



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1988

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER RELEASED	1
SHA TIN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE EXHIBITION TOMORROW	4
ANTI-TRIAD CARNIVAL IN SHAM SHUI PO	4
PUBLIC URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN LITTER COLLECTION	5
TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AT HOUSING ESTATES ON AGENDA	6
MARINE CRAFT GRADUATES GET SHIP BOARD SERVICES REMISSION	7
NEW ADDRESS OF IMMIGRATION DEPT RECRUITMENT SECTION	8

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER RELEASED

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HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE GREW STRONGLY IN NOVEMBER. THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS PICKED UP MARKEDLY, WHILE THOSE OF RE-EXPORTS AND IMPORTS CONTINUED TO BE SUBSTANTIAL.

THIS IS SHOWN BY THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN NOVEMBER 1988 WAS \$20,052 MILLION, \$2,975 MILLION OR 17.4 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN NOVEMBER 1987, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 57.7 PER CENT OR \$10,139 MILLION TO \$27,706 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$47,758 MILLION IN NOVEMBER 1988, WAS THUS \$13,114 MILLION OR 37.9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN NOVEMBER 1987.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 40.7 PER CENT OR \$13,956 MILLION OVER A YEAR EARLIER, TO \$48,226 MILLION IN NOVEMBER 1988.

THE VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE IN NOVEMBER 1988 RECORDED A DEFICIT OF \$468 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.0 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS.

THIS COMPARES WITH A SURPLUS OF \$374 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.1 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN NOVEMBER 1987.

PUTTING THE TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER IN PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1988 WAS \$443,773 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$196,491 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$247,282 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST 11 MONTHS IN 1987, IN VALUE TERMS TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$103,644 MILLION OR 30.5 PER CENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY \$20,087 MILLION OR 11.4 PER CENT, AND RE-EXPORTS BY \$83,557 MILLION OR 51.0 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY \$109,485 MILLION OR 32.3 PER CENT, TO \$448,615 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$4,842 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.1 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1988.

THIS COMPARES WITH THE SITUATION DURING THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, WHEN A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$999 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 0.3 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN NOVEMBER, AT 17.4 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS, WAS HIGHER THAN THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES OF 10.3 PER CENT IN OCTOBER AND 9.8 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

/HOWEVER, MORE

HOWEVER, MORE OBSERVATIONS WERE NEEDED TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE HIGHER GROWTH RATE WOULD BE SUSTAINABLE, OR WHETHER IT WAS MERELY A TEMPORARY UPSURGE AS MANUFACTURERS RUSHED SHIPMENTS TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUED RAPID GROWTH IN RE-EXPORTS, 55.7 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS DURING THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1988 WAS TAKEN UP BY RE-EXPORTS, COMPARED WITH 48.1 PER CENT DURING THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER 1988.

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$20,052 MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$27,706 MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$47,758 MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$48,226 MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 468 MILLION	[IN DEFICIT]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	SEP 88	SEP 87	INCREASE	
	TO NOV 88 HK\$ MN.	TO NOV 87 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	60,068	53,108	6,960	13.1
RE-EXPORTS	80,557	51,150	29,407	57.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	140,625	104,258	36,367	34.9
IMPORTS	138,703	101,746	36,957	36.3
TRADE BALANCE	1,922	2,512	-590	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	INCREASE	
	1988 HK\$ MN.	1987 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	20,052	17,077	2,975	17.4
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(42.0%)	(49.3%)		
RE-EXPORTS	27,706	17,567	10,139	57.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	47,758	34,644	13,114	37.9
IMPORTS	48,226	34,270	13,956	40.7
TRADE BALANCE	-468	374	-842	

/LAST MONTH

- 3 -

LAST MONTH	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER	INCREASE	
	1988	1988	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	20,052 (42.0%)	20,066 (43.0%)	-14	-0.1
RE-EXPORTS	27,706	26,628	1,078	4.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	47,758	46,694	1,064	2.3
IMPORTS	48,226	45,786	2,440	5.3
TRADE BALANCE	-468	908	-1,376	

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN-NOV	JAN-NOV	INCREASE	
	1988	1987	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	196,491 (44.3%)	176,404 (51.9%)	20,087	11.4
RE-EXPORTS	247,282	163,725	83,557	51.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	443,773	340,129	103,644	30.5
IMPORTS	448,615	339,130	109,485	32.3
TRADE BALANCE	-4,842	999	-5,841	

LAST 12 MONTHS	DEC 87	DEC 86	INCREASE	
	TO	TO	HK\$ MN.	%
	NOV 88	NOV 87		
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	215,341	191,772	23,569	12.3
RE-EXPORTS	266,337	176,352	89,985	51.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	481,678	368,124	113,554	30.8
IMPORTS	487,432	366,598	120,834	33.0
TRADE BALANCE	-5,754	1,526	-7,280	

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1988

- 4 -

SHA TIN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE EXHIBITION TOMORROW

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A ONE-DAY EXHIBITION, FEATURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE AS WELL AS CAREER PROSPECTS IN SHA TIN, WILL BE STAGED AT THE ROMAN ARENA, NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

A TOTAL OF 15 FACTORIES, FIRMS, SHOPS AND ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTING VARIOUS BUSINESS, SERVICE AND GOVERNMENT SECTORS WILL STAGE DISPLAYS AT THE EXHIBITION.

