香港水警
Hong Kong Marine Police
1940 - 1980s

組織委員會
Organizing Committee

資料集發展委員會
Data Collection Team

承辦單位
Organizing

香港水警
Hong Kong Marine Police

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前言

INTRODUCTION

香港從1842年開埠，水警組織開始建立，經過160多年的發展，現在已成為一支專業的海上執法隊伍。水警人員從早年主要執行海上安全和救生救火、反水難、對付日常入侵、處理海中刑事案件，逐漸擴展到現今的活動及活動，他們一直在香港海域邊防及維護海上秩序的重任。可惜，有關水警的文章非常有限，而一般市民對水警的了解也不多。

香港大學社會學系張香港水警歷史研究會組織，聯合舉辦了這次《香港水警(1940-1980s)》研討會，我們嘗試以退休水警人員親身經歷的方式，讓學者和中華民族了解香港水警。(1) 退離休組，(2) 廣東水警(1940-1950s)，(3) 初期和常任，(4) 水警與航海員，(5) 水警歷史與研究，(6) 女性水警人員，和(7) 航海與警務生活。

這次研討會有四個特色：
(1) 這次研討會的組員、實務及資料都比較新鮮，是一次變黃光。
(2) 研討會有由在職的現任水警人員，及研究的內容都是他們親身經歷或所見所聞，是非常珍貴的歷史資料。
(3) 研討會的內容和資料是近年才有的，它將會為水警研究提供參考。
(4) 研討會的組員和研究者都是在職的現任水警員，將提供他們的親身經歷。

Setting up in 1842 with a few dozen boats, the marine police have gone through more than 160 years of dedicated work to develop a highly professional law enforcement unit in Hong Kong waters. In the early years, it was mainly responsible for regulating trade vessels in the harbour, combating piracy, rescuing Japanese occupation, and dealing with Chinese and Vietnamese illegal immigrants. In the recent decades, its main duty is more on law and order maintenance, addressing China-Hong Kong anti-smuggling activities and safety of the borders and remote areas of Hong Kong territory. Regardless of the importance of marine police in Hong Kong, the records and documents about the police unit are very scarce and thus with limited general public's understanding.

In light of this, the Department of Sociology of the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Marine Police Retirees' Association jointly organized this exhibition, which is called Hong Kong Marine Police (1940-1980s). There are seven themes addressed, namely: (1) The birth of a police force on water; (2) Peake-water marine police; (3) Training and duties; (4) Illegal immigrants and boat people; (5) Marine police, Royal Navy and land police; (6) Women in marine police and (7) Life on a marine police launch: rituals and anecdotes.

This exhibition is extraordinary with the following uniquenesses:
(1) The majority of the photographs, objects and information are from primary sources, and this is their first-ever public presentation.
(2) The police officers interviewed for this exhibition had all worked as frontline marine police officers. All the displays are faithful portrayals of what they saw, heard and experienced during the period of their frontline services. These interviews are a valuable witness to the history truly.
(3) This exhibition features episodes and anecdotes that are rarely recorded or never mentioned in the official police history.
(4) Some of the police officers featured in this exhibition are invited to share their first-hand experience of marine policing in a thematic talk.
Establishment of the Water Police

In 1842, Sir Henry Pottinger, the Governor at that time, appointed William Cains as Police Magistrate and William Pedder as Marine Magistrate.

By 1864, there were 24 police stations established throughout the colony. In 1871, the Water Police was officially sanctioned, with the Water Police headquarters established at 1 Victoria St. The headquarters was relocated in 1897.

1905 established the Water Police as a separate police force. In 1940, the Water Police was part of the Water Police Department, which was later merged with the Police Department.

During World War II, the Water Police played a crucial role in maintaining law and order, and patrolling the waters to ensure the safety of the city.

In 1957, the Water Police was reorganized into the Marine Police, which is still operational today.
戰後水警
(1940-1950s)
POST-WAR
MARINE POLICE

「水史」還是「水師」？

水師和水警屬於軍事警察。但在1943年之前，水警稱呼是公開
出面的，例如警察人員，必要在在視同屬民長官及水師及經理，
當時很多民國時期的名稱水師及舊名稱，有現今的「水師」。

"Marine Police" or "Navy"?

