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GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE WESTERN REGION

West Region Admin Bldg
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Digital Address: WF-001-0376

Our Ref. No. _____

Date: 1ST APRIL, 2024.

Your Ref. No. _____

PRESS STATEMENT

TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OVER SIXTY-SIX (66) ECOWAS NATIONALS ARRESTED AND REPATRIATED BY THE GIS WESTERN REGIONAL COMMAND WITHIN EIGHT DAYS

1. The Western Regional Command Headquarters, of the Ghana Immigration Service, in its quest to rid the Western Region of Irregular Migrants and the associated security challenges, has intensified its intelligence and enforcement operations across the region, leading to a number of arrests and repatriations.
2. This is in line with the recently unveiled GIS "TRIPPLE S" campaign launched, by the Ghana Immigration Service, with the aim of ensuring a secured, stable and safe nation.
3. ON Wednesday 27th March, 2024, the Command succeeded in rounding up sixty-six (66) Ivorian irregular migrants at their hideout (H/NO. WS-391-0907) within the Anaji Hills enclave of the Western Regional Capital Sekondi-Takoradi.
4. At about 2200hrs on the above mentioned date, the officer in charge of the Intelligence Unit (OIC/Intel), C/Supt. Elijah Narh, led a team of officers from the Regional Command Headquarters to begin a spirited 24-hour operation resulting in the arrest of the said Ivorian nationals.
5. The suspects (45 men and 21 women), aged between 19 and 54 years, were recruited from towns such as Tanda, Agnibilekro, Bondougkou, Nianda, Aboisso Abidjan to engage in cyber crimes and other suspected illegal activities.
6. Investigations revealed that, neither of them was in possession of a passport or any form of identification documents which confirmed their illegal entry and residence status in the country.
7. Further investigations revealed that, on Saturday, 11th November 2023, one Romio and Akwesi Daniel (Ghanaians) who have been identified as part of the syndicate involved in recruiting these unsuspecting Ivorians under the guise of operating an online business (QNET), approached the land lady, one madam Juliet Quayson.
8. A receipt retrieved from the suspects indicates that, Madam Juliet Quayson agreed to

rent out her house at Anaji Hills at the cost of Twent-Four Thousand Ghana cedis (Ghc 24,000.00) for two years.

9. The Aliens Registration Regulation, 1974, L.I. 856 enjoins property owners in Ghana to confirm the immigration status of all would be foreign tenants before engaging them. In the light of this, the Western Regional Command of the Service is encouraging Madam Juliet Quayson to avail herself to the ongoing investigations, in her own interest.
10. Meanwhile, all the suspects have been repatriated to their home country, with exception of two, **Bamba Ladj**(26yrs) and **Traore Yssouf**(21yrs), who have been detained to assist in the investigations,
11. In a related development, on the 19th of March, 2024, the Axim Sector Commander, Deputy Superintendent of Immigration(DSI), Emmanuel Adams, led a similar operation resulting in the arrested of six Nigerian ladies, **operating as commercial sex workers at the Bafana Bafana Beach Resort (a notorious brothel)**. The aforementioned night ladies whose age ranges between 19 and 26 years have also been since repatriated.
12. It may be recalled, that the manager of the Bafana Bafana Brothel, Mr. Kofi Bekoe, is currently before the Sekondi District court A, charged with harbouring foreigners (Prostitutes). This was after he had been arrested by the Axim Sector Command of the GIS at the same facility during a swoop in on suspected Prostitutes.
13. The Western Regional Command of the Service, seizes this opportunity once again, to express its gratitude to all stakeholders, especially to the members of the Anaji Hills residents association in this particular instance. Thank you.

SIGNED:

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