



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, W.I.
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
PRESS RELEASE

Whitehall,
Maraval Road,
Port-of-Spain.
Telephone : 23141

No. 116

21st April, 1962. ^{27/4}

TRINIDAD DEFENCE FORCE

The following statement by the Minister of Home Affairs amplifies the general announcements already made on the subject of the Trinidad Defence Force which it is intended to raise as an essential part of the programme to meet the additional commitments and responsibilities of Independence.

The role of the Trinidad Defence Force will be:-

- (a) To preserve the internal security of the Territory.
- (b) To defend the Territory against minor acts of external aggression.
- (c) To assist in the maintenance of essential services in the event of disruption by disaster or disorders.
- (d) To assist in the prevention of smuggling, illegal immigration and the protection of fishing rights.

The Defence Force will comprise two elements - The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment, and the Trinidad and Tobago Coastguard.

The Regiment will initially consist of a battalion of:-

- A Headquarter Company
- Two Regular Companies
- Two Volunteer Companies
- A Band.

The Coastguard will consist of modern Coastal Patrol Launches. These Coastal Patrol Launches will be fast, well armed and seaworthy craft capable of sustaining, if need be, continuous patrols round our coasts and of transporting detachments of the Regiment to any isolated coastal area and to Tobago. They will be considerably larger than the launches at present operated by the Marine Branch of the Police Force.

The whole force will be based at Teteron Bay as soon as the necessary accommodation and facilities can be provided.

The nucleus of the Regiment will be provided by those nationals of Trinidad and Tobago and other Eastern Caribbean personnel at present serving with the West India Regiment in Jamaica who opt to continue their military career by transferring to the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment.

The nucleus of the Coastguard will similarly be provided by those members of the present Marine Branch of the Police who opt to transfer to the Trinidad and Tobago Coastguard, after they have undergone such further (naval) training as may be necessary.

Further notices regarding recruitment both for the Regiment and the Coastguard will be issued during the course of the next few months but in the meantime any personnel with previous military or naval experience who are desirous of joining either the Regiment or the Coastguard should send full particulars to the Defence Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

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PRESS RELEASE

Whitehall,
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Telephone : 23141

No: 152 ✓

18th May, 1962

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Arrangements for the transfer of soldiers from the West India Regiment to the Trinidad & Tobago Regiment.

Pursuant to the agreement reached between the Federal Government and the Governments of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago with regard to the discharge of personnel of the 1st Battalion The West India Regiment and the enlistment of certain personnel thereafter into the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, Lt.-Col. P.L. Pearce Gould, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment, has been sent to Jamaica to issue instructions to soldiers as well as to secure a Certificate of their willingness to serve and acceptance of responsibility for their military clothing and equipment, before they leave Jamaica. Quoted hereunder is a letter which will be handed to each soldier who has opted for the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment before he leaves Jamaica to proceed on leave. A copy of the Certificate referred to above which each soldier will also sign is also reproduced hereunder.

"The aim of this letter is to tell you what is going to happen when you leave Jamaica.

"On departure you should consider yourselves as members of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment. You will remain on paid leave until you are recalled for duty with the Regiment and this period of paid leave will count as full-time service in the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment - as will, of course, your service in the West India Regiment.

"On arrival home, except for those who live in Trinidad and Tobago, you should report to your Police Headquarters and leave there your personal particulars and address.

"The actual enlistment into the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment will take place as follows:-

For those resident
in Trinidad and Tobago

- You will be called in by letter to some central point, probably St. James Barracks, sometime in June.

For those resident
elsewhere

- An officer of the Regiment will visit each Territory during June. You will be called in by letter, probably to Police Headquarters.
/Enlistment ...

Enlistment will be carried out in uniform (Beret, Bush Jacket, Shorts, Hose tops, Puttees, Boots).

