



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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MEDIA RELEASE

NLCB Communications Expert, Now Security Expert

Commissioner of Police, Gary Griffith, notes the interesting comments made on Facebook by NLCB Communications Expert, Rhoda Bharath, on the roles of the Special Branch and the Special Operations Response Team (SORT).

Commissioner Griffith notes her comments, "Good to see Special Branch have more sense than SORTT and not brandishing high powered rifles in the ppl mas."

The CoP wishes to educate the NLCB Communications Expert, who now seems to be a Security Expert. He says there are different roles for Special branch and SORT. He notes that covert operation carried out by Special Branch is to provide VIP protection, while the overt operation of SORT is to deploy officers for possible hostile situations, with either terrorists or criminals, or both.

If you do not have the security training to understand the difference between VIP protection to that of Operational requirement to deal with possible Counter Revolutionary Operations, which can involve gangs trying to destabilize Carnival, based on the same type of weapons that you complain that SORT is patrolling with, it simply shows your ignorance in the field. It was these same "high powered weapons" that SORT

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carried, which prevented possible bloodshed by Roxy Roundabout on J' Ouvert morning when two rival gangs were about to confront each other.

Because of the special training of SORT officers, we were able to confront these gangs. As a result, these gang members decided to run, but were cornered and arrested. These were boys between the ages of 13 and 15. We averted bloodshed and brought a crisis to an end.

Take note at what happened in Western Germany on Carnival Monday when a car ploughed into a crowd and injured 60 persons. In Trinidad and Tobago, we are dealing with criminals who have sophisticated weapons and they are not afraid to use them on the innocent citizens of our country. By the professionalism displayed during Carnival, the SORT team has been applauded by citizens who felt safe on the road for the past two days.

These are people who put their lives on the line every day to protect the citizens and their country, just for people who are hired by the State as Communications Experts, to discredit them.

So before this NLCB Communications Expert decides to become a Security Expert, she must learn the difference between the roles of the two units of the TTPS.

Corporate Communications Unit

February 25th, 2020

END