

Protocol for National Anthems

Subject: Re: Protocol for order of National Anthems
Date: Thu, 25 Oct 2001 13:23:25 -0400 (EDT)
From: Music Specialists mdiv@loc.gov
To: Webmaster infoplus@ulster.net

I consulted with the staff of the libraries of the Army and Marine bands here in Washington, who stated that protocol dictates that the American national anthem is always played last in cases where more than one anthem is performed on the same occasion, and performed on American soil. In cases where more than one anthem of a foreign country is performed, these anthems would be performed in alphabetical order by name of country... all preceding the American national anthem, of course.

With best wishes,

Kevin LaVine
Music Librarian
Music Division, Library of Congress