



Ostia under siege: anti-drug raid by the 1st Carabinieri Paratroopers Regiment Tuscania

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At dawn, sirens, roadblocks, searches, and a helicopter flying over the neighborhoods most exposed to drug dealing: on the Ostia coast, a “high-impact” operation was launched aiming to besiege the drug “strongholds” between Piazza Gasparri and the Lotti, with checks also extended to connecting roads (including Via Fasan).

The heart of the news, however, is mainly one: the deployment of the “Tuscania” in territorial control activities, in support of the territorial Carabinieri, in an urban context marked by entrenched drug dealing spots and a perception of a “free zone” that the State is trying to overturn with a massive and visible presence.

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What happened in Ostia

The device was arranged within the directives of the Prefect of Rome, Lamberto Giannini, and shared at the Provincial Committee for Public Order and Security.

According to reports released in the early hours:

- **7 arrests** and **10 reports** in the first phase of the operation;
- seizure of **hundreds of doses** (hashish, cocaine, and marijuana) and **cash** considered proceeds from drug dealing;
- **10 notifications** for personal use and further positions brought to the barracks “under review”.

In the field, in addition to the Carabinieri of the Ostia Group/Company, also:

- the paratroopers of the “**Tuscania**”,
- the **Dog Unit** of Santa Maria di Galeria,
- a helicopter from the Helicopter Unit of Pratica di Mare,
- the **API** (First Intervention Platoons).

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Why the “Tuscania” (and what it brings to the field)

The 1st Carabinieri Paratroopers Regiment “Tuscania” is an elite unit of the Carabinieri, under the 2nd Mobile Brigade. Its missions include military tasks and support roles in security and public order operations, when a robust, rapidly deployable device trained to operate in complex scenarios is needed.

In contexts like Ostia, the typical contribution of the “Tuscania” is mainly:

- **security framework** and access control (roadblocks, perimeters, “cordoning” of sensitive areas);
- **rapid intervention capability** in support of territorial patrols during searches and widespread checks;
- **deterrent presence**: a “visible” response aimed at breaking the idea of the untouchable stronghold and reducing criminal activity in drug dealing spots.

It is a model already seen in other “high-impact” operations in the Roman area: tight controls, special units in reinforcement, drug-sniffing dogs, and aerial surveillance to close escape routes and increase investigative pressure.

“Landing” on the coast: the logic of high-impact operations

The choice to bring a reinforced device to the coast (with the “Tuscania” and specialized assets) responds to a precise logic: to hit not only the individual dealer but the **micro-organization** that supports the spots — lookouts, hideouts, quick deliveries, physical barriers, and social control of the territory.

In Ostia, local reports describe “fortified” areas with controlled access and extensive searches, presenting them as the first phase of a broader action.

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The point on the “drug stronghold”

Calling it a “stronghold” is not just a catchy title: it indicates a place where drug dealing tries to become **stable**, repeatable, and defensible — not necessarily with weapons, but with logistics, space control, and routine. In this sense, the operation aims to “surround” the phenomenon: patrol, search, seize, identify, and interrupt the operational continuity of the spots.

And the fact that, alongside the territorial units, the paratroopers of the “Tuscania” are employed signals that the objective is not a single episode, but a **structural level of attention** on the quadrant.