



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000  
[www.oas.org](http://www.oas.org)

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**CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

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DRUGS AND SECURITY IN THE CARIBBEAN  
LT. COL. EDWARD CROFT



# Drugs and Security in the Caribbean

Presented by Lt. Col. Edward Croft  
Director, ONDCP  
OAS/CICAD  
Washington D.C., 8 May 2012

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

BACKGROUND ON CARICOM

CRIME IN THE REGION

NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN THE REGION

REGIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES

EFFORTS BY THE REGION TO ADDRESS CRIME

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

THE WAY AHEAD

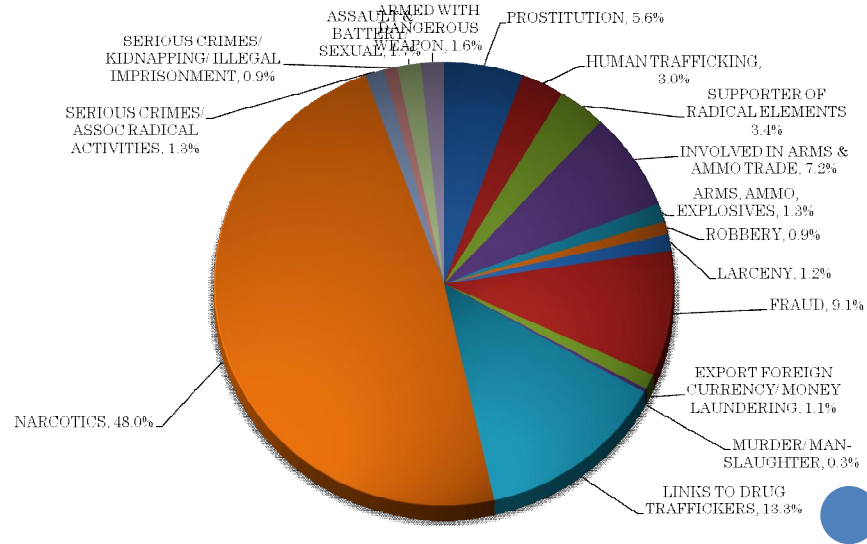
QUESTIONS

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## **CARICOM NATIONALS DETECTED AS INVOLVED IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES**

**2007- 2010**

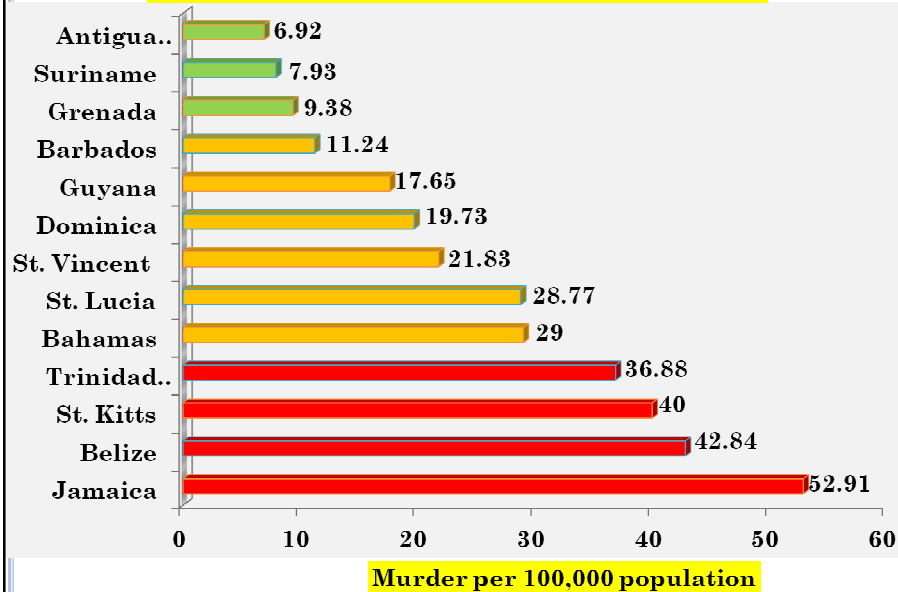


## **CRIME FIGURES**

**OVERALL CRIME FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD 2006-2010**

Year	Homicide	Illegal Firearms Seized	Marijuana Seized Kg	Cocaine Seized Kg	Total Narcotics Seized Kg	Criminal Deportees
2006	2,193	1,949	727,103	7,293.1	734,396.1	5,634
2007	2,427 +	2,017 +	219,436 -	4,368 -	223,804 -	5,680 +
2008	2,649 +	1,999 -	212,685 -	6,957 +	219,642 -	5,016 -
2009	2,656 +	2,383 +	189,115 -	5,960 -	195,075 -	4,484 -
2010	2,441 -	2,079 -	560,591 +	7,902 +	568,493 +	4,451 -
Total	12,366	10,427	1,908,929	32,501	1,941,430	25,265