"Before leaving Jamaica you will be paid pay, marriage and ration allowance up to 29th June, 1962. Pay for July and onward will be obtained by reporting to St. James Barracks or to Chiefs of Police. For July pay you will report on 2nd July, 1962 and for August pay on 1st August, 1962. That is why it is so important that the Police know about you.

"You will receive your instructions about reporting for duty either by letter or through Chiefs of Police. If you do not live in Trinidad, do not bring your families unless you have assured accommodation in Trinidad, as married quarters will not yet be available. Once you have found suitable and approved accommodation for your family they will be brought over.

"Any change in your status whilst on leave (for example, marriage) must be notified to me. If you fall ill, medical expenses provided you send me the receipts, will be refunded but, perhaps, not before you arrive in Trinidad.

"Be particularly careful of your military kit since you will require it on arrival with the Regiment.

"Finally, let me emphasise what was written at the beginning. When you step on board the ship I shall become your Commanding Officer. If any problem arises whilst you are on leave, you may come and see me or write to me and I shall do my best to resolve it. My address is at the head of this letter.

"I hope you have a very good leave and I look forward to seeing you in Trinidad to start our adventure.

/s/ P.L. Pearce Gould

Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding

1st Battalion The Trinidad and Tobago
Regiment."

"TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO REGIMENT"

Number Rank Name

"I understand the terms under which I am being transferred from the West India Regiment to the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment.

"I realise that, although I am on leave, I am still considered to be a member of Her Majesty's Forces and that my orders will be received from the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment or through the Chief of Police or through Government channels,

"I understand that my actual enlistment will be performed by an officer of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment at some central place in my home territory and that I will receive instructions where and when to report.

"I understand that I must register with the Chief of Police (unless I am resident in Trinidad and Tobago) and that I must notify the Regiment of any change in my status (e.g. marriage).

"I accept responsibility for maintaining my military clothing and equipment in a complete and serviceable condition.

....."

2. The Governments of the Territories of the Eastern Caribbean concerned have been approached with regard to the proposed arrangements for pay and enlistment. The discharge of the soldiers will start on the 20th of May and they will be moved by ship or aircraft to Trinidad and Tobago and their islands of origin respectively, during the period 20th - 30th May, 1962. It is proposed that they should be re-assembled in Trinidad in August, 1962.

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Whitehall,
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Telephone : 23141

No: 159 ✓

23rd May, 1962.

*Guardian 24/5-
had to
had to
not to*

Government has decided to form a National Guard to be designated henceforth as the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force consisting of:-

- (a) 1st Battalion The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment
- (b) Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard.

As announced by the Minister of Home Affairs, the roles which have been given to the Defence Force are:-

1- Defence against external threats.

- (a) Defence against minor raids and incursions;
- (b) Preparation of mobilisation plans and the supervision of the training of volunteer reserve and cadet force;
- (c) Provision of support facilities to allied forces; and
- (d) Civil Defence.

2- Aid to the Civil Power

- (a) Assistance in the maintenance of law and order;
- (b) Emergency maintenance of essential services;
- (c) Relief after natural disaster; and
- (d) Ceremonial.

The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment will be the principal agent in carrying out these roles.

The organisation of the 1st Battalion The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment will be Battalion Headquarters, Headquarters Company, Three Regular Rifle Companies and Three Volunteer Companies.

Build Up

1 - The nucleus of the Battalion will be formed from soldiers with the West India Regiment who elect to continue their service in Trinidad.

2 - The intention is to have by the end of 1962:

- (a) Nucleus of Battalion Headquarters and Headquarter Company
- (b) Two Regular Rifle Companies; and
- (c) Band and Drums.

As soon as possible thereafter it is proposed to form:

- (a) The Third Regular Rifle Company;
- (b) Two Volunteer Companies; and
- (c) Finally the Mortar Platoon and the third Volunteer Company will be formed.

