

Media release 18/06/2015



## Arresting cover commemorates new 1 Military Police Brigade

Under the Army 2020 review the Royal Military Police has been organised and restructured, introducing for the first time ever in the British Army's long history a Military Police Brigade. This is a unique occasion, considering the current background of Forces reduction. 1 Military Police Brigade, which became operational on the 1 December 2014, reaches 'Full Operational Capability' on the 1 July 2015. To mark this historic occasion BFPS, in partnership with Regimental Headquarters Royal Military Police, has produced a special commemorative cover to be released on the 1 July 2015.

This striking cover shows the new Brigade flash along with the badges of the three organisations making up the new brigade. The cover bears a 1<sup>st</sup> class postage stamp cancelled by the unique BFPS 3193 handstamp specially designed for this occasion.

Brigadier Bill Warren MBE, Commander of 1 Military Police Brigade said *"The formation of 1 Military Police Brigade is a most significant event in the history of the Army's Royal Military Police and Military Provost Staff as it unites, for the first time, these units into one Formation. The new Brigade, commanded by the Provost Marshal (Army), is charged with policing and providing police support to the British Army. I am hugely grateful to the British Forces Philatelic Service for their work in marking the occasion with the production of this commemorative cover."*

The covers will be available in three versions as follows:

- Standard unsigned.
- Limited Edition signed by the Provost Marshal (Army) & Commander 1 Military Police Brigade.
- Limited Edition with a "RMP Central Benevolent Fund" cachet (*available only from Regimental Headquarters Royal Military Police*).

**The standard and signed covers** are available to order on a strictly first-come-first-served basis from the BFPS online shop ([www.bfps.org.uk/shop](http://www.bfps.org.uk/shop)). They cost just £6 for the unsigned versions and £12 for the signed versions (UK/BFPO p&p free). These are also available to order by post by sending a cheque (payable to 'BFPS CIC') to BFPS The Old Post Office Links Place Elie Fife KY9 1AX.

**The cachet edition** may be ordered from the Regimental Headquarters Royal Military Police shop at [www.rhqrmc.org](http://www.rhqrmc.org) or by email at [shop\\_rhrmp@btconnect.com](mailto:shop_rhrmp@btconnect.com). Telephone 02392284651

Ends

Images of the special covers and handstamps are attached.

## About BFPS

The British Forces Philatelic Service (BFPS) fundraises for Service charities through philately and is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers who are all Veterans. BFPS was specially set-up to ensure that the Forces Philatelic Bureau survives and thrives. BFPS is a registered Community Interest Company (CIC), which is a type of limited company designed specifically to operate for the benefit of the (Forces) community.

The British Forces Post Office (BFPO) has had responsibility for all aspects of military mail, including philatelic matters, since its formation in 1882. More recently, as part of a Strategic Defence and Security Review, BFPO was reorganised and as a result of this the Forces Philatelic Bureau was transferred to BFPS as the sole authorised body empowered to deal with all matters concerning the Forces Philatelic Bureau.

BFPS is managed by two retired career Army officers, each of whom has had extensive experience working within the BFPO in general and the Forces Philatelic Bureau in particular. The third member of the management team is an ex Royal Engineer Warrant Officer who has a passion for Forces philately. All are volunteers and are dedicated to keeping the Forces Philatelic Bureau alive and are working hard to ensure the future of this important area of BFPO operations is secure and flourishes. BFPS is officially licensed by the MOD and is a not-for-profit company run by volunteer Veterans.

### Links:

[British Forces Post Office](#)

[www.royalmail.com/personal/stamps-collectibles-gifts](http://www.royalmail.com/personal/stamps-collectibles-gifts)

[www.postalheritage.org.uk/](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/)

### Contact:

Lt Col (Retd) Graham Meacher MBE MInstRE

Tel: 01333 330 525 Mob: 07713 682 873

E-mail: [graham.meacher@bfps.org.uk](mailto:graham.meacher@bfps.org.uk)

Web: [www.bfps.org.uk](http://www.bfps.org.uk)

BFPS fundraises for Service charities through philately and is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC) limited by guarantee. Registered No 417647.

Registered address: The Old Post Office Links Place Elie Leven Fife KY9 1AX