## 2010 HOMICIDE RATES - CARICOM MEMBER STATES



## VIOLENT CRIMES

Current homicide rates are significant and have led to advisories being levied against Member States.

Advisories continue to impact the Region's economies and affect the prosperity of Member States particularly those who are dependent on Tourism.

The statistics and trends suggest that in the absence of appropriate intervention at the national and regional levels the crime and violence will continue and the homicide rates will increase progressively.

In spite of focussed attention to the Regional Crime & Security Agenda, there remains a perception extra-regionally that political will and commitment are lacking.

# NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

## •PRIMARY MODES OF TRANSPORT

- GO FAST
- SAILING VESSELS (CONTAINER SHIPS, ETC)
- LIGHT AIRCRAFTS

## •ORIGINATING POINTS

- SOUTH AMERICA



## IMPLICATIONS OF DRUG TRADE

Compromises the national security of small and large countries

Produces a corrosive effect on the national societies of each country

Presents a persistent problem for law enforcement

Undermines political stability and economic development

Increased vulnerability to crime, arms trafficking and corruption

Undermines the environment required to sustain viable tourism industries

Increasing need to commit military and paramilitary forces in the war against drugs

Particular implications for the sovereignty of most small countries unable to cope with the transnational nature of drug trafficking



# ARMS TRAFFICKING

## •PRIMARY MODES OF TRANSPORT

- GO FAST
- SAILING VESSELS (CONTAINER SHIPS, ETC)
- LIGHT AIRCRAFTS

## •ORIGINATING POINTS

- AMERICAS



OVERSEAS GANG LINKS  
•MERCHANT SHIPPING

HONDURAN  
FISHING  
VESSELS  
•LEGAL  
•ILLEGAL

JAMAICA-HAITI  
