



## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Three Held, Firearm, Ammunition and Drugs Seized in Overnight Anti-Crime Exercises**

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A firearm and quantities of ammunition and marijuana were among illegal items seized by officers, during several intelligence-driven anti-crime exercises conducted across the country yesterday.

In the latest incident, officers responded to a report of robbery with aggravation in the Trincity district around 8:25 pm, on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023, following the coordination of a strategic operation by the Northern Division Operations Centre, involving several units in the North Central Division.

During the operation, officers of the Municipal Police observed a stolen motor vehicle with two male suspects, proceeding at a high rate of speed east along the Churchill Roosevelt Highway.

A chase ensued and the vehicle subsequently crashed into a barrier along the highway resulting in the two suspects sustaining several injuries about their bodies. They were taken to hospital where one died and the other remains warded in stable condition under police guard.

Officers recovered one firearm along with 13 rounds of ammunition from the scene of the crash.

In a separate exercise, officers of the Inter-Agency Task Force, acting on information received, conducted an exercise around 4 pm,

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yesterday, during which they proceeded to Calvary Hill, East Dry River.

There, they conducted a search of an abandoned structure which resulted in one Smith and Wesson magazine, 23 rounds of .40 calibre ammunition and five rounds of 9mm ammunition being seized.

In the Western Division, Task Force officers conducted an anti-crime exercise between 5 pm and 11:30 pm, yesterday.

The operation was sanctioned by ACP Hazel, spearheaded by Snr. Supt. Henry and Supt. Williams and coordinated following information received about contraband being concealed in wooden flush doors and designated to be smuggled into the Maximum Security Prison, Arouca.

As a result, officers paid surveillance to the Bagatelle, Diego Martin area for a period of time. As they approached the targeted area, they observed two men, who immediately ran off. The officers gave chase but the men made good their escape. A search of the area was conducted which resulted in officers finding two doors in a concrete structure.

The doors were taken to the St. James Police Station, where they were pried open. Inside, officers found a large quantity of cigarettes, wrapping paper, marijuana, digital scales and a cellular phone.

Further enquiries led officers to conduct a search exercise at Savannah Terrace, where two ski masks, one pair of camouflage pants and one navy blue tactical sweater with the word POLICE was found and seized.

In the Southern Division, an intelligence-led exercise spearheaded

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by Snr. Supt. Smith, Supt. Rampath, ASP Jaikaran and Insp. Ramlogan, was conducted around 7 am yesterday.

During the exercise, officers proceeded to St. Mary's Village, Moruga, where they conducted the search of an apartment.

There, they found a marijuana growing operation with over 400 fully grown and budding high-grade marijuana plants, several hundred seedlings in several rooms fitted with electricity, air-conditioning, LED lighting and humidity and temperature controls.

One 27-year-old male suspect who was at the apartment at the time of the search, was arrested in connection with the finds.

The same party of officers also arrested a 34-year-old Tableland man for possession of marijuana and cocaine.

Investigations are ongoing into all of the above matters.

**Corporate Communications Unit**

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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