THE EVENT HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE WORKING GROUP UNDER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE. IT IS FUNDED BY \$18,700 MADE AVAILABLE BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD.

AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE ROMAN ARENA AT NOON TOMORROW.

OFFICIATING WILL BE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE SENIOR LIAISON OFFICER, MR LEE KWING-WING; SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM; INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HUNG-CHIU; AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHA TIN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE AND CAREER EXHIBITION TO BE HELD AT THE ROMAN ARENA ON LEVEL 1, NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN, TOMORROW (SUNDAY), BEGINNING AT NOON.

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ANTI-TRIAD CARNIVAL IN SHAM SHUI PO

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOLD A CARNIVAL AT THE MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 27) TO DRIVE HOME ANTI-TRIAD MESSAGES.

THE CARNIVAL WILL FEATURE 12 GAMES STALLS TO BE SET UP BY A KAIFONG ASSOCIATION AND SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT, SINGING PERFORMANCES, A MAGIC SHOW AND A GAMES STALL DESIGN COMPETITION.

IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH THESE ACTIVITIES RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY YOUNGSTERS, WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF JOINING TRIAD SOCIETIES, AND WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO PLAY A PART IN COMBATING TRIAD INFLUENCE.

/OFFICIATING AT

OFFICIATING AT THE CARNIVAL WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GREGORY LEUNG, POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR PAANG KUI-SAN, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR FAN KAM-PING.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMITTEE HAS PRINTED 15,000 STICKERS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC, URGING THEM TO BE MORE AWARE OF HOME SECURITY AND TO REPORT CRIME.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF A NUMBER OF LOCAL POLICE STATIONS ARE ALSO PRINTED ON THESE STICKERS.

ANOTHER FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY THE COMMITTEE IS THE INSTALLATION OF PLASTIC NOTICE BOARDS IN 82 BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BLOCKS AS WELL AS FACTORY BUILDINGS.

PROMOTIONAL LEAFLETS ON "MAKE YOUR HOME SAFE" WILL BE POSTED ON THESE BOARDS, ADVISING RESIDENTS ON THE VARIOUS PREVENTIVE MEASURES THAT CAN BE TAKEN AGAINST BURGLARY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ANTI-TRIAD CARNIVAL TO BE HELD AT THE MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 27). THE DFCC CHAIRMAN, MR FAN KAM-PING, WILL DELIVER A SPEECH AT 2 PM.

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PUBLIC URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN LITTER COLLECTION

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE BEEN REMINDED TO HELP KEEP THE COUNTRYSIDE CLEAN AND GREEN BY PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL "CLEAN AND GREEN" LITTER COLLECTION ACTIVITY IN THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

THEY CAN DO SO WHEN THEY VISIT ANY OF 12 COUNTRY PARK LOCATIONS BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4.30 PM DAILY AND ASSIST IN LITTER COLLECTION.

"THEIR VOLUNTARY EFFORTS WILL BE REWARDED. APART FROM A HANDSOME SOUVENIR, THEY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN A COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION QUIZ FORM," THE SENIOR COUNTRY PARKS OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR FRANK LAU, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, 12TH FLOOR, KOWLOON, BEFORE JANUARY 16.

/PARTICIPANTS WILL

PARTICIPANTS WILL STAND A GOOD CHANCE OF WINNING FREE ADMISSION TO A COUNTRYSIDE ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITY TO BE HELD EARLY NEXT YEAR.

MORE THAN 6,500 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY JOINED THE "CLEAN AND GREEN" LITTER COLLECTION ACTIVITY WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER AND WILL END ON DECEMBER 31.

"INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD CALL AT THE COUNTRY PARK VISITOR CENTRES AT ABERDEEN, CLEAR WATER BAY, PAK TAM CHUNG AND TAI MEI TUK WHERE PARK WARDENS WILL BE READY TO ASSIST," MR LAU SAID.

PARK WARDENS WILL ALSO BE ON DUTY AT THE WARDEN POSTS AT WONG CHUK WAN AND NAI CHUNG OF SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK, THE SHING MUN RESERVOIR MAIN DAM OF SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK, AND TAI MO SHAN COUNTRY PARK.