DRUGS FOR GUNS LINKS

DRUGS FOR  
GUNS LINKS

COLOMBIAN NARCO LINKS  
•VESSELS  
•AIRCRAFT

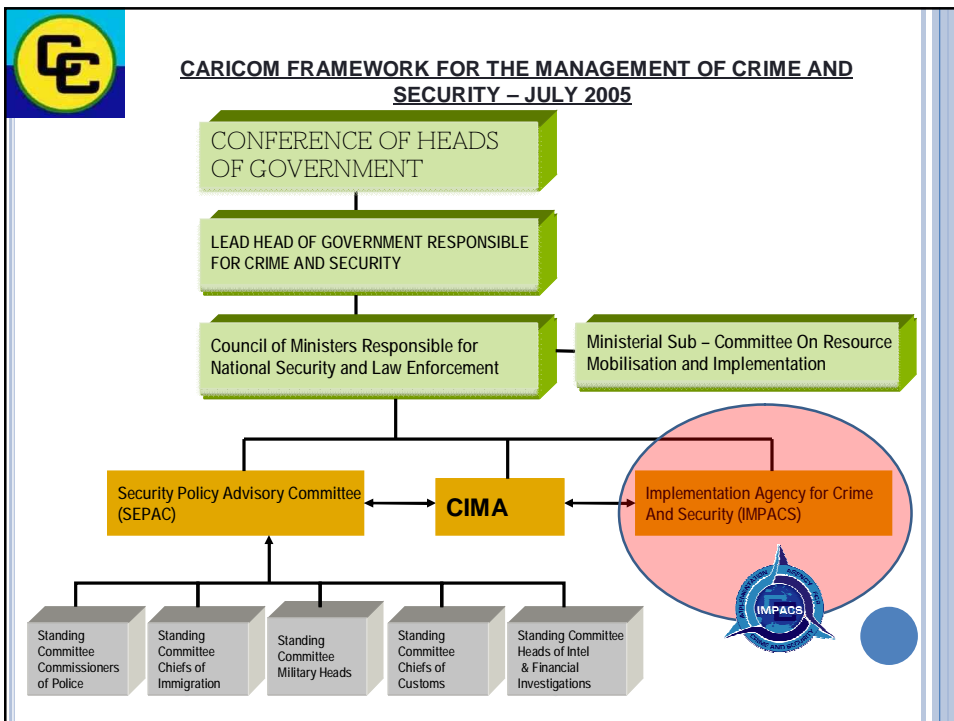
## TWO REGIONAL SECURITY INSTITUTIONS:-

- CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)
- Regional Security System (RSS)
- Individual Country Efforts
- Caricom established Crime & Security as the Fourth Pillar

# CARICOM IMPACS



8<sup>th</sup> May, 2012





## ABOUT IMPACS ...



Is an institution of CARICOM



Is the nerve centre for CARICOM'S Crime & Security Management Framework



Is primarily responsible for the IMPLEMENTATION of the regional crime and security agenda



Reports directly to the Council of Ministers

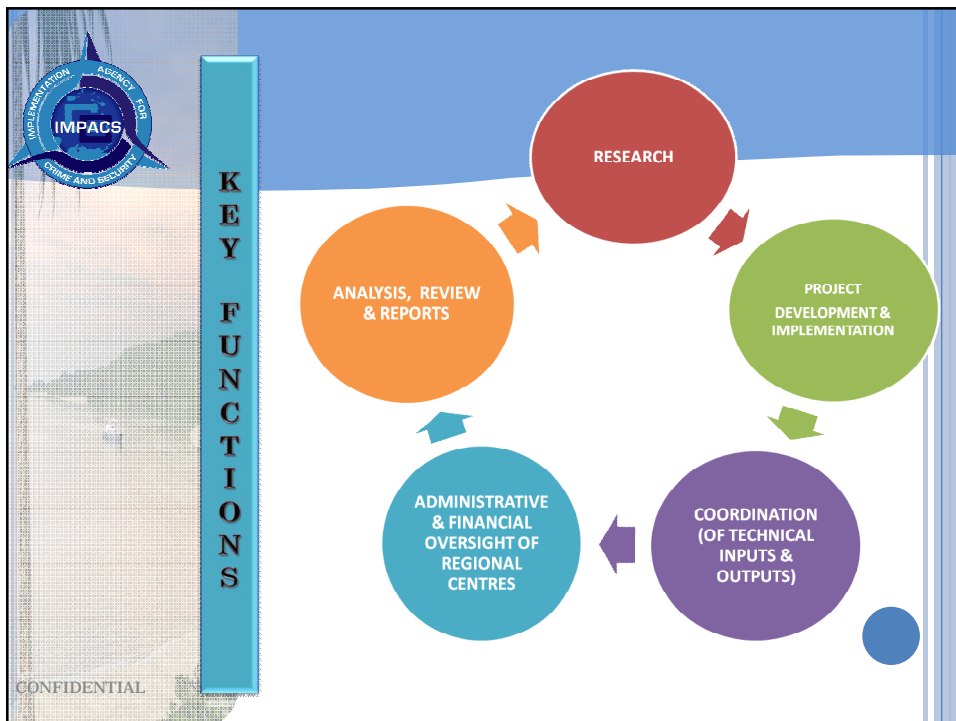


Focuses on security related project research, project management, project implementation, and facilitation and secretariat services to Committees



Is responsible for the TIMELY and routine administrative and technical functions of its mandate

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## REGIONAL SECURITY MECHANISMS

### CURRENT MECHANISMS

#### STRENGTHENED BORDER SECURITY SYSTEM

Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) and the Joint Regional Communications Centre (JRCC)  
CARICOM Common Visa Issuance System  
ADVANCE CARGO INFORMATION SYSTEM (ACIS)  
CARICOM TRAVEL CARD



#### INTELLIGENCE SHARING SYSTEM

Regional Intelligence Committee (RIC)  
CARICOM Intelligence Sharing Network (CISNET)  
Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre (RIFC)  
CARICOM Watchlist System (CAWS)



#### SECURITY ASSISTANCE SYSTEM

Security Assistance Treaty  
CARICOM Operations Planning and Coordinating Staff (COPACS)



#### LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- Robust framework enabled implementation of Regional Security Strategy



