

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Intelligence-Led Exercises Across 4 Divisions Result in 21 Arrests, the Recovery of a Stolen Vehicle, Ammunition, Camouflage Clothing and Contraband

Intelligence-led exercises conducted yesterday, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, and the early hours of today, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, across four Divisions have led to officers arresting 21 persons and recovering a stolen vehicle, a quantity of ammunition, camouflage clothing, as well as contraband.

During an anti-crime exercise conducted between the hours of 10 am and 1 pm yesterday, officers of the Chaguanas Criminal Investigations Department (CID), CID Operations, and the Central Division Task Force proceeded to an auto supply business at Bamboo Settlement No. 2 and arrested four persons in relation to an ongoing larceny motor vehicle enquiry.

A separate exercise on the same day, conducted in the Chaguanas district between the hours of 3 pm and 7 pm resulted in the arrest of four persons for drug-related, and other offences.

Southern Division officers on mobile patrol along Paradise Street, San Fernando, in the vicinity of a primary school, yesterday, arrested a 27-year-old Moruga resident after he was searched and a quantity of cocaine was allegedly found. He was subsequently taken to the Marabella Police Station to be charged for possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking within 500 metres of an educational institution.

Four men were also charged for drug-related offences during an anti-crime exercise conducted within the Division by officers of the Southern Division Task Force (SDTF) between the hours of 4 pm and 9 pm yesterday.

Officers of the San Fernando CID and SDTF also conducted surveillance of several areas within the Division and arrested three persons in relation to ongoing enquiries. Northern Division officers recovered a vehicle in Lopinot, yesterday that had been reported stolen from Arima the day before. A road traffic exercise conducted in the Arima district also led to the arrest of four men for various offences.

Exercises in the Division continued into the early hours of this morning, and included one involving a search for contraband at the Maximum Security Prison and Golden Grove Prison between the hours of 12 am and 3 am, during which officers seized a cell phone that was allegedly found hidden over the lighting fixture in a cell.

Inter-Agency Task Force officers conducted a search of a bushy area in Belmont during the execution of a search warrant for firearms and ammunition. There, they found a scope, capable of fitting on a rifle, a firearm cleaning kit, one round of 7.62 ammunition, and two pairs of camouflage pants. During the exercise, officers also arrested and charged a 40-year-old man from Lucien Road, Belmont for possession of cannabis.

During a separate exercise, while on mobile patrol along 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Malick, IATF officers observed a man holding a black plastic bag. The man dropped the bag and fled upon seeing the officers who gave chase but the suspect escaped. The bag was examined and 41 rounds of 7.62 ammunition and two rounds of 5.56 ammunition were allegedly found.

Enquiries into the above incidents are continuing.

Corporate Communications Unit

March 18th, 2023

**END**