# KING & COUNTRY'S

# Colonial Hong Konstant

FOR 156 YEARS, from 1841-1997, Hong Kong was a British Crown Colony presided over by a Governor appointed by the British Government in faraway London.

Under Britain's rule this small territory of just a few thousand fishermen and farmers grew and prospered to become one of the world's most important financial and trading centres with a population of over 7 million people.

# THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE

One of the many unique aspects of life in 'Colonial Hong Kong' was the Sovereign's Official Birthday Parade... This involved officers and men from all the different military units of the British Garrison together with a major contingent of the Colony's very own Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) parading through center of the

CHK010

Ceremonial Flag Base and the Colony's Flag.

Taking the Salute would be the Colony's **British Governor**, immaculately dressed in his tropical white uniform.

Here you can see the Governor along with his *Royal Hong Kong Police ADC* (*Aide de Camp*) next to the **Ceremonial Flag Base** complete with flagstaff and the Colony's own standard flying proudly above it.

Also on display are the **Guidon Party** of the *Royal Hong Kong Regt.* with a marching escort

Four soldiers of the RHKR(V) mount guard at the four corners of the Ceremonial Flag Base.

and other **RHKR** volunteers presenting arms... *A British-style guard box is also available*.

All of these proud moments may now be gone but their colour and spectacle live on in many fond memories.

### THE VOLUNTEERS

The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) was formed in 1854 as a local militia force.

Its finest hour was in the defence of Hong Kong when the Japanese attacked the Colony on 8 December 1941. Since the end of WW2 the majority of its part-time soldiers were locally-born Hong Kong Chinese working alongside British and Chinese officers.

The Regiment was disbanded in 1995, two years before Britain returned Hong Kong to the People's Republic



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