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## INTELLIGENCE SHARING



Initial Regional Threat Assessment

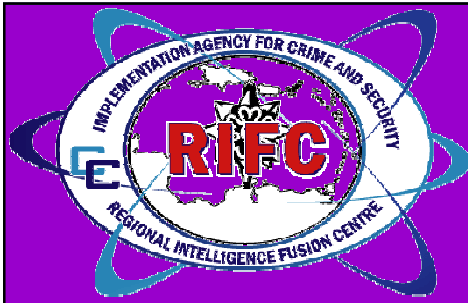
Design, development and installation of CISNET

Establishment of Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre (RIFC)

Compilation of CARICOM Watchlist System (CAWS)

Development of CARICOM Intelligence Management System (CIMS)

Ongoing Joint Threat Assessments, Intelligence briefs, and quarterly virtual and physical meetings



Prevention  
Containment  
Detection  
Profiling



**REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
FUSION CENTRE (RIFIC)**



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## RIFIC'S KEY FUNCTIONS



To provide 24/7 support to the JRCC in Border protection



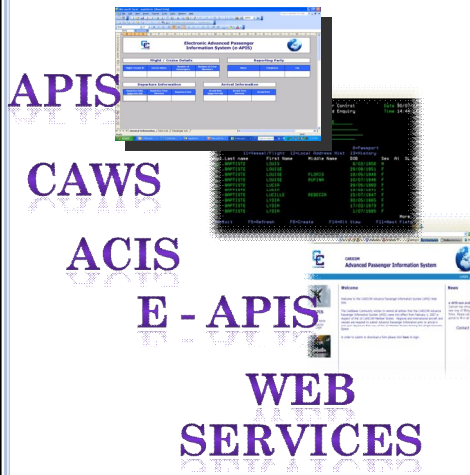
To collect information that reveals the plans, intentions and capabilities of threat entities and provides the basis for decision and action.



To produce timely analyses that provide insight, warning and opportunity to the decision makers charged with protecting and advancing the Region's interests

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## JOINT REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE (JRCC)



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## JRCC'S KEY FUNCTIONS



Gathers, analyzes and disseminates data from Advance Passenger Information in a timely and consistent manner.



Prescreens travelers to and from any territory within the participating Member States.



Provides reliable and timely information on security breaches (HITS).



Prepares analytical reports on persons of interest.

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## JRCC'S KEY FUNCTIONS CONT'D



Ensures compliance of all aviation and maritime vessels.



Conducts security vetting of visa applicants.



Updates information on CAWS and IRBC.



Liaises with Interpol and other international agencies.



Cross checks all API data and visa applications with Regional and Interpol watch list databases.

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## ORIGIN OF REGIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM

- § **1970's & 80's** Requirement for a collective response to security threats which were impacting on the stability of the region.
- ⌚ **1982** - Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent signed MOU with Barbados to provide for "Mutual Assistance on Request."
- ⌚ **1983** - St Kitts & Nevis
- ⌚ **1985** - Grenada
- ⌚ **1996** - MOU replaced with the TREATY establishing the Regional Security System
- ⌚ **Article 4 of the Treaty-**  
Sets out the conditions for cooperation among the Member States.



## PURPOSE & FUNCTION

### Article 4(1) Of The Treaty

- ⌚ **Prevention and Interdiction of trafficking in Illegal Narcotics**
- ⌚ Response to National Emergencies / Disasters
- ⌚ Regional Search and Rescue
- ⌚ Immigration control
- ⌚ Fisheries Protection
- ⌚ Customs & Excise Control
- ⌚ Maritime Policing Duties
- ⌚ Natural and Other Disasters
- ⌚ Pollution Control
- ⌚ Combating Threats to National Security
- ⌚ Prevention of Smuggling
- ⌚ Protection of Off-shore Installations and Exclusive Economic Zones

