

# The Decemberists, 16 Military Wives

Sixteen military wives  
Thirty-two softly focused, brightly colored eyes  
Staring at the natural tan  
Of thirty-two gently clenching wrinkled little hands

Seventeen company men  
Out of which only twelve will make it back again  
Sergeant sends a letter to five  
Military wives whose tears drip down from ten little eyes

Cheer them on to their rivals  
'Cause America can, and America can't say no  
And America does, if America says it's so, it's so!  
And the anchor person on TV, goes:  
La de da de da

Fifteen celebrity minds  
Leading their Fifteen sordid, wretched, checkered lives  
Will they find the solution in time  
Using their Fifteen pristine, moderate, liberal minds

Eighteen academy chairs  
Out of which only seven really even care  
Doling out the garland to five  
Celebrity minds, they're humbly taken by surprise

Cheer them on to their rivals  
'Cause America can, and America can't say no  
And America does, if America says it's so, it's so!  
And the anchor person on TV, goes:  
La de da de da, de di de da de da  
La de da de da, de di de da de da

Fourteen cannibal kings  
Wondering blithely what the dinner bell will bring  
Fifteen celebrity minds  
Served on a leafy bed of sixteen military wives

Cheer them on to their rivals  
Cause America can, and America can't say no  
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And the anchor person on TV, goes:  
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La de da de da, de di de da de da