/Regular

Regular Rates of Pay

At the start the men of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment will receive similar rates of pay to these now current in the West India Regiment which are as follows:-

| <u>Basic Pay</u> | <u>Per day</u> | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Recruit | \$ 2.78 | |
| Private (after 6 months' service) | 2.96) | Subject to satisfactory progress |
| " (after 18 months' service) | 3.14) | With two military qualifications. |
| " (after 18 months' service) | 3.32) | With three military qualifications. |
| " (after 30 months' service) | 3.56) | With four military qualifications. |
| Lance-Corporal | 3.42 | |
| " (after 18 months' service) | 3.66 | |
| " (after 30 months' service) | 3.90 | |
| Corporal | 4.22 | |
| " (after 18 months' service) | 4.46 | |
| " (after 30 months' service) | 4.70 | |
| Sergeant | 5.70 | |
| Staff Sergeant | 6.17 | |
| Warrant Officer Class II | 6.76 | RQMS receives increment of 30¢ per day. |
| Warrant Officer Class I | 7.66 | |

Tradesmen receive additional pay dependent on their trade and skill.

Increments

After every 5 years as a private and after every 4 years as a Warrant or Non-commissioned Officer there is an increment to basic pay of 12 cents per day (24 cents for Warrant Officers Class I).

In addition privates and Lance-Corporals who are Class I tradesmen (highest class) will receive an increment of 12 cents per day after each four years as Class I tradesmen.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has agreed, however, that there should be a biennial review of rates of pay and the first review will be held late in 1962.

Family Allowance

| | <u>Per week</u> | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | <u>When in private accommodation</u> | <u>When in military accommodation</u> |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Private | 9.30 | 7.20 |
| Lance-Corporal | | |
| Corporal | 9.72 | 7.20 |
| Sergeant | 11.34 | 8.40 |
| Staff Sergeant | 11.94 | 9.00 |
| Warrant Officer | 12.96 | 9.60 |

Rent Allowance - Per week

When occupying private accommodation a rent allowance of \$7.20 per week is admissible

Rent for military accommodation

When provided with military accommodation, rent is payable at the rate of 10% of basic pay.

OTHER BENEFITS

As a soldier there are the following additional benefits:-

Uniform, food and accommodation is provided FREE.

If you are married and live out you receive ration allowance in place of food. The allowance at present is \$1.90 per day.

Medical and dental attention is provided FREE.

Annual leave with pay

Pension on completion of 22 years' service.

You may receive a reduced pension on completion of 18 years' service and if you terminate your engagement after 12 years' service you will receive a gratuity.

In addition there are the intangible benefits of service to the Nation, comradeship and sports.

REQUIREMENT

The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment requires Ex-servicemen who are suitable for infantry service, tradesmen and young men of integrity, intelligence and stamina, between the ages of 18 and 23 years in the fields of: Armourer, Bandsman, Clerk, Cook, Wireless mechanic, Electrician vehicle, Electrician, Tent maker, Shoemaker, Vehicle mechanic, Carpenter, Painter and Decorator, Plumber and Signwriter.

If you are in one of these categories and are interested in service in the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment, arrangements will be made for you to come in for interview. The time and place to which you should report will be announced on the radio and in the newspapers.

Further information will be made available shortly on the Organisation, Build-up, Rates of Pay and other conditions of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard for general information.

ISSUED BY THE
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISIONPRESS RELEASEOFFICE OF THE PREMIER,
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, W.I.

No. 185

Date 13-6-62

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Following Government's decision to establish a Defence Force, the Deputy Premier and Minister of Home Affairs appointed a Committee to make recommendations on the following matters: - uniforms, facings, embellishments, badges, buttons, colours (including the motto) and the Regimental Flag of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment.

In general terms it was suggested to the Committee that in searching for suitable facings and insignia, links with Trinidad's military history should be sought.

The Committee consisted of:-

Chairman - Lieutenant-Colonel P.L. Pearce Gould MBE Commanding Officer

Members Major J. Serrette MBE
Lieutenant-Colonel H. Dow OBE VD NC
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Alston OBE NE
Mr. M.P. Aladdin of the Culture Division, Ministry of Education and Culture.