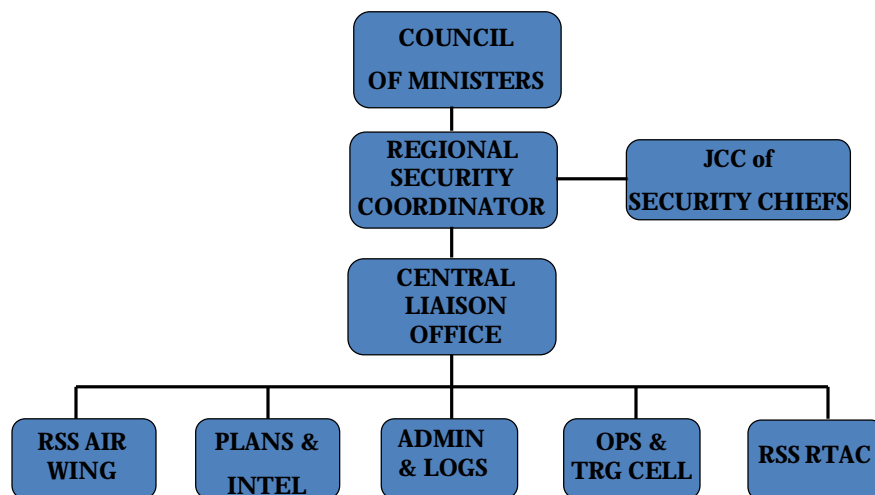


## MISSION STATEMENT

*“To ensure the stability and well-being of Member States, through mutual cooperation in order to maximize regional security in preserving the social and economical development of our people.”*

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

*[Article 6 of The Treaty](#)*



### ASSET DESCRIPTION

2 x Fairchild C-26 Aircraft

- Twin engine turboprop
- Speeds: 220 KTS (cruise)  
250 KTS (max)
- Range: 1200 NM
- Mission Endurance: 5-6 hours
- CD role: Aircraft fitted with Telephonics Ocean Eye MSR and Star Safire II FLIR
- Passenger Role -15 per aircraft to allow for weapons and kit
- Cargo Role - 3500 lbs

### STAFF COMPLIMENT

- Six pilots, seven Sensor operators and five aircraft technicians.
- contract maintenance provided by Provincial Airlines Limited, Newfoundland, Canada.

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Aircraft equipped with UHF, VHF, HF, SATCOM & secure tactical VHF (Each Member State assigned their own encryption)
- **Air Operations Center**
- CNIES terminal, SPARKS Secure Telephone Unit

## STRENGTH OF THE RSS

Member State	Strength	Member State	Strength
A	434	E	739
B	560	F	934
C	423	G	1415
D	1059	<b>TOTAL</b> <b>Plus approx 1200 military</b>	<b>5,564</b>

CLO		RSSAW
Civilian 21	Attached 11	18



## STRENGTH OF THE RSS

### REGIONAL COAST GUARD OPERATIONAL ASSETS

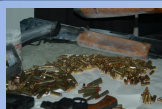
Country	140ft	123 ft	110-120 ft	82 ft	65 ft	40- 45ft	920 RHIB	10m/73 3 RHIBs	BW / MAKO
Antigua & Barbuda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Barbados	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	3/1	1
RBPF Marine Police	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	02 J/Skis
Commonwealth of Dominica	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
St Kitts/Nevis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
St Lucia	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	1
St Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2/1	-
TOTALS	3	-	1	-	2	4	2	9	5+2 Skis

ACCURATE AS AT 30 Sep 11

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## CRITICAL THREATS TO REGIONAL SECURITY

- ⌘ Illicit Drug Trafficking
- ⌘ Illegal Trade in Firearms
- ⌘ Human Trafficking
- ⌘ Money Laundering
- ⌘ Terrorism
- ⌘ Youth Gangs
- ⌘ Disasters
- ⌘ Corruption

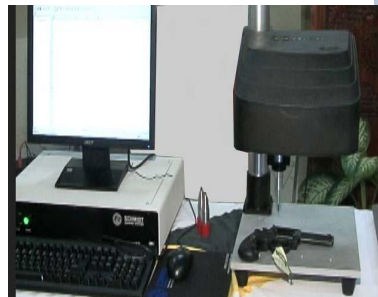


## **EMERGING THREATS**

- ⌄ **Kidnapping for Ransom**
- ⌄ **Human Trafficking and Smuggling**
- ⌄ **Influence of Criminal Deportees**
- ⌄ **Spike in the Use of Firearms**
- ⌄ **Spike in Domestic Robberies**
- ⌄ **Criminal Exploitation of Natural Disasters**

