

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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March 15th, 2024 **MEDIA RELEASE**

Over \$6.5M in Marijuana Destroyed by Eastern Division Gang Intel Officers

Officers of the Eastern Division Gang and Intelligence Unit (EDGIU) yesterday destroyed a quantity of marijuana trees, cured marijuana and seedlings with an estimated street value of \$6,597,170.

During the anti-gang and narcotic eradication operation, police located a campsite in a forested area of the Upper Cunapo Road, Sangre Grande, where they destroyed 500 fully grown marijuana trees, an estimated 400 marijuana seedlings and 10 kilogrammes of cured marijuana was burnt. The entire camp was brought to a close.

The estimated street value of the 500 fully grown marijuana trees local hydro, 400 local hydro marijuana and 10 kilogrammes of cured local hydro marijuana are \$5,618,250, \$80,000 and \$898,920, respectively.

According to police reports, between the hours of 2 pm to 6 pm on March 14th, 2024, EDGIU officers as well as officers attached to the Jungle Team of the Special Investigations Unit, journeyed about two miles into a forested area where they located two greenhouses in an open area and a dry house outfitted with AC units and ultraviolet lights, used for drying cured marijuana and a kitchen with utensils.

The narcotics were then destroyed.

Investigations into this incident are ongoing into the matter and updates will be provided accordingly.

In the recent past, officers of the Eastern Division also arrested and charged a 21-year-old man, who was one of the main suspects in the marijuana seizure of 36 packets of marijuana which weighed at 24.8 kilogrammes. The arrest came following a high speed chase in the Sangre Grande district.

Also, on February 13th, 2024, two men were also charged by EDGIU following a surveillance exercise at a campsite 12 kilometers into a forested area of Romain Trace, Guaico, Tamana.

During the exercise, EDGIU and Multi-Operational Police Section officers observed two men tending to a marijuana field with approximately 1024 full-grown marijuana trees and an estimated 1000 seedlings on about four acres of land.

The marijuana had an estimated street value of \$3,283,203.

Police also discovered and seized a Draco Rifle fitted with a laser and seven rounds of 7.62 ammunition during that exercise.

SEE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS

Corporate Communications Unit

March 15th, 2024

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