Based on the Committee's report the following decisions have been taken by Government:

Facings.

In early days regiments were distinguished by the "facings" to their uniforms. As military dress became more uniform, the original "facings" were preserved in the colour of the head dress, hose tops and embroidery.

The facings of the Trinidad Light Infantry Volunteers and the Trinidad Volunteers were green and these facings will be continued in the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment. Where more than one colour is appropriate, the distinguishing colour of the 2nd Bt. The Trinidad Volunteers, which was yellow, will be used.

Ceremonial Uniforms.

The ceremonial uniform will be White Tunic and Trousers. A green belt with a yellow central stripe will be worn and from this belt will hang a detachable white bayonet frog. The head dress will be a green cap with a black peak and there will be a yellow piping round the top of the cap.

Parade Uniform.

The Parade Uniform for use in barracks and when walking out in uniform will be khaki bush jacket and khaki shorts or slacks. The head dress will be green beret though the ceremonial cap will be worn when walking out. The belt will be web and green khaki in colour. In shorts, green hose tops and short putties will be worn.

Fatigue and Training Uniform

The Fatigue and training uniform will be a denim jacket and trousers of similar cut to Battle Dress. For training a jungle hat will be worn and this will be replaced in barracks by a green beret. On training and Fatigue web belts and web anklets will be worn.

Badge.

The Badge of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment will be a brass coloured solid star of David (six pointed). Embossed in silver in the centre will be a conventionalised Humming Bird. Beneath in brass colour will be a scroll bearing the words "Trinidad and Tobago Regiment".

The badge on the uniform buttons will include the star and the Humming Bird all in brass but omit the scroll.

Motto

The Motto of the Regiment will be the Latin "Tria Juncta in Una", replacing the old spanish motto of the Trinidad Volunteers "Trinidad en Unidad".

Arrangements are now being made to obtain the uniforms, badges and buttons outlined above as quickly as possible.

Colours.

Government has also decided that the colours of the Regiment should be those of the 1st Bt. The Trinidad Volunteers with certain alterations. For instance the substitution of the hibiscus flower design for the rose design. It was also agreed that the Inspector of ~~the~~ Regimental Colours be asked to prepare ~~the~~ designs accordingly. Colours have to be hand woven and are unlikely to be available in under a year.

↓
for Government's consideration.

ISSUED BY THE

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION,

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER,

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, W.I.

Radio G. ✓
Guardian 11/7
Nation

No. 209

30th June, 1962.

The Governments of the United States and Trinidad and Tobago today signed an agreement for the construction of permanent facilities for the National Guard to be stationed at Teteron Bay, Chaguaramas. The agreement, for which the U.S. Government will allocate funds in the amount of \$833,000 (WI), was signed at Whitehall by the Acting Premier of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Patrick Solomon, and Mr. Harry Yoe, Director of the U.S. A.I.D. Mission in the Eastern Caribbean.

This project is a direct result of a request by the Trinidad and Tobago Government arising out of the Stage II West Indian Defence Area Talks in Tobago in December, 1960. An earlier agreement, in the amount of \$163,000 (WI), instituted construction of temporary facilities and an engineering survey at Teteron. This construction of temporary quarters has moved ahead at a rapid pace, with completion expected by the end of July, 1962.

Permanent facilities construction as a result of today's agreement is expected to start later this year or early in 1963. It will include barracks accommodation for 485 men, a medical centre (dispensary, doctor's office, treatment room and sick bay), guard house, and NCO quarters and mess. This will be in addition to the kitchen and mess hall construction and modification of existing buildings to provide administration offices, stores and bachelor officers quarters and mess which are already in progress. The total of development assistance from the United States Government for the implementation of this agreement is therefore \$996,000 (WI).

In referring to the signing of the agreement today, Mr. Yoe stated that the facilities at Teteron Bay will aid the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in its plans for the maintenance and training of internal security forces as an independent nation.