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

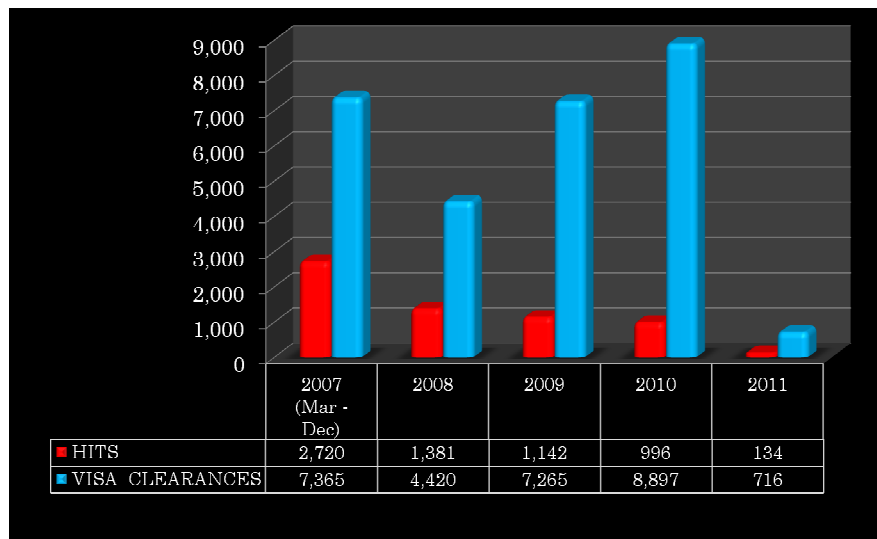
- ⌄ **CARICOM established Crime and Security as the fourth pillar**
- ⌄ **CFATF being used to strengthen Financial investigations capacity**
- ⌄ **Use of EGMONT as a tool for information sharing and financial investigations.**
- ⌄ **The OAS donated firearms marking machine to 23 Countries in the region to fight against the illicit trafficking of firearms.**

