



# TUNES OF GLORY

THE SOUTHERN BAND OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

including  
**Reach for the Sky**  
**The Dambusters**  
**633 Squadron**  
**The Battle of Britain**  
**The Pathfinders**

SPR 90017  
STEREO

## TUNES OF GLORY



### THE SOUTHERN BAND OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

Director of Music:  
**Flight Lieutenant**  
**Brian J. Sturnham LRAM ARCM RAF**

(The Band appears by kind permission  
of The Air Force Board of the Defence Council)

#### SIDE ONE

1. Royal Air Force March Past
2. Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines
3. The Blue Devils
4. The Spitfire Prelude
5. The Battle of Britain
6. The Pathfinders
7. Fanfare to the Royal Air Force

#### SIDE TWO

1. Reach for the Sky
2. The Dambusters
3. Ace High
4. Eagle Squadron
5. Night Flight to Gibraltar
6. 633 Squadron

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This recording of works associated with the fine tradition of the Royal Air Force features the Southern Band of the service. For the occasion the full concert band was used, enabling an exciting and energetic rendering of this impressive list of works.

The Southern Band of the Royal Air Force is normally based at Henlow, Bedfordshire, but duty takes it to many parts of the world. Conducting the band for this splendid recording is Brian J. Sturnham, who joined the Royal Air Force direct from the Royal Academy of Music, where he was a Junior Exhibitioner until 1953.

The musical content of this record is varied in selection and features melodies that have been favourites with world audiences for many years.

The opening number is the memorable *March Past of the Royal Air Force* by composer Walford Davies known to many, particularly those who have served or have been associated with the service.

The versatility of composer Ron Goodwin is well demonstrated, with the light heartedness found in the theme from the film *Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines* contrasting with the grandeur and inspiration of the theme from *633 Squadron*. His other two compositions on the album were both featured in the film *The*

*Battle of Britain*. Also taken from this film is Sir William Walton's beautiful *Spitfire Prelude* arranged here by Lt-Col. Rodney Bashford.

On the first side we also find the very attractive march by Charles Williams which salutes *The Blue Devils*. Malcolm Lockyer wrote the music to the television serial *The Pathfinders* and the great sense of excitement is captured here in this special arrangement of the work by conductor/composer Paul Fenouillet.

Closing side one is a work which we have called *Fanfare to the Royal Air Force*, composed especially for this recording and dedicated to the Royal Air Force by Organising Director of Music, Wing Commander R. E. C. Davies.

Two highly acclaimed film epics supply us with the first tracks on side two as we hear the themes from *Reach for the Sky* by John Addison and perhaps the most exciting work of all - *The Dambusters* by Eric Coates. Kenneth Alford's march *Eagle Squadron* and the exciting *Night Flight to Gibraltar* by Maurice Clark bring this impressive collection to its conclusion.

The music on this recording is played with great strength and energy by what must be one of the most outstanding bands in the Royal Air Force today.

MAJOR DESMOND K. WALKER

