



PRESS RELEASE

Unconfirmed reports from Dominica suggest that one of the four dolphins moved from the controversial facility in Tortola recently, has died.

According to sources in the yachting fraternity, there appear to be only three of the original four dolphins (Isla, Jessica, Tracey and Kimbit) in the sea pen at the foot of a cliff in the Salisbury area of northern Dominica.

The observers noted that another dolphin was being removed from the water and force fed three times a day.

This brings the known death toll in the region, at only three facilities to an astounding FOUR, since July 2001.

With one newly opened operation closed after less than a year, and moves to seemingly flood the region with this type of attraction in high gear, the people of the Eastern Caribbean are pricking up their ears and starting to ask questions as to just how much the developers of these projects know, and how straightforward they are being with their local counterparts.

The St. Lucia Animal Protection Society calls upon regional NGOs, including the Caribbean Conservation Association, to take a strong position in condemning the practice of incarcerating marine mammals which are obviously so totally unsuited to captivity, and to do more to encourage the development of true sustainable initiatives to enhance the region's tourism product.

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