

MORE GOOD NEWS

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Prime Minister Gaston Browne met with India's Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Kiren Rijju at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting taking place in Samoa. *Story on page 3*

Local News



A&B cruise tourism earnings second highest in OECS



Antigua and Barbuda earned US\$89 million from passenger spending for the 2023-24 cruise tourism season, making it second only to St. Kitts Nevis in the OECS and Barbados.

That's according to the latest data provided by the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) which conducted a series of surveys among both passengers and crews from its member ships that ply their trade in the Caribbean. The surveys

ran from October 2023 to May 2024. Spending by crew members of the cruise ships was a further US\$5.1 million.

The expenditures for the other OECS territories and Barbados are listed below;

St. Kitts-Nevis	-
US\$113.1million	
Dominica	-
US\$20.9 million	
St. Vincent	-
US\$19.3 million	
St. Lucia-	US\$72.7 million
Grenada-	US\$22.4 million
Barbados-	US\$83.5 million
British Virgin Islands	-
US\$85.7 million	

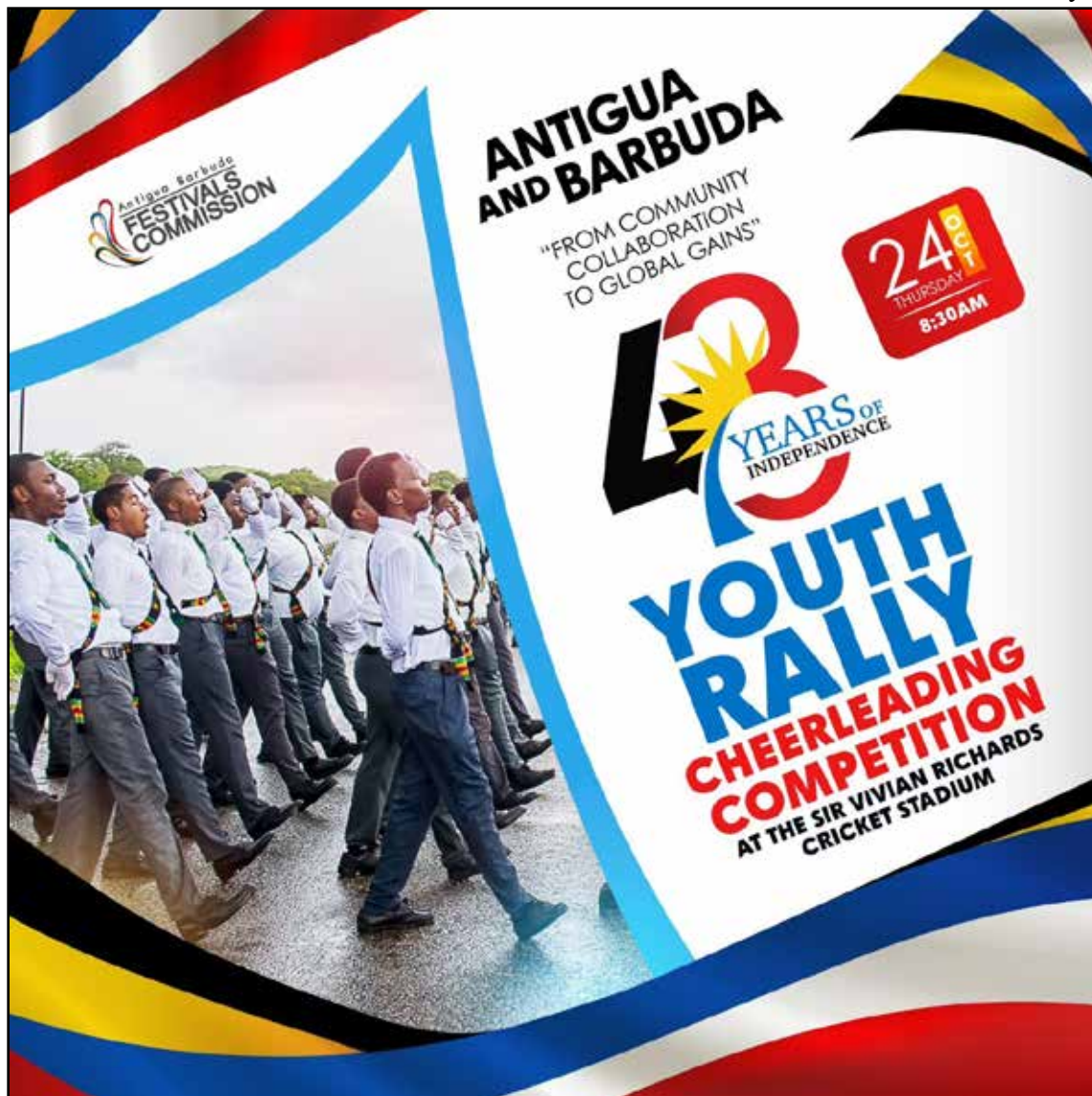
There was no data in the report relating to either Anguilla or Montserrat.

The FCCA latest study finds that cruise tourism and the 33.3 million passenger and crew onshore visits throughout 33 Caribbean and Latin American destinations directly generated a record \$4.27 billion in total expenditures, along with more than 94,000 jobs paying more than \$1.27 billion in wage income, during the last cruise year.

The FCCA lists cruise tourism expenditures in destination ports are composed of a broad range of spending including:

→ onshore expenditures by passengers which tend to

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Antigua and Barbuda, India exchange fraternal greetings

Antigua and Barbuda and India continue to build on the strong fraternal ties that current exist between the two nations.