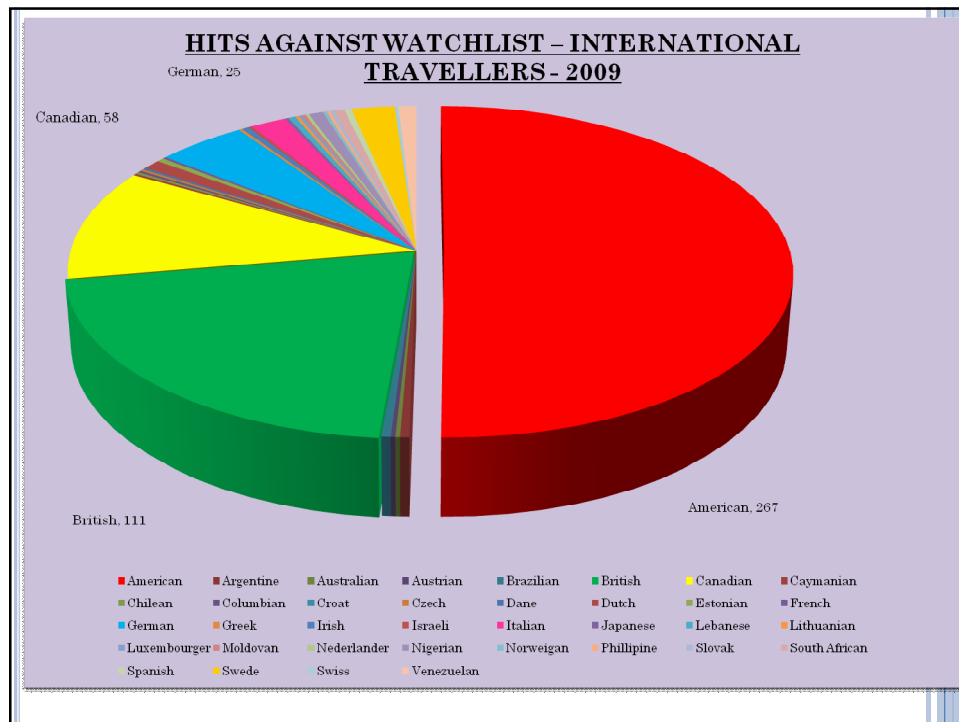


## SECURITY SCREENING OUTPUTS 2007 - 2011



## SECURITY SCREENING OUTPUTS 2007 - 2011





PROJECTS	
Small Arms and Light Weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with Project Ploughshares, Small Arms Survey, UNLiREC</li> <li>• Development of an Arms Trade Treaty</li> </ul>
Regional Integrated Ballistic Information Network (RIBIN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target 'crime guns' through ballistic identification and sharing this information among CARICOM Member States' law enforcement agencies</li> </ul>
Human Resource Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance regional capacity in Law Enforcement and Security Agencies to effectively manage and control crime and enhance security in the Region, by building the competencies of officials to enable the professional execution of tasks</li> </ul>
Forensic Science Capacity Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assess the Region's forensic science laboratories which currently gave support to law enforcement investigations among CARICOM Member States</li> </ul>
Regional Justice Protection Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop traditional regional justice protection by creating an appendage between target hardening, which incorporates witness protection measures such as temporary accommodation in safe houses or suppression of the witness' identity, with the utilization of forensic evidence and modern methods of procedural protection.</li> </ul>
Regional Crime and Security Strategy (RCSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a strategic plan to address the increasing levels of violent crimes considering the complexity of the international security environment</li> </ul>
NJCC Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine the current state of existence of NJCCs/NJHQs in CARICOM Member States and determine whether NJCCs are needed and what may be required to make them more relevant</li> </ul>

## **RSS - MAJOR MOBILISATIONS SINCE INCEPTION**

- ⌚ 1983 – **Operation URGENT FURY**: Grenada
- ⌚ 1989 – **Hurricane HUGO**: Antigua, St Kitts & Nevis, Montserrat
- ⌚ 1990 – **Attempted Coup**: Trinidad & Tobago
- ⌚ 1994 – **Prison Uprising**: St Kitts & Nevis
- ⌚ 1995 – **Hurricane LUIS & MARILYN**: Antigua, St Kitts & Nevis
- ⌚ 1998 – **Hurricane GEORGES**: St Kitts & Nevis
- ⌚ 1998 – **Operation WEED EATER**: St Vincent
- ⌚ 2003 – **Operation BORDELIAS**: St Lucia
- ⌚ 2004 – **Hurricane IVAN**: Grenada
- ⌚ 2005 – **Operation RESTORE PEACE**: Barbados
- ⌚ 2007 – **CWC O7**: RSS Member States
- ⌚ 2008 – **Operation VINCYPAC**: St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- ⌚ 2009 – **St Lucia**: Deployed Firemen from Member States
- ⌚ 2010 – **Operation RESTORE COMFORT**: Haiti Earthquake

## **THE WAY FORWARD - RSS**

- ⌚ Continue seeking to establish relationships and agreements with other countries and organisations
- ⌚ Champion the establishment of a Regional Coast Guard
- ⌚ Develop a new security strategy
- ⌚ Build human resource capacity

## **THE WAY FORWARD - RSS**

- ⌄ Establish a Regional Training Institute
- ⌄ Increase RSS Contribution to the security of Member States
- ⌄ Develop trend analysis capability
- ⌄ Conduct research

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## **THE WAY FORWARD 2012 - IMPACS**

- § Caribbean Basin Security Initiative;
- § Regional Integrated Ballistics Information Network;
- § Regional Crime and Security Strategy;
- § Human Resource Development Strategy, Counter Narcotics Plan,
- § Regional Justice Protection Improvement

## **THE WAY FORWARD 2012 - IMPACS**

- § Forensic Capacity Plan;**
- § Regional Investigative Mechanism;**
- § Polygraph Capacity;**
- § Expansion of the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS); and**
- § Establishment of the Advance Cargo Information System (ACIS).**

## **REGIONAL STRATEGIC APPROACH**

- P**ool regional resources
- U**nify focus on shared and emerging threats
- S**tandardize levels of proficiency of human resource capacity
- H**armonize operations and legislative framework





**Caribbean states are cognizant of both their geographic vulnerability to security threats and their limited capacity to respond. As small island states in a large maritime region, they are especially vulnerable to illicit trafficking in drugs.**



# QUESTIONS?

# THANK YOU !!!



**Lt Col Edward H Croft,**

Director,

Office of National Drug and Money Laundering  
Control Policy (ONDCP)

Camp Blizzard, P O Box W827, Coolidge

St. Georges, Antigua and Barbuda

Tel No: (268)562-3256

Fax No: (268)562-1014

website: [www.ondcp.gov.ag](http://www.ondcp.gov.ag)