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January 13th, 2024 **MEDIA RELEASE** Firearm, Ammunition, Marijuana Seized, 3 Vehicles Recovered

Anti-crime exercises conducted across various policing divisions over the past 48 hours resulted in several arrests and the seizure of a firearm, ammunition, narcotics, and the recovery of three stolen vehicles.

On January 11th, 2024, an intelligence unit acted swiftly on information regarding a potential firearm transaction by a prominent member of an organized crime group in the Central Division. After rigorous and extensive surveillance, they identified a suspect whose vehicle was intercepted at a gas station in Preysal. During a comprehensive search, the officers found two black plastic bags which contained 68 rounds of 9-mm ammunition. All three occupants of the vehicle were arrested and taken to the Southern Division where charges are expected to be laid.

Meanwhile, around 11:30 pm yesterday, officers of the Port of Spain Task Force received information and proceeded to the St Barbs Laventille Area. Upon reaching the vicinity of McShine Lane, the officers observed a man who looked in the direction of the police vehicle and immediately ran. The officers pursued the man, however, he escaped. When the officers searched the area, they found two kilograms of marijuana and one loaded pistol magazine containing six rounds of 9-mm ammunition.

Around 10:30 pm yesterday in the North Central Division, while on mobile patrol duty in the Tunapuna district, officers received information that a firearm was placed in the Savanah area at the corner of Balthazar and Maingot Road Tunapuna. As a result, the officers proceeded to the location and conducted a comprehensive search, where they found a rifle containing two rounds of 7.62 calibre ammunition hidden under a wooden shed.

Two suspects were detained relative to the larceny of vehicles during an anticrime exercise conducted in the North Central Division between 6 pm on 11th January and 6 pm yesterday. After an extensive interview and investigation, police received information that led to the recovery of a white Nissan Tiida that was reported stolen from Mayfield Rd Valsayn North, a white 320 i BMW that was reported stolen in the Central Division, and a white AD Wagon that was reported stolen in the Tunapuna District.

Also, during a drug block eradication exercise conducted in the Tunapuna and St Joseph Police Districts yesterday, officers seized a total of 1066 grams of marijuana, where 720 grams were found on Benny Lane and 346 grams at Monte Grande. In Tobago, while on mobile patrol officers proceeded to Milford Court, Bon Accord and searched several persons and the surroundings and found four transparent plastic bags containing 110 grams of marijuana in a bushy area nearby. Also, police found 163.3 grams of marijuana when officers employed the Canine Unit during an exercise conducted on the Scarborough Port and external areas yesterday.

Corporate Communications Unit

January 13th, 2024

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