The ongoing Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting that is taking place in Samoa, provided the backdrop for

a meeting between Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, and India's Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Kiren Rijiju, both of whom are attending the CHOGM in Samoa.

PM Browne took the opportunity to again express the gratitude of the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda to the Indian government for gifting the country with anti-COVID-19 vaccines at a time when other countries barred companies within their borders from exporting vaccines.

Antigua and Barbuda has also benefited from a host of training opportunities provided to its nationals by the Indian government.

Meanwhile, Minister Rijiju said he cherished the long standing partnership with Antigua and Barbuda that is based on strong people to people ties.



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be concentrated in shore excursions, retail purchases of clothing, jewelry, and local crafts & souvenirs;

- onshore expenditures by crew which are generally concentrated in purchases of food and beverages, local transportation and retail purchases of clothing;

- expenditures by cruise lines for port services, such as dockage fees

and linesmen, utilities, such as water and power and navigation services; and

- purchases of items such as food and other supplies by the cruise lines from local businesses.

According to the FCCA based on data collected from industry sources and available statistics, 854,225 cruise passengers arrived aboard cruise ships during the 2023/2024 cruise year. Of

these, an estimated 712,425 passengers (83%) disembarked and visited Antigua.

Utilizing additional industry data and visiting cruise lines, 341,690 crew were aboard the cruise ships and 30 percent, or 103,875 crew, disembarked and visited the destination. Passenger arrivals are up approximately 8 percent from the last study in 2017/18.

Local News



Fallout from incident at a cemetery continues

The fallout continues from an incident that happened at Lambert Cemetery in New Winthropes last Thursday when an individual discharged a firearm and where a fighting broke out between several women.

Immigration Officer, Ty Thomas of Cassada Gardens appeared before the District B Magistrate Court presided over by Senior Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel to answer a number of charges.

He is charged with unlawfully assaulting Janae Richards in violating of Section 43 of the Offences Against the Persons Act. He was also charged with discharging a firearm in a public place contrary to Section 11 of the Firearms Act.

Thomas was granted bail in the court in the amount of \$7,500.00 with a \$2,000.00 cash component. He was also asked to provide the court with two

sureties. Additionally, he was asked to surrender his travel documents as he was placed on a total travel ban outside of the state. He is now required to report to the Police Headquarters every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. He was also asked to surrender his firearm.

This case was adjourned until December 4, 2024.

