring repeatedly throughout (West) Germany, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, and the United Kingdom. In spite of the great acclaim and enthusiasm with which it was received throughout Europe, the orchestra encountered difficulty and some outright hostility from the U.S. Army itself, which did not quite know what to do with a symphony orchestra in its midst. Therefore, in addition to paying tribute to the important work the orchestra did in the field of cultural relations, this book chronicles the many humorous incidents that arose out of the perennial friction between the rather unmilitary orchestra and the "regular Army" personnel with whom it came in direct contact.

The book is a marvelous collection ... very humorous, extremely interesting and well written. --Allegro