

## **VOLUNTEER FORCE MOURNS QUEEN ELIZABETH II, BRITAIN'S BASTION OF STABILITY**

Buckingham Palace announced that the queen, who was 96 years old, passed away at Balmoral Castle, her estate in the Scottish Highlands leaving behind a legacy that blended the ancient and the modern.

Sri Lanka, then known as Ceylon, was ruled by Britain from 1815 to 1948, and the country assumed the status of a Republic. Since independence, Queen Elizabeth II engaged in royal visits to Sri Lanka and the relationship between the two countries has continued to grow over the years.

In retrospect of the history of the Volunteer Force, in 1954 on the occasion of the visit of HM Queen Elizabeth II to Sri Lanka, Queen's Colours was awarded to the 2 (Volunteer) Ceylon Light Infantry at a spectacular parade in Galle Face Green during her monarchy.

In memory of a world phenomenon personality and her royal call to the Volunteer Force, the Headquarters of the Volunteer Force did flags fly at half - mast following the death of Queen Elizabeth II under the directions of Major General D G S Senarath Yapa RWP RSP ndu, Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force

Major General M T K R Silva KSP, Deputy Commandant of the Sri Lanka Army Volunteer Force, Senior Officers and All Ranks gathered to mourn the passing of a cherished sovereign and a much loved monarch.