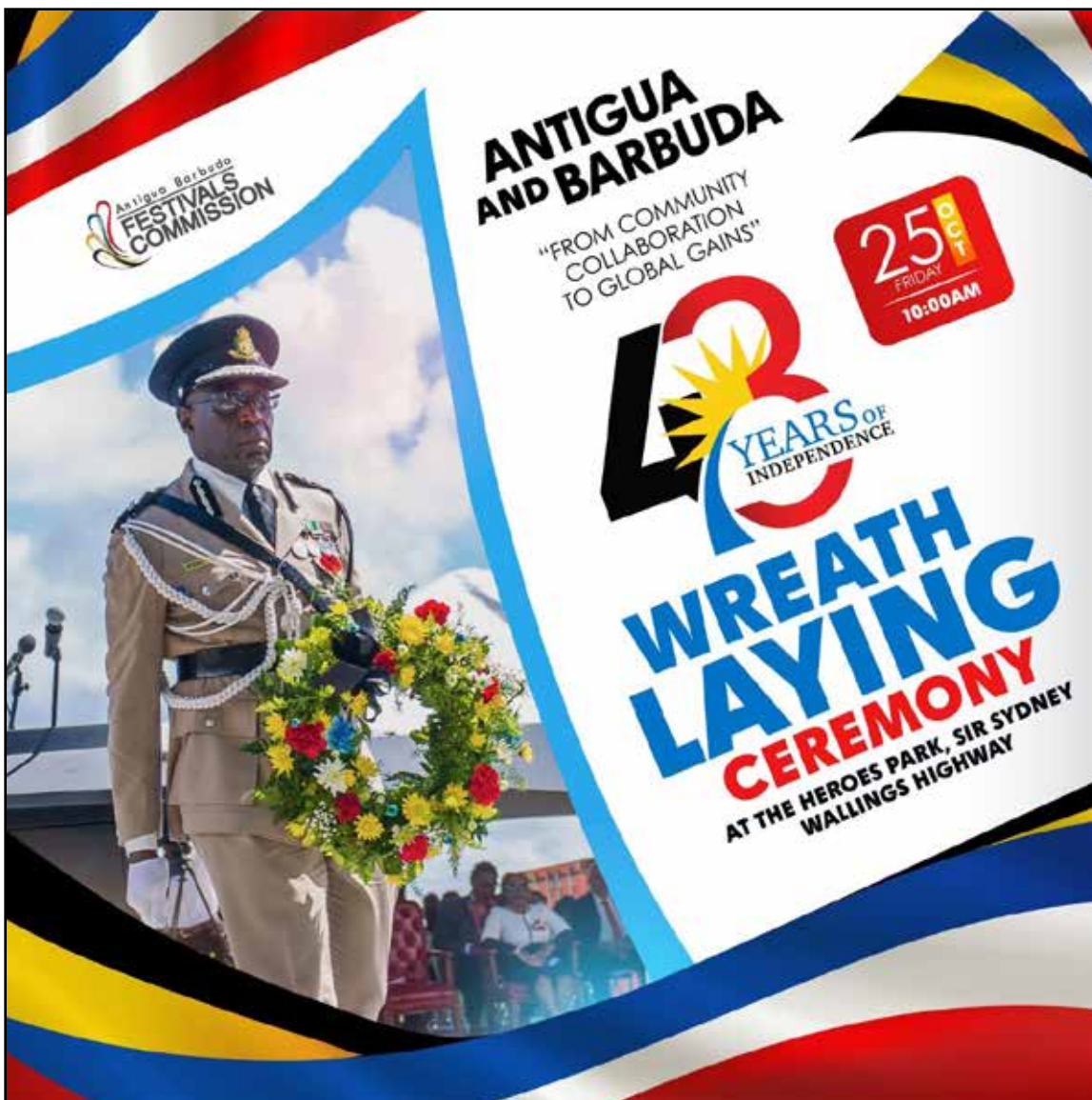
Meanwhile, in a relat-

ed case five young women were granted bail in the court on multiple charges including fighting, assault, and possessing offensive weapon and throwing stones during the funeral at Lambert Cemetery. All five who were charged with fighting – Jan Bright-Jarvis, Yvette Joseph, Rochelle Murphy, Tenay Spencer and Janae Richards – were granted bail of \$2,500. Each with a cash deposit of \$1,000.00.

Jan Bright-Jarvis of Cooks Extension faces additional charges of throwing stones and possession of a hammer with the intent to commit a felonious act contrary to Section 53 of the Small Charges Act. Rochelle Murphy of Greenbay was also charged with assaulting Joyanne Etienne and assaulting Yvette Joseph. Janae Richards' charges include beating Tenay Spencer, throwing stones that endangered other persons and assaulting Taney Spencer. All in violation of the Small Charges Act.

They have been ordered to report to the Police Headquarters or the Grays Farm Police Station every Monday between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. They were also warned to keep the peace and to submit their passports.

The matters have been adjourned until February 3 & 4 of next year.



Big drug haul at the airport

Over half a million dollars' worth of cannabis was seized at V.C. Bird International Airport during a joint drug operation between police and customs. Six cardboard boxes with a total of one hundred and sixteen vacuumed-sealed packages of cannabis were discovered at the cargo shed on Tuesday, October 22. The controlled substance weighs 140.4 pounds and is valued at \$626,400. The substance was taken to the Police Headquarters as further investigations are ongoing.

Meanwhile, the police have arrested and charged 44-year-old Tricia Webb of Factory Road with fraud.

She is accused of fraudulently converting to her own use and benefit the amount of \$7,000.00 entrusted to her for box hand between January 13, and September 14, 2024.

The Factory Road resident is one of two females that were taken into custody and questioned by police in connection with this ongoing fraud investigation. She is due in court sometime this week.

Dangerous driving case against Karim Edwards heads for the High Court

Karim Edwards will face trial in the High Court for the car crash that reportedly killed 21-year-old medical student Kenneth Mathew exactly two years ago.

On Wednesday, Acting Chief Magistrate Dexter Wason committed the case to the January assizes, where Edwards will be tried for dangerous driving resulting in Mathew's death and severe injuries to 19-year-old Priyanjana Das.

Edwards, who remains on bail, had previously attempted to have the case dismissed through a 'no case' submission filed by his attorney, Wendel Alexander, but



Karim Edwards

Magistrate Wason ruled that a prima facie case had been made.

The prosecution, led by Paulio Williams, argued that Edwards' driving was reckless, citing poor visibility and excessive speed as contributing factors. Mathew died from brain trauma a week after the incident, while Das survived but sustained life-altering injuries.

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Local News



Note from the Cuban Ambassador in Antigua and Barbuda

Sergio Martinez Gonzalez
Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in Antigua and Barbuda

Once again I find myself having to comment on articles published by the Pointe Express newspaper on the situation in my country, HURRICANE OSCAR LEAVES AT LEAST SIX DEAD IN CUBA written by the journalist of the British news network BBC Vanessa Buschschluter, which refers in a simplistic way to the devastating damage caused by Hurricane Oscar in the eastern part of Cuba, and the difficult energy situation that the largest country of the Antilles has had to face.

It is no secret the ani-

mosity that several major media outlets of the United States and the so-called old European continent, including the BBC, have historically shown against the Cuban Revolution since its very beginning.

They have never referred to the gigantic work of social justice carried out by Cuba during all these years, and much less to the collaboration and solidarity support of my country with more than 100 nations, which has allowed Cuba to earn the respect and affection of millions around the world.

I do not intend to refer again to the real causes of the complex situation facing my country, about

which I have written to this newspaper on several occasions.

Today I only want to highlight the work that could be considered heroic, of thousands of Cubans who work in the electrical sector and who, with their tireless efforts, made it possible to restore and put into operation the entire electrical generation system of the country in less than 5 days.

Regarding this undeniable fact, the aforementioned BBC journalist does not manage to say a single word.

I would like to remind her that after the passage of the devastating Hurricane Milton, thousands

of people in Florida, in the all-powerful USA, remained without electricity for more than 15 days.

We can also remember that on our beloved sister island of Puerto Rico, after the passage of a devastating Hurricane, many of its inhabitants remained for months without access to electricity and the only assistance received from the Trump Administration was the sending of bales of toilet paper.

I would respectfully recommend to the BBC journalist, at least take a quick look at the most recent report presented by Cuba to the United Nations General Assembly on the effects of the inhuman economic war unleashed by the US government against the Cuban people for more than 6 decades, and perhaps with a little better information, she can have the balance and objectivity so necessary in journalistic work.

On October 29 and 30, the international community will once again raise its voice at the United Nations headquarters to demand that the US government put an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade against Cuba and its heroic people.

