

**Kenneth Joseph Alford** is a pseudonym taken by Major Fredrick Joseph Ricketts. As a composer he is best known for his marches, the most famous of which being "Colonel Bogey". British officers of his day were not encouraged to pursue interests outside the Services so, as a Lieutenant, he published works under a pseudonym. The first name, "Kenneth", was that of his eldest son, and the surname, "Alford", was his mother's maiden name.

Major Fredrick Joseph Ricketts (1881 - 1945), joined the Royal Irish Regiment as a musician in 1895 and was commissioned into the Royal Marines as a Director of Music in 1927. He retired in 1944 with the rank of Major. Ricketts/Alford is known as "The British March King", and is considered by many to be Britain's equivalent of America's John Phillip Sousa.

Supposedly, the tune for "Colonel Bogey" (written in 1914) was inspired by a military man and golfer who whistled a characteristic two-note phrase (a descending minor third interval) instead of shouting "Fore!". It is this descending interval which begins each line of the melody. The march was re-arranged and a new counter-melody added by Sir Malcolm Arnold for the film Bridge on the River Kwai in 1957.

**Dr. Michael Pratt** has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Croswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Miklhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreesh, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

# Colonel Bogey

Duration: 3:45

March

Kenneth J. Alford, 1914

Arr. Michael Pratt  
for Brass Septet

British March Tempo  $\text{♩} = 104$

A

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 6, and the second system contains measures 7 through 13. The instrumentation includes Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Trumpet in B♭ 3, Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is 2/4. The score begins with a dynamic of *f* (forte) and transitions to *mf* (mezzo-forte) at measure 5. A section labeled 'A' begins at measure 5. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.