



# ICAO

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INFORMATION PAPER

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**First NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group (ANI/WG) Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force Meeting (ANI/WG/SAR/TF/1)**  
Mexico City, Mexico, 17 – 19 September 2019

**Agenda Item 4: ANI/WG Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force Work Programme and Activities**  
**4.1 Global and Regional Search and Rescue (SAR) Matters**

**SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

(Presented by Trinidad and Tobago)

| <b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>   |   |
|--|---|
| <p>This Information Paper seeks to provide an overview of Search and Rescue services (SARs) in Trinidad and Tobago and within the Piarco Flight Information Region for which Trinidad and Tobago has responsibility.</p> |   |
| <i>Strategic Objectives:</i>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safety</li><li>• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency</li><li>• Environmental Protection</li></ul>  |
| <i>References:</i>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ICAO Annex 12 – Search and Rescue (July 2004)</li><li>• ICAO Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services (ATS)</li><li>• ICAO Doc 9731 – International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual, Vol I, Appendix I, SAR Agreements (2016)</li><li>• International Maritime Organisation</li><li>• Eastern Caribbean (E/CAR) Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) (July 2013)</li><li>• Ministry of National Security – Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (<a href="http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.tt">http://www.nationalsecurity.gov.tt</a>)</li><li>• Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Act (11 of 2001, amended by 17 of 2003)</li><li>• Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Regulations (TTCARs - 2016)</li></ul> |

**1. Introduction**

1.1 In ICAO Annex 12, Search and Rescue (SAR), which was adopted by the ICAO Council of Standards and recommended Practices, a Search and Rescue Service is defined as:

*“The performance of distress monitoring communication, coordination and search and rescue functions, initial medical assistance or medical evacuation, through the use of public and private resources, including cooperating aircraft, vessels and other craft and installations.”*

1.2 Annex 12, paragraph 2.1.1, further states that in the provision of SAR Services, “Contracting States shall, individually or in cooperation with other States, arrange for the establishment and prompt provision of SAR Services within their territories to ensure that assistance is rendered to persons in distress and such services shall be provided on a 24-hour basis.”

1.3 Annex 12 provides for Signatory States, either individually, or in collaboration with other Contracting States, to organise for the establishment and prompt provision of SAR Services within their territories to ensure that the requisite assistance is given. Annex 12 further states that those portions of seas not controlled by any country for which SAR Services will be established, shall be determined on the basis of Regional Air Navigation Agreements. Normally, SAR Agreements are established between the respective States through their Governments, with such Agreements being approved by the Council of ICAO on the advice of Regional Air Navigation Meetings.

1.4 Currently, there is a Draft Agreement between the Governments of the United States of America (USA) and Trinidad and Tobago on Aeronautical and Maritime SAR awaiting further action.

1.5 Within and adjacent to the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA there are a number of delineated SAR Regions (SRRs) established in accordance with ICAO Annex 12. Appendix A provides graphical representation of those SRRs associated with Maritime operational responsibilities.

1.6 The current Eastern Caribbean (E/CAR) Eastern Information Publication (AIP) details the SAR Services for the States within the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA provided by the relevant Civil Aviation Administrations in collaboration with the respective Rescue Coordination Centres (RCCs), which make the necessary SAR facilities available. Appendix B provides information on these RCCs and Rescue Sub-Centres (RSCs).

1.7 RCCs are the Units responsible for promoting efficient organisation of SAR Services and for coordinating the conduct of SAR operations within a SAR Region (SRR). RSCs are those Units subordinate to RCCs, established to complement the latter in accordance to certain provisions of the responsible authorities.

1.8 The E/CAR AIP lists one (1) RCC and four (4) Rescue Sub-Centres (RSCs) within the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA. There is the Piarco Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC), and the Antigua, Barbados, Fort-de-France and Guadeloupe Rescue Sub-Centres. Appendix B provides the contact information for the RCC and Rescue Sub-Centres.

1.9 Added to this, are various elements of State Police organisations, Defence Forces, Coast Guards and Harbour Master Departments, all of which can be made available for SAR activities when deemed necessary. Appendix C provides the SAR facilities available by the various participating States/Territories located within the Piarco FIR as of July 2013.