ABLP – St Mary's South - Small Business Registration Form

Dear Constituents,

The Branch of the ABLP's St. Mary's South Constituency recognizes the value of a thriving small business sector to the economic welfare of the vibrant communities that make up our constituency.

Being conscious of this, the Branch is dedicated to lending its support to the enhancement of the small business sector by acting as a gateway to meaningful opportunities to amplify the sector's stability and foster growth. Among these are: small business development training, access to low-cost funding, business guidance and business counselling, networking oppor-

tunities and other capacity building initiatives or programs.

To streamline our efforts to providing easier access to these opportunities, the Branch is in the process of creating a comprehensive list of small businesses within the constituency and wishes to encourage all proprietors to register their business via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/99F3KwbHiKxWG-jsx8>

Please note that physical forms are also available at the Branch Office in Bolans.

Thanks for your usual kind cooperation and continued support.

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Idris Elba: Why I'm planning a move to Africa

By Thomas Naadi

British actor Idris Elba has told the BBC that he will relocate to Africa within the next decade as part of his plans to support the continent's movie industry.

The 52-year-old star of the hit series *The Wire* is behind nascent projects to build a film studio on the Tanzanian islands of Zanzibar as well as one in the Ghanaian capital, Accra.

Born in London, Elba, whose mother is from Ghana and father from Sierra Leone, has a strong attachment to Africa.

He wants to leverage his star power to back its burgeoning film business as he says it is vital that Africans get to tell their own stories.

"I would certainly consider settling down here; not even consider, it's going to happen," he said in an interview on the sidelines of an industry meeting in Accra.

"I think [I'll move] in the next five, 10 years, God willing. I'm here to bolster the film industry - that is a 10-year process - I won't be able to do that from overseas. I need to be in-country, on the continent."

But in the spirit of Pan-Africanism he will not commit to living in a specific place.

"I'm going to live in Accra, I'm going to live in Freetown [Sierra Leone's



Elba (right) attended the US Africa Leaders Summit in Washington DC in 2022.

capital], I'm going to live in Zanzibar. I'm going to try and go where they're telling stories - that's really important."

One goal he does have is to make a film in his studio in Accra one day.

Elba, who played South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela in the 2013 biopic *Long Walk to Freedom*, believes that it is vital for Africans to be centre-stage in the entire film-making process. That is in front of the camera, behind the camera and also in financing, distribution, marketing and showing the final product.

He imagines that just as movie audiences around the world know the differences between the US cities of New York and Los Angeles without necessarily ever having visited them, they will one

day have a more nuanced understanding of the continent.

"This sector is a soft power, not just across Ghana but across Africa.

"If you watch any film or anything that has got to do with Africa, all you're going to see is trauma, how we were slaves, how we were colonised, how it's just war and when you come to Africa, you will realise that it's not true.

"So, it's really important that we own those stories of our tradition, of our culture, of our languages, of the differences between one language and another. The world doesn't know that."

With Nigeria's Nollywood producing hundreds of movies a year, films are arguably one of the country's most successful exports. There is also a tradition, especially in parts of Fran-

cophone Africa, of making high-quality films.

Elba has previously recognised the talent in Africa's film industry, but said the facilities were "lacking".

A 2022 report from Unesco backed up the actor.

The UN's cultural agency said that despite "significant growth in production", the business of film-making across the continent was hindered by issues such as piracy, insubstantial training opportunities and a lack of official film institutions.

Elba believes with the right momentum and involvement of governments willing to create an enabling environment, a virtuous circle can be established.

"We have to invest in our story-telling because when you see me, you see a little version of yourself and that encourages us."



Striking Boeing workers reject 35% pay rise offer

By Natalie Sherman

Striking Boeing workers have voted to reject a new offer from the aviation giant, which included a 35% pay rise over four years.

The International Association of Machinists (IAM) union said 64% of its striking members voted against the proposed deal.

More than 30,000 of Boeing's workers have joined the walkout, which started on 13 September, after the union after an initial offer was rejected.

It comes just hours after Boeing boss Kelly Ortberg warned the company is at a "crossroads" as losses at the firm surged to roughly \$6bn (£4.6bn).

Mr Ortberg, who took over as chief executive in August, said he was working "feverishly" to stabilise

the firm, as it works to repair its reputation which has been hit by manufacturing and safety concerns.

In prepared remarks, Mr Ortberg said he was "hopeful" that the plan would be approved, while noting that significant other hurdles remain to reset the business.

"This is a big ship that will take some time to turn, but when it does, it has the capacity to be great again," he added.

The latest crisis at Boeing erupted in January when a dramatic mid-air blowout of a piece of one of its passenger planes.

Its space business also suffered a reputational hit after its Starliner vessel was forced to return to Earth without carrying astronauts.

The strike has compounded the problems, leading to a dramatic slow-

down in production.

Mr Ortberg said the firm was "saddled with too much debt" and had disappointed customers with lapses in performance across the business.

Boeing's commercial aircraft business reported operating losses of \$4bn in the last three months, while its defence unit lost nearly \$2.4bn.

"They clearly have a lot to recover from, both operationally and financially," said Ben Toscanos of S&P Ratings. "The first step will be to resolve the strike... so we'll see how that plays out."

Mr Ortberg argued the firm was in a strong position, with a backlog of roughly 5,400 orders for its planes.

But he warned investors that restarting the firm's factories, whenever the strike does end, will be tricky.

