



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

WHAT'S HAPPENING

September 01, 2023

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CELEBRATES 61 YEARS AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION

Trinidad and Tobago commemorated its 61st Anniversary as an Independent Nation with the hosting of its customary Independence Day Military Parade at the Queen's Park Savannah in Trinidad and at Parade Grounds, Bacolet in Tobago, on Thursday 31 August, 2023.



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Inspecting the Parade in Trinidad was President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Her Excellency Christine Carla Kangaloo O.R.T.T. Also witnessing the historic occasion were Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. the Honourable Keith Rowley M.P.; the Honourable Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Ivor Archie; Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. and other Cabinet Ministers; Members of the Diplomatic Corps; Members of Parliament; Heads of the Defence and Protective Services; Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of National Security, Mr. Gary Joseph and Ms. Nataki Atiba-Dilchan; other Public Officials; Representatives of Religion and Civil Society; as well as Members of the Public.



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Proudly participating in the Parade were members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force; the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service; the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service; the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service; the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force; the Municipal Police Service; the Traffic Wardens Division; St. John's Ambulance Brigade; Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society; the Military Led Academic Training Programme; the Civilian Conservation Corps; Scouts Association of Trinidad and Tobago; Seventh-day Adventist Pathfinders and the Pentecostal Crusaders.

This year's programme included a March Past by all Detachments; the highly anticipated display of the Mechanical Assets of each Defence and Protective Division; Mounted escort; the Police Service Canine Branch, National Salute of 21 guns; and a fly past of aerial assets. The Parade then proceeded onto the streets of Port of Spain and Scarborough, where members of the public had the opportunity to enjoy a first-hand view of the Forces and interact with officers on parade.



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MINISTER HINDS HOSTS MEETING OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND ITS WORKING GROUPS



Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., hosted and chaired a meeting of the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons, on August 21, 2023, at the Ministry of National Security's Head Office, Port of Spain. Also in attendance were the Task Force's Prevention, Protection and Prosecution Working Groups.

The meeting served to examine the operations of the national response to Trafficking in Persons; to discuss the progress of the National Action Plan Against Trafficking in Persons; and to consider the recommendations of key stakeholders.

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The meeting included presentations from the Counter Trafficking Unit, as well as an overview on Trafficking in Persons operations by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. The Team Leaders of the Working Groups also had the opportunity to communicate their challenges and recommendations to the members of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force.



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MINISTER HINDS MEETS WITH AMBASSADOR OF CHILE



On August 24, 2023, Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. met with His Excellency Hernan Nuñez Montenegro, Ambassador of Chile and Mr. José Cisterna, Deputy Head of Mission and Consul of the Embassy of Chile in Trinidad and Tobago, at the Ministry of National Security's Head Office, Port of Spain.

Minister Hinds welcomed His Excellency to Trinidad and Tobago and emphasized the strong bilateral cooperation between the two countries. He asserted that there were common challenges and threats facing Trinidad and Tobago and Chile, and that strengthening partnerships continues to be an important component of the national security strategy.

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He recognized the significance of shared positions on regional and multilateral issues to address transnational threats, and welcomed mutually beneficial opportunities for exchanges of experiences and information.

Ambassador Montenegro highlighted a number of key areas of cooperation, and the longstanding relationship of 60 years between Chile and Trinidad and Tobago. He expressed the importance of developing south-south cooperation, particularly within the Latin America and Caribbean region, and explained that there were many opportunities for cooperation through Chile's Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AGCID).

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25 POLICE OFFICERS TO RECEIVE MANDARIN LANGUAGE TRAINING



Twenty-five police officers are expected to bridge the gap and strengthen the relationship between the local Chinese community and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), in a year-long cultural and language exchange programme.

The initiative, which is the first of its kind in the Caribbean, was launched on Friday 25 August, 2023, at Fui Toong On Association, Charlotte Street, Port-of-Spain.

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The programme will include in-person sessions facilitated and resourced by the Chinese Association. It will also cover speaking and cultural aspects and will engage frontline and specialized police officers throughout several units of the TTPS.

His Excellency Fang Qiu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China, expressed that this initiative would go a long way in helping Chinese nationals feel valued and safe knowing that they would be better understood by law enforcement.

Acknowledging that the TTPS will make great use of the training, Commissioner of Police, Ms. Erola Harewood-Christopher stated, "We should expect fewer barriers, fewer obstacles and fewer delays with requests for service, crime reports and police investigations."





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