1.10 Within Trinidad and Tobago, the following agencies are directly responsible for the provision of SAR Services, with each agency having a specified role:

- a. Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority (TTCAA)
- b. Ministry of National Security:
  - Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF)
  - Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG)
  - Trinidad and Tobago Air Guard (TTAG)
  - Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM)

1.10.1 The Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority is responsible for the provision of an adequate system of Air Traffic Services (ATS) in the Piarco Flight Information Region (FIR). One of the main functions in the delivery of Air Traffic Services (ATS) in Trinidad and Tobago, is the provision of Alerting Service, which accomplishes the objective notifying the appropriate organisations with regards to aircraft in need of SAR Services and to assist such organisations as required. This role is in accordance with ICAO Annex 11 – ATS and the Trinidad and Tobago Civil aviation Regulations (TTCARs). The TTCARs does not designate any organizational responsibility for Search and Rescue services.

1.10.2 The Air Traffic Services department is currently responsible for receiving and distributing COSPAS-SARSAT alerts. The Manager Air Traffic Services and ANS Safety is the designated SAR POC (SPOC) between Trinidad and Tobago and the United States MCC.

1.10.3 The TTDF is responsible for the provision of SAR Services in keeping with national and international requirements; thereby assisting the TTCAA in times of an aviation crisis. Appendix C gives a list of the equipment accessible by the TTDF in the performance of its SAR responsibilities.

1.10.4 The TTAG's responsibility apart from providing aerial surveillance, is to provide SAR support within the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and in any other area of responsibility agreed to by the Signatory State to fulfil international obligations. Appendix C provides information the equipment available to enable the TTAG to perform such duties as of July 2013.

1.10.5 The TTCG is responsible for coordinating Search and Rescue operations. Through its Communications Centre, it has direct voice links with the United States Coast Guard Coordinating Centre at San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Venezuelan Naval SAR Coordinating Centre and the Barbados Coast Guard. Appendix C provides the equipment available to the TTCG as of July 2013, to perform SAR duties.

1.10.6 The ODPM was officially established in 2005 by the Cabinet of Trinidad and Tobago. The ODPM is responsible for coordinating and managing response and recovery through its National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC). The NEOC provides emergency support functions for SAR activities through National Security and the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS). This emergency support functions involves the following:

- a. Control and coordinating activities of response agencies,
- b. Provision of operational direction and support to respective Incident Managers,
- c. Arrange logistical support,
- d. Proactive planning to address incident requirements,

- e. Supervision of direct implementation of Ministries and/or Agencies Operations Plan,
- f. Receipt of notification of incidents and potential incidents to assess national and regional implications to determine the need for ODPM coordination, and
- g. Operational and/or resource coordination for incidents of national significance.

1.11 The organisations within Trinidad and Tobago, charged with the responsibility of providing and/or facilitating the provision of SAR Services need to strive towards more effective harmonisation so as to ensure the efficient use of assets for SAR activities and the provision of SAR Services by the Signatory State.