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Regional News

Lorna Smith fired as BVI's Deputy Premier

By Dillon De Shang

There's a major political shake-up in the British Virgin Islands Government as Premier Dr Natalio Wheatley has fired his deputy, Lorna Smith.

In an address this morning, Wheatley announced Smith, who was also the Minister for Financial Services, Labour and Trade, will be replaced by opposition member and representative for the Third Electoral District, Julian Fraser.

Apart from the Deputy Premier role, Fraser will be the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change and he will also be responsible for labour and immigration.

Wheatley added that Fraser remains the Chairman of the Progressives United despite entering an alliance with the Virgin Islands Party where he was a member for several years.

Smith's role as Minister of Financial Services and Trade has been added to Wheatley's lengthy portfolio, which also includes responsibility for agricul-



Premier Dr Natalio Wheatley and sacked Deputy Premier Lorna Smith at a media conference on September 19.

ture. Rumours have circulated that Wheatley and Smith frequently clashed after she joined him to form a government following the 2023 general election, where she won a Territorial At-Large seat in Parliament on a National Democratic Party ticket before crossing the floor.

Many had speculated that Smith would have sided with the opposition in

a No Confidence Motion against Wheatley and his government.

The premier, while not addressing the rumours directly, explained his firing of Smith, was a "necessary change to the composition of the government that provides my administration with political stability and a wealth of knowledge and experience which will serve us well over the course of the remainder of

this House of Assembly."

"Political stability is critical at this time to ensure we finalise completion of governance reforms, effectively address the recommendations of the mutual evaluation report, continue to rebuild our infrastructure with the loan funds now secured for hurricane recovery, accelerate the growth and diversification of our economy, improve health care, education and security, pursue sustainable development, build climate resilience and prepare for constitutional negotiations with the United Kingdom."

Wheatley said he had a "heavy heart" removing Smith, who is the wife of former Premier Orlando

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"It's much harder to turn this on than it is to turn it off. So it's critical, absolutely critical, that we do this right," he said.

"We have a detailed return-to-work plan in place and I'm really looking forward to getting everybody back and getting to work on that plan."

The company announced plans earlier this month to cut roughly 10% of its

workforce. Thousands of other staff are already on a rolling furlough due to the strike, which has also hit suppliers.

Mr Ortberg told investors that his first priority was a "fundamental culture change".

"We need to prevent the festering of issues and work better together to identify, fix and understand the root cause," he said.



Criminal gangs stepping up attacks in Haiti

CMC - The head of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), Maria Isabel Salvador, has warned that criminal gangs

are stepping up attacks in areas they do not yet control and that the situation in the French-speaking Caribbean Community

(CARICOM) country “has unfortunately deteriorated”.

Addressing the United Nations Security Coun-

cil on Tuesday evening Salvador pointed to escalating attacks in the past week around the capital, its suburbs, the agricultural region and the city, where residents have been under prolonged siege and are pleading for more security reinforcements.

She told the Council that the violence is “spreading terror and fear, overwhelming the national security apparatus” and that the Kenya-led Multi-

cont'd from pg 10

Smith, from his cabinet as she “was a very capable minister.”

“However, she did not give me the confidence that she would remain with my administration for the duration of this term, and this left room for uncertainty and political instability, which we cannot afford at this time.

“We must ensure that the Order in Council is lifted, we repair our infra-

structure, deliver public services at a much higher level, grow our economy, and continue to build a sustainable nation.”

Wheathley said Fraser will be a valuable addition to his cabinet as he brings over 25 years of experience.

The premier said this experience will be vital in his government’s negotiations with the United Kingdom for more autonomy.

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Regional News



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national Security Support (MSS) Mission remains “seriously understaffed, which could affect its deployment and prevent it from carrying out its duties”.

Earlier, Haiti’s Ambassador to the United Nations, Antonio Rodrigue, said that the past three weeks have seen a targeted and sustained joint security operation against gangs by security officers with the MSS and Haitian National Police, particularly in the centre of Port-au-Prince,

but tangible results have been “slow”.

Kenya, which has provided most of the officers for the MSS so far, announced that 600 more will be deployed to Haiti by mid-November.

Funding has also lagged, and an alliance of well-equipped armed gangs known as Viv Ansanm has expanded across the capital and surrounding regions.

The UN Security Council was told that the recent massacre in Pont-Sondé exemplifies the ongoing

violence and Salvador also warned of rising tensions between the country’s two executive branches, led respectively by Prime Minister Garry Conille and Leslie Voltaire, of the Transitional Presidential Council (TPC), which are further undermining public confidence in the government.

More than 4,200 people have fled their homes since Thursday in new attacks around the capital, according to UN estimates, with most seeking refuge in makeshift camps set up

in schools, churches and health centres.

The national police have said they are being deployed to some areas where fighting has intensified this week while Prime Minister Conille said on Monday he had immediately recalled hundreds of police and soldiers from VIP protection letters so they could be sent to combat zones.

Meanwhile, the TPC is condemning threats made by criminals against journalists in Haiti.

“Freedom of the press is sacred and non-negotiable. The CPT expresses its unwavering support for all journalists in Haiti who courageously pursue their mission at the risk of their lives,” it said in a statement after two gang leaders, Jimmy Chérizier aka “Barbecue” and Vitelhomme Innocent issued threats to journalists.

The Ministry of Justice on Tuesday also warned of unspecified threats to Prime Minister Conille and other members of the Transitional Presidential Council. While it did not provide details of the threat, the ministry said it had “consistent and persistent” information that the top officials might be targeted by unnamed actors intent on sowing “trouble and panic in the country”.

