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Fifth Session Third Parliament Trinidad and Tobago  
25 Elizabeth II

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*Please see 314  
Am  
No. 13 of 1976*

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
**Act No. 13 of 1976**

[L.S.]

AN ACT to amend the Customs Ordinance, Ch. 32. No. 2.

*[Assented to 10th May, 1976]*

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, Enactment  
by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and  
House of Representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, and  
by the Authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Customs (Amendment) Short title  
Act, 1976.

Customs Ordinance  
amended.  
Ch. 32. No. 2

2. The Customs Ordinance is amended by repealing section 197 and replacing it as follows—

“Writs of  
assistance

197. (1) The High Court may on an application by the Comptroller issue a writ of assistance.

(2) A writ of assistance issued pursuant to subsection (1) shall continue in force until cancelled by the High Court on an application by the Comptroller.

(3) Any officer in possession of a writ of assistance issued pursuant to subsection (1) may, at any time during the day or night, enter into and search any house, shop, cellar, warehouse, room or any other place and, in case of resistance, break open doors, chests, trunks and other packages for the purpose of seizing and bringing away any uncustomed or prohibited goods or any books or documents relating thereto; and any goods, books or documents seized shall be securely kept in a King’s warehouse.”

Certain writs  
to continue in  
force for six  
months

3. All writs of assistance issued from the High Court before the commencement of this Act shall continue in force for a period of six months after the coming into force of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago under the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Act, 1976.

Commencement

4. This Act shall come into operation contemporaneously with the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Act, 1976.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 9th day of April, 1976.

J. E. CARTER  
*Clerk of the House*

Passed in the Senate this 13th day of April, 1976.

R. GRIFFITH  
*Clerk of the Senate*