THEY WILL ALSO BE ON DUTY AT KAP LUNG OF TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK, BRIDE'S POOL OF PLOVER COVE COUNTRY PARK AND LAU SHUI HEUNG AND HOK TAU OF PAT SIN LENG COUNTRY PARK.

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TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AT HOUSING ESTATES ON AGENDA

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON DECEMBER 28 (WEDNESDAY) TO EXAMINE SEVERAL TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN VARIOUS HOUSING ESTATES.

THESE INVOLVE A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT SHAN KING ESTATE, ILLEGAL PARKING AT NIGHT IN TAI HING ESTATE, SAFE CROSSING FACILITIES FOR PEDESTRIANS IN WU KING ROAD AND SIU HEI COURT, AND IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES IN LEUNG KING ESTATE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE SUSPENSION OF DESIGNATION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD AS LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SERVICE AREA, TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT THE JUNCTION OF LUNG MUN ROAD AND MELODY GARDEN, POSITIONING OF A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE AT THE YICK YUEN BUS STOP BAY AS WELL AS THE FREQUENCIES OF BUS ROUTE NO. 66M.

PAPERS SEEKING THE IMPROVEMENT OF TRAFFIC FACILITIES AND A PROPOSAL FOR A NO-STOPPING RESTRICTION ZONE ON TUEN MUN HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD WILL BE PRESENTED.

THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR ORGANISING ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES.

- 7 -

A REVIEW OF THE USE OF DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS AND VETTING PRINCIPLES AND THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT REPORT WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD ON DECEMBER 28 (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR, GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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MARINE CRAFT GRADUATES GET SHIP BOARD SERVICES REMISSION

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THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY GIVEN ITS APPROVAL FOR THE MARINE AND FABRICATION CRAFT COURSE OFFERED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL TO BE STIPULATED AS AN ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATION FOR ENTRY INTO ITS THIRD ASSISTANT ENGINEER LICENSING EXAMINATION.

THE HEAD OF THE MARINE ENGINEERING AND FABRICATION DEPARTMENT OF THE HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, MR C.M. CHAN, SAID THIS TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE RECOGNITION WAS GIVEN AFTER THE BUREAU OF MARITIME AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA HAD MADE A REVIEW.

THIS FOUND THAT THE CONTENT, TRAINING FACILITIES AS WELL AS THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE TEACHING STAFF OF THIS ONE-YEAR FULL-TIME COURSE WERE SATISFACTORY IN MEETING PARTIAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LIBERIAN EXAMINATION, MR CHAN SAID.

A ONE-YEAR SEA SERVICE REMISSION WAS THUS GRANTED TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS OF THE COURSE FOR SITTING THE LIBERIAN EXAMINATION AS THIRD ASSISTANT ENGINEER.

"THAT MEANS ALL GRADUATES OF THE COURSE WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION AFTER UNDERGOING AN ADDITIONAL TWO-YEAR SHIP BOARD SERVICE INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINALLY STIPULATED THREE-YEAR TRAINING; NEVERTHELESS, ONE YEAR SHOULD BE IN THE CAPACITY OF FIREMAN, OILER OR APPRENTICE ENGINEER," MR CHAN SAID.

/EARLIER IN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1988

- 8 -

EARLIER IN THE YEAR, THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT HAD GRANTED A TWO-YEAR REMISSION TO THE DIPLOMA HOLDERS OF THE MARINE FABRICATION AND ENGINEERING COURSE OFFERED AT THE SAME INSTITUTE.

"THE RECOGNITION GIVEN TO THE CRAFT COURSE IS ALSO BENEFICIAL TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS WHO WILL TAKE LESS TIME TO BECOME A QUALIFIED ENGINEER. THIS CONSEQUENTLY HELPS ALLEVIATE THE MANPOWER SHORTAGE IN THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY," MR CHAN SAID.

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NEW ADDRESS OF IMMIGRATION DEPT RECRUITMENT SECTION

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT'S RECRUITMENT SECTION, CURRENTLY SITUATED ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR, KA CHEONG BUILDING AT 4 SUNNING ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG, WILL MOVE TO THE FOLLOWING NEW ADDRESS ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 28):

3/F., PARK COMMERCIAL CENTRE,
6-10 SHELTER STREET,
CAUSEWAY BAY,
HONG KONG.

ON AND AFTER DECEMBER 28, CANDIDATES WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE POSTS OF ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICER OR IMMIGRATION ASSISTANT SHOULD SEND THEIR APPLICATIONS EITHER TO THE NEW ADDRESS, OR TO ANY IMMIGRATION BRANCH OFFICES IN HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES, EXCEPT REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES AND BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGE REGISTRIES.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE SENT BY MAIL OR SUBMITTED IN PERSON AND THERE IS NO CLOSING DATE FOR APPLYING, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES MAY TELEPHONE THE RECRUITMENT SECTION ON 5-769567.

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