The ministry is urging police and judicial authorities to take “appropriate measures” to guarantee the officials’ safety.

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UK and Germany sign ‘landmark’ defence agreement

By Jonathan Beale

Britain and Germany have signed what the UK government is calling a “landmark defence agreement” aimed at boosting security, investment and jobs.

Under the agreement, German defence company Rheinmetall will open a new factory in the UK to manufacture barrels for artillery guns – supporting 400 jobs.

Both countries will work together to develop drones and a new long-range missile.

German maritime surveillance aircraft will also periodically fly patrols of the North Atlantic from RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland.

“Today is a significant day for UK and German relations and in the history of our two countries,” Defence Secretary John Healey said at a press conference following the signing.

“This is the driving force behind our Nato-first UK defence strategy, behind our reset of UK relations with Europe,” he said.

Labour promised to build closer military ties with Germany while in opposition and this is part of a wider push by this government to reset relations with key European allies post Brexit.

The German Ambassador to the UK, Miguel Bergner, said the European Com-



mission will have a very strong focus on defence in the next five years, and there is space for the UK to be involved.

“Obviously the question is - what can the role of the British defence industry and of the capacities of the United Kingdom be in this joint endeavour?” he told BBC Radio 4’s Today programme.

The UK already has a defence pact with France – the Lancaster House Treaty signed in 2010 by David Cameron and Nicholas Sarkozy – but this is the first with Germany.

The UK and Germany are the two largest defence spenders in Europe and the biggest European military

donors to Ukraine.

Healey said it was a “milestone moment”, bringing the two countries’ militaries and defence industries closer.

In reality the two nations already co-operate as members of the Nato alliance.

In a joint venture, they are also building new tanks and armoured vehicles for the British Army, Germany’s Rheinmetall and the UK’s BAE Systems-formed RBSL to manufacture the Boxer armoured fighting vehicle and the latest Challenger 3 tank in Telford, Shropshire.

Under the new Trinity House Agreement, Rheinmetall will build a factory in the UK to produce barrels

for artillery guns – something the UK stopped doing more than a decade ago.

The site for the factory has not yet been announced, but the Ministry of Defence (MOD) says it will support more than 400 jobs and use British steel produced by Sheffield Forgemasters.

The steelmaker was recently acquired by the UK Government. The first artillery gun barrels are expected to roll off the production line in 2027.

The Trinity House Agreement also includes a commitment to develop a new long-range missile, which the MOD says will be more precise and can be fired further than any current systems – the UK’s

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International

AROUND THE WORLD



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Storm Shadow and Germany's Taurus. Unlike the UK, Germany has refused to supply Ukraine with its Taurus cruise missile.

The UK and Germany will further co-operate on developing drones that might be able to fly alongside Typhoon jets operated by both countries.

German P8 maritime surveillance aircraft will periodically operate out of RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland to help patrol the North Atlantic. Other Nato allies have been doing the same for a number of years.

There is also a promise to bolster the defence of Nato's eastern flank; both the UK and Germany have already sent hundreds of troops to the Baltic states as



The Forge Shop at Sheffield Forgemasters, which will produce steel for a new factory in the UK that will produce barrels for artillery guns.

part of Nato's enhanced defence plans following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Germany's Defence

Minister Boris Pistorius said the agreement would strengthen Europe and Nato.

"We must not take secu-

rity in Europe for granted," he said, adding the projects being undertaken would be open to other partners.

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At least five dead in attack at Turkish aviation company

By Vicky Wong

At least five people have been killed and 22 injured in an attack at the headquarters of an aviation company near the Turkish capital Ankara, authorities have confirmed.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said that two attackers, a woman and a man, have been “neutralised”, adding that the attack had most likely involved Kurdish rebel group the PKK.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Turkey’s defence ministry announced late on Wednesday that air strikes had been launched at Kurdish rebel targets in northern Iraq and northern Syria.

Various videos from the attack earlier on Wednesday show at least two people firing guns around the entrance of Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI), which is located some 40km (25 miles) outside the capital.

Turkish Vice President Cevdet Yilmaz said four of the victims were TAI employees while the fifth was a taxi driver.

Local media had earlier reported that the attackers killed the cab driver before taking his vehicle to carry out the attack.

The blast took place



around the time of a shift change, and staff had to be directed to shelters, they said.

Yerlikaya also confirmed that seven special ops forces members were among the 22 who were injured in the attack.

The PKK is banned as a terrorist organisation in Turkey, the US and UK, and has been fighting against the Turkish state since the 1980s for greater rights for the country’s significant Kurdish minority.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan - who is in Russia for the Brics summit - condemned what he called a “vile terror attack” during a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, in remarks broadcast live on TV.

He later posted a

lengthy statement on X, saying that security forces acted quickly to neutralise the threat, and that “no terrorist organisation, no evil focus targeting our security will be able to achieve their goals”.

Turkish authorities have imposed a media blackout on details of the attack, and users in large areas of the country have reported not being able to use social media sites like YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and X.

The president of Turkey’s Radio and TV Supreme Council, Ebubekir Sahin, warned that all images relating to the incident should be removed from social media, and urged users not to share images which “will serve the purpose of terrorism”.

TAI is a key player in Turkey’s aerospace industry, designing, developing and manufacturing various aircraft for commercial and military use.

It is the company designated by the Nato member to be the licensed manufacturer for the US-designed F-16 fighter jets. TAI also plays a role in modernising older aircraft for use by the Turkish military.

The firm’s two principal owners are the Turkish Armed Forces and a civilian arm of Turkey’s government charged with improving its defence capabilities and managing military procurement.

