

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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August 6th, 2022 **MEDIA RELEASE**

Teen among 8 arrested, 6 firearms, Ammo and Drugs Seized in 24 hours

Acting Police Commissioner, Mc Donald Jacob stated that the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) remains adamant on stifling the ease of access of illegal firearms and ammunition in our communities. He added that sound detective work, intelligence based operations and partnering with the public will play a major role in reducing the occurrence of gun related violence.

He also commended officers as a firearms removal and narcotics eradication exercise carried out in the Southern Division on August 5th, resulted in a total of eight persons arrested, three firearms and 42 rounds of ammunition seized along with a quantity of marijuana seedlings, marijuana and cocaine.

In one incident, officers attached to the Southern Division Task Force (SDTF) with officers of the Canine Unit, supervised by Sgt. Mason and Cpl. Legendre, executed search warrants in the Princes Town, Ste Madeline, and San Fernando districts. Five persons were arrested, one Berretta pistol with ten rounds of nine-millimetre ammunition, 140 marijuana seedlings, 120 grams of marijuana and three grams of cocaine were seized. A duo from Indian Walk, Moruga, both aged 29, were arrested in connection with the firearm, ammunition, marijuana and marijuana seedlings. They are expected to be jointly charged with possession of firearm, possession of ammunition, possession of cannabis over the prescribed legal limit and possession of more than four growing plants of the Genus Cannabis.

A Marabella man, 38, and two Princes Town residents, aged 33 and 66 were also arrested for possession of cocaine during the same exercise.

Meanwhile, a teen and two men were arrested after officers of the Tableland Police Station received intelligence and conducted a search of their vehicle. An AR15 Rifle and a Glock 17 Pistol both fitted with magazines containing ammunition and a crate containing 32 rounds of nine millimetre ammunition were found in the vehicle. The three suspects, all from the Tableland area were arrested and the guns and ammunition seized.

Both exercises were spearheaded by Snr. Supt. Lucia Winchester, Supt. Rampath, Supt. Carthy, ASP Jaikaran and Insp. Phillip.

In the Western Division, members of the Gang and Intelligence Unit seized an AR Rifle with nine rounds of 5.56 ammunition while proceeding to execute a search warrant at a residence located at Cemetery Street, Diego Martin. On arrival at the location the officers noted that the suspect mentioned in the warrant ran from the back of the house with a bag in hand. The suspect dropped the bag as he escaped over a wall on the northern side of the property. The bag was searched and the rifle was found and subsequently seized by the officers.

Officers attached to the Port of Spain Division Strike Team also seized a black metal rifle with a magazine at a property on Bamboo Road, Five Rivers, Arouca. After conducting patrols in the downtown Port of Spain area, the officers proceeded to the overgrown area in the vicinity of 9th Street where the gun was found, concealed in a white feed bag, while searching a dilapidated structure. The firearm was seized, and investigations are underway.

Additionally, in the Eastern Division, an exercise was conducted in the Rio Claro district between 9am and 12 noon yesterday, where officers received information and went to a parcel of land situated at Ridge Road, San Pedro. There they found and took possession of one home-made firearm and two 12-gauge cartridges lodged in a tree root. Enquiries are continuing.

SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS

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