Before 1943, although marine police and the land police were both part of the Hong Kong Police, many people thought that the marine police were not part of the police force and considered it as "Navy". In fact, there were separate recruitment processes in both divisions. Applicants had to declare their intention at the recruitment centers.

劉啟福：改考取上警保院！

Lau Kai Fat: I had just applied for marine police!

「我在1922年入讀警保學堂，當時警保的
名額是120名，我沒有考警保，但有考
當水師的學堂，畢業後到馬當，使不
到水師。」

Disposal of arms at sea

After the surrender of Japan in 1945, the British Government resumed sovereignty over Hong Kong. Marine police assisted clearing mines in the Victoria Harbour and handled a large number of arms abandoned during the War. It was frequently instructed to transport the abandoned or confiscated arms, like guns and bombs, to designated sites in the eastern part of the sea territory, and disposed them in deep waters.

陳簡：海上「倒垃圾」任務

CHAN Cheung: "Garbage dumping" duty

「有一次我們在維多利亞海域師六六預備隊，當水師所
上工時，我們陸地警保當前去協助，明鏡銜，但他們吩咐我們
的軍官不許和水師混在一起。我們的軍官互相看了一眼，然後
說：『你們在幹什麼？』」 我們陸地的警察廳長江高源也看不
過這事，所以我們便照辦，中途沒有出現，真是幸運，只
知道當時倒了一磅半！

陳簡：我守住了數十艘飛機！

CHAN Cheung: I was assigned to guard the aircrafts for several months!本年度我們的機場有機師工廠和海軍培訓飛機，由於我們大
約90%一架飛機及有機師的在職訓練及飛行員。當時我們時
候我們發覺飛機，立即報告給飛機師培訓和及飛機機場，但最後實行減
開了，真是不幸。現在機場主要守護數十架飛機，才配給水警工
兵。「
基本訓練和當值

基本訓練

在學校完成基本的訓練後，小警員便要接受兩個星期的基礎基本訓練。小警員的訓練主要包括三個部分：班級舞、香港警察和戶外訓練。

1946年8月17日，當值小警員進行戶外訓練。

Basic Deck and Engine Room Training

After completing the basic police training at the Police Training School, marine police trainees would receive an extra 4-week training on marine policing. The training was divided into two main parts. Apart from the work on the launch deck, maritime ordinances and telecommunications, they also needed to acquire basic knowledge of ship handling and marine engineering.

[Image -2x0 to 2592x5185]
Ship engineer changed to disciplinary force

In 1946, the marine police decided to incorporate all positions on the deck into the disciplined force, but ship mechanics were still not considered as policemen as they did not receive any police training. In 1964, the marine police underwent another restructuration by sending all ship mechanics to the police training school. The ship mechanics were given a rank within the police establishment after passing out and were named ‘police launch mechanics’. In other words, all positions in the launch except the chief, including captain, crew members and even launch mechanics, were regarded as policemen.

Poon Chiu-yuk: Former police launch

The cover was in 1964.

1945: Large numbers of police in a boat, and a man in a police uniform.

1960s: Police launch with a police officer.

(B) 1940-1980
A wave of illegal immigration from Mainland China

**In the late 1950s, the Mainland Chinese Government launched the "Great Leap Forward" campaign, resulting in serious famines in villages. Tens of thousands of Chinese refugees in coastal areas started to flee to their homes from Hong Kong via both land and sea.**

**A wave of illegal immigration from Mainland China**

**The"corpses-pickers" during the Cultural Revolution**

In 1964, when Mainland China started the Cultural Revolution, the Hong Kong marine police became major "corpses-pickers". At that time, dead bodies were often found floating in the sea within Hong Kong territory. It was the responsibility of the marine police to bring the corpses to land for further handling by other relevant parties.

**越南难民**

The Vietnamese refugees emerged at the time when Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, was captured by Vietnam's People's Army from the North in 1975. From the late 1970s to the early 1980s, a large number of these Vietnamese refugees fled to Hong Kong in search of political asylum.
黎婉儀：感人回憶

LA: A touching memory

16/93年10月12日

黎婉儀是1979年10月12日

逃港到香港的難民，她的回憶

是難忘和感激的。

難忘的是她遇到的人，感激

的是香港政府和市民的熱心幫助。

黎婉儀說，她在香港經歷了很多

困難和挫折，但香港政府和市民的熱心

幫助使她度過了難關。

黎婉儀感謝香港政府和市民的熱心

幫助，並希望香港政府和市民能夠

一直熱心幫助難民。
From female searchers (auntie) to land policewomen on loan
When policewomen were first recruited, almost all were land police and there was no marine policewoman. When the marine police encountered cases related to women or children, they would seek the support of female searchers, called aunties, from outlying island police stations. However, as workload increasing, these aunties no longer completely met the uprising need. In the 1960s, land policewomen were sent on loan to the marine police and stationed in different outlying islands to handle cases related to women or children.