The blast took place as a major trade fair for defence and aerospace industries was going on in Istanbul this week.

Sports News



Asalanka leads Sri Lanka to ODI series win over West Indies

PALLEKELE, Sri Lanka -- Sri Lanka wrapped up the One-Day International (ODI) series against the West Indies with a five-wicket victory in Pallekele on Wednesday.

The Sri Lankans achieved victory at 190 for five in 38.2 overs after dismissing the West Indies for 189 in 36 overs to take an unassailable 2-0 in the three-match series.

Sri Lanka controlled the early powerplay as Asitha Fernando, who finished with three for 35, and Maheesh Theekshana, who captured three for 25, took two wickets apiece to leave the tourists at 31 for four in the ninth over.

Wanindu Hasaranga, who ended with four for



Charith Asalanka bats against the West Indies in the second one-day international at the Pallekele International Stadium in Sri Lanka on Wednesday, October 23, 2024. (Getty Images)

40, then claimed three of her (4), Hayden Walsh Jr. space of 14 balls.

his four wickets as Roston (1), and Alzarri Joseph (1) Chase (8), Romario Shep- were all dismissed in the

However, Sherfane

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Eye Mobile Vision Care and BOE win last games in Business Basketball League

Eye Mobile Vision Care and the Board of Education (BOE) wrapped up their campaigns in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business Basketball League on Tuesday evening.

Eye Mobile Vision Care finished with a record of five wins and seven losses from the quota of 12 matches in the 13-team round-robin league with a 72-64 victory against last year's champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board in their last game at the JSC Sports Complex.

Dominick Anthony produced 17 points, 10 rebounds, and five steals;

Jaylele Joseph converted 16 points; and Shaheem O'Marde had 16 points, 10 rebounds, and seven assists for Eye Mobile Vision Care.

Devorn Benjamin sank 26 points and claimed five rebounds, and Russell Daley scored 12 points for the Transport Board, which ended their league campaign with six losses and six wins from their quota of 12 matches.

The Board of Education wrapped up their league campaign with their seventh win from their quota of 12 matches after pulling off a 55-44 victory against Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew in their final outing.

Xavier Meade sank 21 points and grabbed 13 rebounds; Jesus Emmanuel produced 11 points, 10 rebounds, and nine steals; and David Hernandez had 10 points, 11 rebounds, and seven steals for the Board of Education.

Takeem Martin had 19 points, eight rebounds, and five steals for the Fearless Crew, who finished their league campaign with 10 losses and two wins from their quota of 12 games.

The teams that finished in the top eight positions at the end of the 13-team round-robin league will qualify and advance to the business league playoff championship, which will commence on Saturday, October 26.

Lewis graduates as SAE Institute Salutatorian with a 4.0 GPA



Tyreke 'Vicious' Lewis

Tyreke Lewis, better known by his stage name Vicious, has achieved an extraordinary academic milestone, completing his two-year degree in Audio Engineering at SAE Institute Miami, Florida, with a perfect GPA of 4.0.

This outstanding accomplishment has earned him the prestigious title of Salutatorian for his graduating class, marking yet another chapter in his already impressive journey.

Lewis' roots run deep within the CPTSA Wings Sports Club. Growing up in this dynamic environment from birth, he officially joined at the age of five, playing for the youth football team.

Over the years, he would expand his athletic repertoire, competing in track and field and basketball, representing CPTSA Wings and Antigua on local, regional, and international stages. His dedication to sports has made him a true ambassador for the Wings Sports Club.

But it was music that would capture his heart at a young age. At just 8 years old, Lewis began his formal music education at La Chateau D'or Music Academy under the tutelage of the esteemed Mr. Anthony Hampson.

Lewis mastered multiple instruments, including guitar, piano, steel pan, and bass, setting the stage for a future in music production, songwriting, and performance. Over time, he adopted the stage name VICIOUS, a moniker that reflects his fierce determination and unstoppable energy.

Lewis quickly made a name for himself in Antigua's soca and calypso scenes, earning numerous accolades in the junior soca and calypso competitions.

As his talent grew, so did his audience. Lewis has since transitioned into an international performer, gracing stages in countries such as Barbados, Montserrat, and the USA, bringing his unique blend of energy and creativity to a global audience.

With his recent success at SAE and a wealth of experience in both sports and music, Lewis is poised to take his career to even greater heights.

Tyreke Lewis continues to be a beacon of inspiration, embodying passion, discipline, and an unrelenting drive to succeed.

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Rutherford, who hit 80 off 82 balls, and Gudakesh Motie with 50 not out steadied the ship to take the Windies from 58 for eight to 189.

Their partnership brought 119 runs, which is their nation's highest ninth-wicket stand in ODI history, breaking the previous record of 85 between Yannic Cariah and Alzarri Joseph.

Although Alzarri Joseph dismissed Avishka Fernando for nine in

the fourth over, Nishan Madushka and Sadeera Samarawickrama both chipped in with contributions of 38 to get the Sri Lankans to 112 for four.

Skipper Charith Asalanka, who hit 62 not out, led the charge thereon, while Kamindu Mendis (11) comfortably got them over the line with 34 balls remaining.

Both teams will clash in the third and final matches of the series at the same venue on Saturday.

Sports News



AGS get first win in Under-14 Boys Division

The Antigua Grammar School (AGS) recorded their first win in the Under-14 Boys Division in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup on Tuesday.

