



Ministry of National Security

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

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For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY OPENS CADET FORCE TRAINING CAMP

Port of Spain: Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. gave the assurance that the Ministry of National Security will continue to give support to the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force (TTCF), in keeping with Government's thrust to see more young people engaging in meaningful and positive lifestyles.

He was speaking at the Opening Ceremony of the "Operation Recovery" Training Camp of the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force's Potential Non-Commissioned Officers Cadre, held on April 09, 2022 at the Defence Force Joint Training Academy in Corinth, San Fernando.

Minister Hinds stated that organisations like the Cadet Force have a major role to play in the building and shaping of our society. He recognized the value of youth-oriented programmes in developing the nation's youth, saying: *"We believe that deviant behaviour amongst our youth can be alleviated through social intervention programmes. In this regard, we seek to invest in the hearts and minds of our young people, through commendable programmes such as the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force."*

The Minister took the opportunity to welcome the Cadet Force back into action, after a two-year hiatus owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. He explained, *"With the enforcement of Government's Public Health Regulations to manage and restrict the spread of COVID-19 in our country, we saw the physical closure of schools and limitations on public gatherings. These generated the domino effect on our Cadet Units having to press pause on their training activities."*

Minister Hinds expressed excitement that Trinidad and Tobago has reached the turnaround point regarding COVID-19, leading to relaxation of our Public

Health Regulations and the return to physical classes. This he said will prompt the continued growth of the Cadet Force: *"For us at the Ministry of National Security, these changes signal that the time has come to re-energize the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force and its youth training programmes."*

The TTCF Training Camp is being held over a six (6) day period, giving participating Cadets the opportunity to develop leadership skills that will allow them to assist instructors with training and with the management of Cadet Force Platoons and Companies.

The Ministry of National Security continues to provide the necessary resources to the TTTTCF in keeping with Government's agenda to reduce delinquency and crime among our nation's youth population and provide a better quality of life for all our citizens.

Throughout the country, there are more than seventy-five (75) Cadet Units operating in Secondary Schools, impacting the lives of over three thousand (3,000) young men and women.

PHOTOS AND CAPTIONS:



Photo 1: Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. addresses Cadets at the opening ceremony of the Cadet Force "Operation Recovery" Training Camp, held at the Defence Force Joint Training Academy in Corinth.



Photo 2: Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. meets the Cadets participating in the Cadet Force “Operation Recovery” Training Camp, held at the Defence Force Joint Training Academy in Corinth.

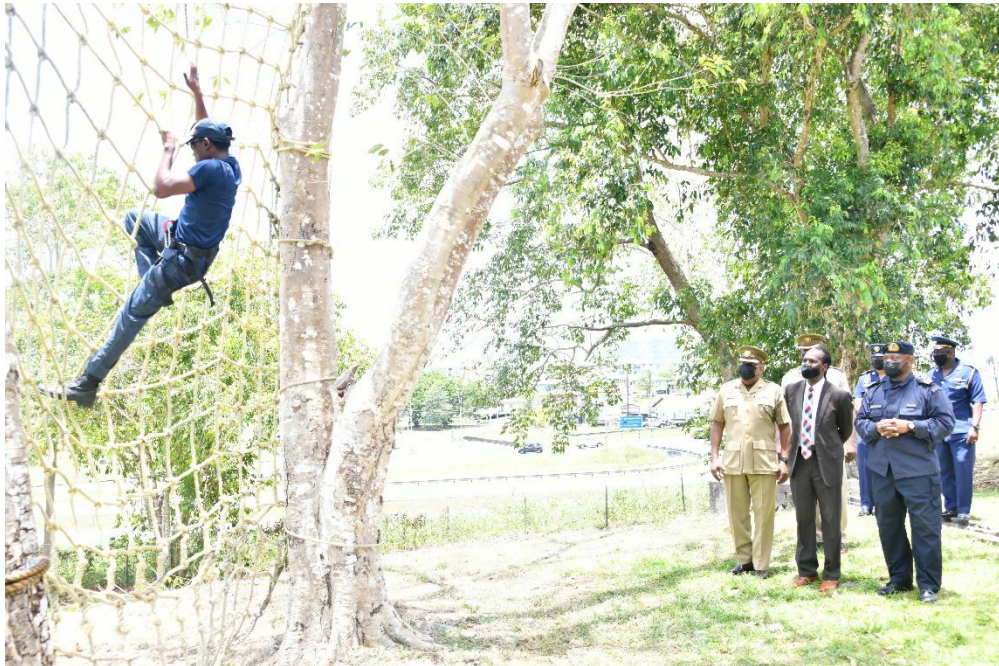


Photo 3: Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. observes a drill during his tour of the Defence Force Joint Training Academy in Corinth. He is accompanied by members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force and the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force.

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