Going from land to marine police
The Hong Kong police first recruited land policewomen to join the marine police in 1977. The first group was 20 policewomen who, upon the completion, received professional training in wireless communication. After the training was completed, the training department displayed in the marine police control centre, responsible for the communication between launches and between the Hong Kong police and other law enforcement authorities outside the territory. At that time, good English language skills was a must for the marine policewomen because of the adoption of Morse code in wireless communication and the need to communicate with officials from outside the territory. Computational and analytical abilities were also essential.

Kwan Kam-wan: I was among the first marine policewomen responsible for wireless communication.
‘Romantic in uniform, but spent a lot of time away from my husband and kids. I had to learn Morse code and handle radio operators in emergency situations. It was exciting and challenging.’
首批從警校畢業的女水警
1977年警隊首次在警校正在受訓的女學員中，揀選了6名正式加入水警，她们在警校畢業後，經數星期實習後，水警隊遂學校遊歷為期
一個月的基本訓練後，然後派往警船上工作。

The first marine policewomen graduated from the Police Training School
Among the policewomen undergoing training in the Police Training School (PTS) in 1977, six were selected to join the marine police. Upon passing out, they were sent to the marine police training school for one-month basic training and then started working on the launches.

董遠儀：我戴上了貝雷帽在警船上工作
TUNG Shu-ki — I wore beret and worked on a police launch

「1977年我在警校受訓時，水警一位警官邀我到
岸，向我介紹士官生的職業和工作。從此我立志成為士官生
的水警。我們在警船上受訓之初，開始環境的清潔打掃以及護
理，所以我們在船上會經常穿著工作服，而警官亦會穿著。
於是穿著工
作服，是在制服未定時，只是穿上水警的制服。」

一位始め警校畢業的女水警
The first marine policewoman and her instructor.

A marine policewoman was performing her duty in the Victoria Harbour.

The first marine policewomen were assigned to work in a large police launch in coastal waters.
Prostrate Bow of Ship as Launching Ceremony

Whenever a marine police launch had completed large-scale maintenance and returned to the sea, there was a special ritual. Officers of commissioner level would go on board and sail to waters nearby Tin Hau Temple and turn three rounds in order to seek for smoothness in the coming days.

Mok Fook-lam: We launch today
CHAN Fuk-ken: We worship Ti Hau
（特に警官関係者ならぬ大艦隊警察の乗艦式、奏楽等、家拜も行う。）

Enjoying a meal on a police launch

For land police, the officers had their meals in the canteen in police stations. Marine police officers however enjoyed their meal in a unique way because of their less sporadic working environment. In the early times, there were only one small dining table for vacant inspectors and no proper tables was provided to other officers in the police launches. To deal with the unforecasting strong waves that may ruin their meals, they came up with an intelligent way of eating.

Sleeping in a police launch

The marine police nowadays are supported by a modernized fleet equipped with all the necessary facilities. However, there was no fixed bed for officers in the police launches before 1980s. Each officer was instead given a hammock bed. That temporary bed was actually just a piece of canvas tied to the cabin with ropes on one side and with metallic chains on the other side. Anyone sleeping in that bed would be thrown on the floor if he was not alert enough under strong waves.
結論


The marine police shares the same responsibility as the land police such as upholding the rule of law, preventing and detecting crime, and safeguarding and protecting life and property. In the last fifty years, the marine police faced different new challenges in different decades. In the early 1960s, they had to handle a large number of refugees coming from mainland China. In the period of the 1967 riots, they were called to support the anti-riot duties of the land police. In the late 1970s, there was a large influx of Vietnamese boat people. Meanwhile, they needed to face numerous illegal immigrants from mainland China. Until the mid 1980s to the early 1990s, the marine police had to respond to the rampant marlin smuggling. After the British Navy withdraw from Hong Kong in 1997, the marine police have become a professional force for maintaining the integrity of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region water boundary.