Antigua Grammar School claimed their first win in two matches in the schools' football league when Kissaire Joseph scored the only goal of the match in the 35th minute to snatch a one-nil victory against Ottos Comprehensive School at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

All Saints Secondary and Clare Hall Secondary recorded their second wins in three outings at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

All Saints Secondary prevailed 3-1 against Pares Secondary School, which suffered their third defeat in as many games.

The goals for All Saints Secondary School were scored by J'Quez Jackson in the 8th minute, Lakome Francis in the 39th minute, and Zion Chandler in the 60th minute.

Tevon Henderson scored twice as Clare Hall Secondary romped to a 4-1 victory against St. Joseph's Academy, which lost for the first time in three matches.

Henderson had conversions in the 8th and 32nd minutes, Glenford Ambrose struck in the second minute, and Jaden Lewis of St. Joseph's Academy scored an own goal for Clare Hall Secondary.

Erije Joseph scored a consolation goal in the 8th minute for St. Joseph's Academy.

Sir Novelle Richards Academy also notched up their second win in three matches, romping to a 5-1 victory against St. Mary's Secondary



Tevon Henderson of Clare Hall Secondary School

School at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Journey Charles scored a consolation goal for St. Mary's Secondary School, which suffered their second defeat in three matches.

But Tuesday's match between defending Under-14 Boys Division champions Princess Margaret School and St. Anthony's Secondary School was not played after referees failed to show up for the encounter at St. Anthony's playing field.

The secondary schools' football

championships will continue with three fourth-round matches in the Under-20 Boys' Division on Friday at 3 pm.

Cup-holders Antigua State College will clash with Princess Margaret School at the PMS playing field.

Clare Hall Secondary will host All Saints Secondary at the Clare Hall playing field, and Ottos Comprehensive School will tackle Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Guydadli off to successful start in Second Division League

Guydadli FC got off to a successful start in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League on Tuesday.

Michael Peters scored twice as Guydadli romped to a 5-0 victory against Glanvilles FC in their opening affair at the St. Johnstone's Village Stadium.

Peters scored his first goal in the 19th minute and converted a penalty kick in the 65th minute. The other goals for Guydadli were scored by Imani Joyce in the 30th minute, Ezekiel Clarke in the 58th minute, and Taijah Christian in the 79th minute.

Glanvilles finished the game with 10 men after Nyron Theodore was expelled in the 67th minute when he re-

ceived a red card for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.

The ABFA's First Division kicked off with two opening round matches on Tuesday. Jennings United FC and newly promoted Freeman's Village FC fought to a 1-1 draw at the Sea View Farm playing field.

Following a goalless first half, Kemon Samuel put Jennings United ahead with a 49th-minute conversion, but Millique London scored in the 67th minute to snatch the equalizer for Freeman's Village FC.

But the match between Bolans FC and Urlings FC ended prematurely at the Bolans playing field.

Both teams were deadlocked nil-nil

in the 75th minute when the match was abandoned due to a fight that caused spectators to encroach onto the playing field.

Tuesday's other scheduled First Division match between Bendals and FC Master Ballerz at Bendals was not played.

The ABFA's First Division will continue on Thursday (today) with four matches, all starting at 4:30 pm.

Police will tackle the Ottos Rangers at St. Johnstone's Village Stadium, Lion Hill FC and Tryum FC will clash at the Golden Grove playing field, the Liberta Blackhawks will host Empire FC at Liberta, and SAP FC will take on Swetes at the Bolans playing field.



The top three finishers at the 2024 Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's Senior Women's Tournament, which ended at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Tuesday. From left to right: Runners-up Bermuda, champions St. Lucia, and third place finishers Grenada. (ABAVA)

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ly prevailed 25-10, 25-22, and 25-19 to complete a successful title defense and retain their ECVA Senior Women's Championship.

St. Maarten won their first and only match of the tournament by beating Anguilla 3-0 in the playoff for fifth place. St. Maarten

won the match 25-14, 25-17, and 25-17.

It was sweet revenge for St. Maarten, which had lost all five matches in the round-robin phase, including a 3-0 defeat to the Anguillans in their second match of the tournament.

The final placings in the six-team tournament

are St. Lucia (champions), Bermuda (second place), Grenada (third place), Antigua and Barbuda (fourth place), St. Maarten (fifth place), and Anguilla (sixth place).

The Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) will now turn its attention to

hosting the ECVA Senior Men's Championship at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports.

Ten teams, including defending champions Antigua and Barbuda, will be vying for supremacy in the ECVA men's competition that will take place from October 23 to 27.

Antigua and Barbuda finish fourth at ECVA Women's Championship

Hosts Antigua and Barbuda finished in fourth place in the 2024 Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's (ECVA) Senior Women's Tournament, which ended at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Tuesday.

Antigua and Barbuda missed out on claiming a medal after suffering a 3-1 loss against Grenada in the playoff for third place.

The Grenadians laid the foundation for their victory by jumping out to a quick 2-0 lead, taking the first two sets 25-23 and 25-19. The Antiguan briefly threatened to engineer a comeback by winning the third set 25-22.

But the hosts were unable to sustain their resurgence as the Grenadians regained control to complete their victory by taking the fourth set 25-19 and claimed the bronze medals.

St. Lucia captured their title by coasting to an emphatic 3-0 victory against Bermuda in the final.



The Antigua and Barbuda Senior Women's Volleyball Team.

The Bermudans, who suffered a 3-0 loss to Grenada in their final match after winning their first four

matches in the round-robin phase, continued to fade in the later stage of the six-team tournament with their

disappointing defeat to the St. Lucians in the final.

The St. Lucians easily
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