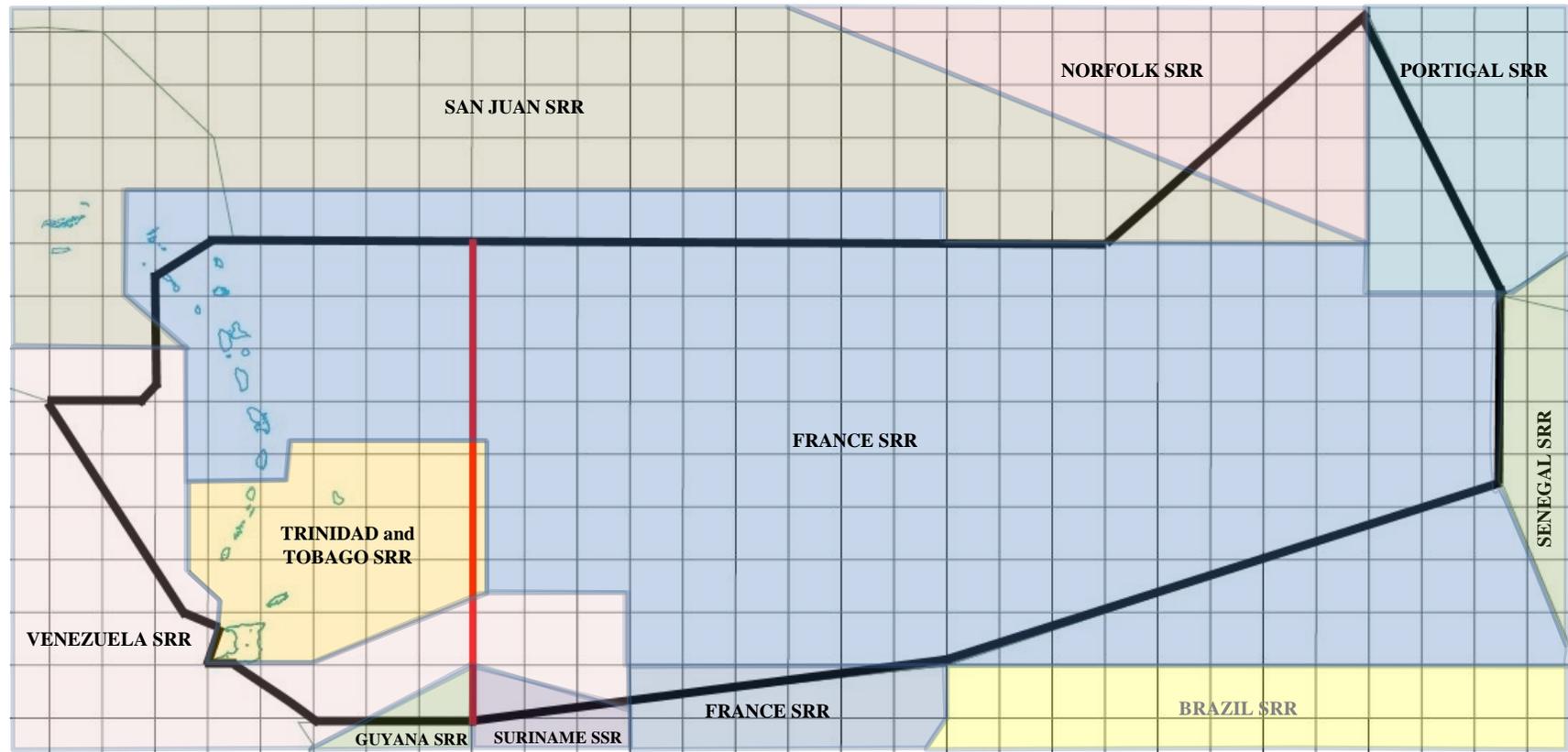
1.12 The Global SAR Plan, which is required for the implementation of the SAR Convention, was established for national and regional SAR systems, and provides information about States SAR responsibilities and capabilities and how such responsibilities are accepted and shared in Oceanic areas. This Plan provides detailed responsibilities for each Member Nation and lists their SAR Authorities.

1.13 The use of this Plan can therefore assist States with the delegation of duties, harmonisation and efficiency in the provision of SAR Services.

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APPENDIX A

Diagram of the various Search and Rescue Regions (SRRs) in and adjacent to Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA



Source: Adapted from <https://sarcontacts.info/contacts/trinidad-and-tobago-coast-guard-ttcg-5224/>

**Note:** This diagram is not drawn to scale

## APPENDIX B

## Rescue Coordination Centre and Sub-Centres within the Piarco FIR

| NAME AND TYPE OF SAR FACILITY | ADDRESS  | CONTACT NUMBERS   | Aeronautical Fixed Service (AFS) CONTACT |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Piarco RCC                    | Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority<br>Caroni North-Bank Road<br>Piarco International Airport<br>Piarco, Trinidad West Indies | <b>Tel:</b> +(868) 669 4852 /4380<br><b>Fax:</b> +(868) 669 4259 /1716                      | TTPPYCYX                                 |
| Antigua RSC                   | Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force (ABDF)<br>Deep Water Harbour St<br>John's Antigua West Indies  | <b>Tel:</b> (268) 462-0671 Fax: (268) 462-2842  | TAPAYCYX                                 |
| Barbados RSC                  | Civil Aviation Division<br>Air Traffic Service Building<br>Grantley Adams International Airport<br>Bridgetown,<br>Barbados West Indies | <b>Tel:</b> +(246) 428-0956/7101 Ext 4214<br><b>Fax:</b> (246) 428-2539                     | TBPBYCYX                                 |
| Fort-de-France RSC            | Le Lamentin - 97232<br>LAMENTIN (Martinique)   | <b>Tel:</b> +05 96 42 24 24 (HJ) +05 96 42 25 24 (H24)<br><b>Fax:</b> +05 96 51 10 63 (H24) | TFFFYCYX                                 |
| Guadeloupe RSC                | Le Raizet - BP 460 97164<br>POINTE-A-PITRE CEDEX   | <b>Tel:</b> 05 90 48 21 43 (H24)<br><b>Fax:</b> 05 90 48 21 24 (H24) 05 90 48 20 00 (HJ)    | TFFRYCYX                                 |

Source: Current AIP E/CAR

**APPENDIX C****Details of Rescue Coordination Centre and related Rescue Units**

| <b>NAME</b>                     | <b>LOCATION</b>                              | <b>FACILITIES</b>   | <b>REMARKS</b>   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1                               | 2  | 3   | 4  |
| ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA COAST GUARD | ST. JOHN'S HARBOUR 1707.06N<br>061 51.45W    | ONE 65FT PATROL BOAT<br><br>ONE 40FT PATROL BOAT<br><br>ONE 7M Rigid Hull Inflatable Bottom (RHIB)<br><br>TWO (2) 22FT BOSTON WHALERS | SPEED 22KTS 40-50 PERSONS. OPERATING RADIUS 175NM. CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850 USB VHF CH 16. VHF 121.5 MHz<br><br>SPEED 27KTS 20-30 PERSONS. OPERATIONAL RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 35KTS 8-10 PERSONS OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 30KTS 10 PERSONS OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM.  |
| BARBADOS COAST GUARD            | HMBS WILLOUGHBY FORT<br>13 05.71N 059 37.05W | ONE 37.5M PATROL VESSEL<br><br><br><br><br><br>TWO 12.32M (2) UTILITY BOATS   | MAX SPEED - 20KTS RANGE - 2500NM @ 13KTS CREW - 27 LIFE RAFTS - 03 BY 25 PERSONS MAX CASUALTIES-50 PERSONS SHIP ALONE<br>TOTAL - 125 PERSONS (LIFE RAFTS AND SHIP)<br><br>SPEED - 20KTS , CREW - 04 OPERATING RANGE 600 - NM MIN @ 14KTS (2 DAYS)<br>LIFE RAFTS -01 BY 6 PERSONS (EACH BOAT) MAX CASUALTIES - 16 PERSONS (GOOD CONDITION)<br><br>SEE BARBADOS AIP FOR MORE INFORMATION |
| DOMINICA COAST GUARD            | ROSEAU<br>15 18.40N 061 23.80W               | ONE 65FT PATROL BOAT<br><br><br><br><br>ONE 40FT PATROL BOAT<br><br><br><br>ONE 7M PATROL BOAT  | SPEED 22KTS 40-50 PERSONS OPERATING RANGE 500NM CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850 USB VHF CH 16 VHF 121.5MHZ<br><br>SPEED 27KTS 20-30 PERSONS OPERATIONAL RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 35KTS 8-10 PERSONS OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 30KTS 10 PERSONS OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM   |

| NAME                    | LOCATION  | FACILITIES   | REMARKS  |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1                       | 2   | 3  | 4  |
|                         |   | ONE 22FT BOSTON WHALER   |  |
| FRENCH AIR FORCE FWI    | FORT-DE-FRANCE<br>1435N06100W<br>1435N06100W        | 2 HELICOPTERS<br><i>(Medium)</i><br>1 HELICOPTER <i>(Light)</i><br>2 MRG | ALL AERIAL MEANS ARE COMPLEMENTARY OR OCCASIONAL ON RSC REQUEST  |
| GENDARMERIE             |   | 1 HELICOPTER <i>(Light)</i><br>1 RESCUE VESSEL<br>5 RESCUE BOATS         |  |
| FRENCH COMPANIES        |   | 1 SRG  | SAR AGREEMENT  |
| CUSTOMS                 |   | 2 SRG<br>1 RESCUE VESSEL<br>2 RESCUE BOATS                               |  |
| CIVIL AVIATION          |   | 1 SRG<br>1 RESCUE BOAT   |  |
| FRENCH NAVY             |   | 4 RESCUE VESSELS   | CASUAL - SEE FRENCH CAR/SAM/NAM AIP FOR MORE INFORMATION   |
| FRENCH AIRFORCE         | POINTE-A-PITRE<br>1616N06131W                       | 1 HELICOPTER <i>(Light)</i>  | ALL AERIAL MEANS ARE COMPLEMENTARY OR OCCASIONAL ON RSC REQUEST  |
| GENDARMERIE             |   | 1 HELICOPTER <i>(Light)</i><br>1 RESCUE VESSEL<br>10 RESCUE BOATS        |  |
| FRENCH COMPANIES        |   | 1 SRG<br>1 HELICOPTER <i>(Light)</i>                                     | SAR AGREEMENT  |
| CUSTOMS                 |   | 1 RESCUE VESSEL<br>1 RESCUE BOAT   |  |
| MARITIME ADMINISTRATION |   | 1 RESCUE BOAT  | SEE FRENCH CAR/SAM/NAM AIP FOR MORE INFORMATION  |
| GRENADA COAST GUARD     | PRICKLEY BAY<br>ST. GEORGES<br>12 01.00N 061 44.20W | ONE 106 FTPATROL BOAT  | SPEED 22KTS 70PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 1800NM<br>CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850 USB<br>VHF CH 16 VHF 121.5MHz. |
|                         |   | ONE 40FT PATROL BOAT   | SPEED 27KTS 20-30 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 600NM   |
|                         |   | ONE 7M RHIB  | SPEED 35KTS 8-10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM  |
|                         |   | ONE 22FT BOSTON WHALER   | SPEED 30KTS 10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM  |

| NAME   | LOCATION                           | FACILITIES  | REMARKS  |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1  | 2                                  | 3   | 4  |
| ROYAL<br>MONTserrat<br>POLICE<br><br>SERVIC<br>E/<br>MARINE UNIT | PORT LITTLE BAY<br>16 48N 062 12W  | ONE 21M FIBRE<br>GLASS<br>VESSEL  | SPEED 30KTS MAX 26 PERSONS<br>PLUS 6 CREW<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 100 NM<br>VHF CH16 VHF 121.5MHz   |
| ST. KITTS &<br>NEVIS COAST<br>GUARD                              | BASSETERRE<br>17 17.39N 062 42.39W | ONE 110FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br><br>ONE 40FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br><br>ONE 7M RHIB<br><br><br>TWO (2) 22 FTBOSTON<br>WHALERS  | SPEED 23KTS 100 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 1800NM<br>CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850 USB<br>VHF CH 16 VHF 121.5MHz<br><br>SPEED 27KTS 20-30 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 35KTS 8-10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 30KTS 10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM  |
| ST. LUCIA<br>COAST GUARD   | CASTRIES<br>14 10.30N 061 05.00W   | ONE 82FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br><br>ONE 65FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br><br>ONE 40FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br><br>ONE 7M RHIB<br><br><br>ONE 22FT BOSTON<br>WHALER<br><br><br>TWO (2) 25FT MAKO<br>CRAFT | SPEED 22KTS 70 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 1500NM<br>CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850 USB<br>VHF CH 16 VHF 121.5MHz.<br><br>SPEED 22KTS 40-50 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 500NM<br>CONSTANT WATCH HF 7850<br>USB VHF CH 16 VHF 121.5MHz<br><br>SPEED 27KTS 20-30 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 35KTS 8-10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM.<br><br>SPEED 30KTS 10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 40KTS 10 PERSONS<br>OPERATIONAL RANGE 150NM. |

| NAME   | LOCATION                            | FACILITIES   | REMARKS  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1  | 2                                   | 3  | 4  |
| ST. VINCENT &<br>THE GRENADINES<br>COAST GUARD | CALLIAQUA BAY<br>12 07.8N 061 05.0W | ONE 120FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br>ONE 44FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br>ONE 40FT PATROL<br>BOAT<br><br>TWO 9M RHIB<br><br>ONE 7.5M RHIB<br><br>ONE 7 M RHIB | SPEED 22KTS 70 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 1800NM<br><br>SPEED 45KTS 15-20 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 400NM<br><br>SPEED 30 KTS 20-30 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 30-35KTS 12-16 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 40KTS 10-12 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 150NM<br><br>SPEED 30KTS 8-10 PERSONS<br>OPERATING RANGE 150NM. |

| NAME                            | LOCATION  | FACILITIES   | REMARKS  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1                               | 2   | 3  | 4  |
| TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COAST GUARD | STAUBLES BAY<br>CHAGUARAMAS<br>TRINIDAD<br>10 41 N 061 39 W | <b>MARINE VESSELS</b><br>ONE FAST PATROL BOAT<br><br>ONE OPERATIONAL VESSEL<br><br>FOUR CUTTERS<br><br>TWO LAUNCH<br><br>FOUR LAUNCH<br><br>ONE LAUNCH<br><br>ONE LAUNCH<br><br>THREE LAUNCH<br><br>THREE RHIB       | SPEED 16KTS LENGTH 60M, CAPACITY 125 AND CREW OF 37 RANGE 7000NM<br><br>SPEED 30KTS LENGTH 40M CAPACITY 40 AND CREW OF 28 RANGE 6000NM<br><br>SPEED 21KTS LENGTH 27M CAPACITY 30 AND CREW OF 10 RANGE 1,500NM<br><br>SPEED 22KTS LENGTH 20M CAPACITY 15 AND CREW OF 6 RANGE 900NM<br><br>SPEED 28KTS LENGTH CAPACITY10 AND CREW OF 6 RANGE 500NM<br><br>SPEED 28KTS LENGTH 14M CAPACITY 15 AND CREW OF 6 RANGE 600NM<br><br>SPEED 22KTS LENGTH 13M CAPACITY 10 AND CREW OF 5 RANGE 360 NM<br>SPEED 28KTS LENGTH 13.2M CAPACITY 12 AND CREW OF 5 RANGE 500 NM<br><br>SPEED 40KTS LENGTH 6M CAPACITY 6 AND CREW OF 5 RANGE 100NM |
| TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AIR GUARD   | PIARCO AIRPORT<br>103535N 0612055W                          | <b>AIRCRAFT</b><br>ONE CESSNA 402B<br><br>ONE CESSNA 310R<br><br>TWO C-26 FAIRCHILD<br><br>TWO NAVAJO P-31<br><br><b>HELICOPTERS</b><br>THREE S-76 SIKORSKY (WINCH CAPACITY )<br><br>FOUR BO 105 (NO WINCH CAPACITY) | MAX SPEED 140KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 8 ENDURANCE 4 1/2 HRS<br><br>MAX SPEED 140KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 6 ENDURANCE 5 HRS<br><br>MAX SPEED 240KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 20 ENDURANCE 8 HRS<br><br>MAX SPEED 140KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 6 FUEL ENDURANCE 4 1/2 HRS<br><br>MAX SPEED 150KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 6 FUEL ENDURANCE 3 1/2 HRS RANGE 400NM<br><br>MAX SPEED 110KTS PASSENGER AND CREW 6 FUEL ENDURANCE 2 1/2 HRS RANGE 300NM   |

Source: Current AIP E/CAR