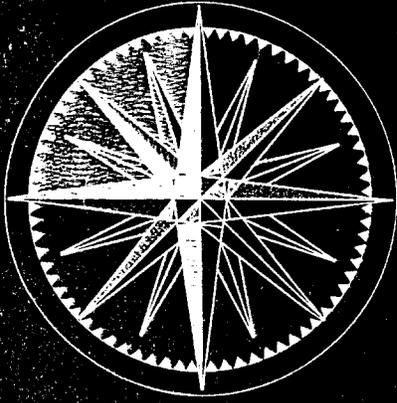


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(b)(1)
(b)(3)

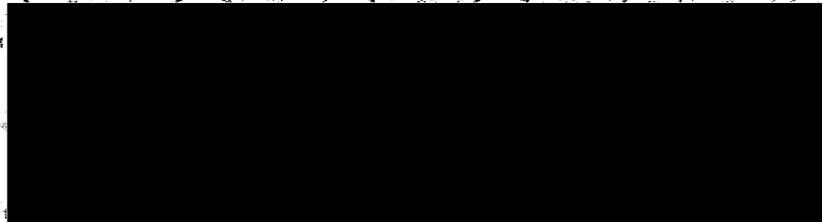
10 December 1965



WEEKLY REVIEW

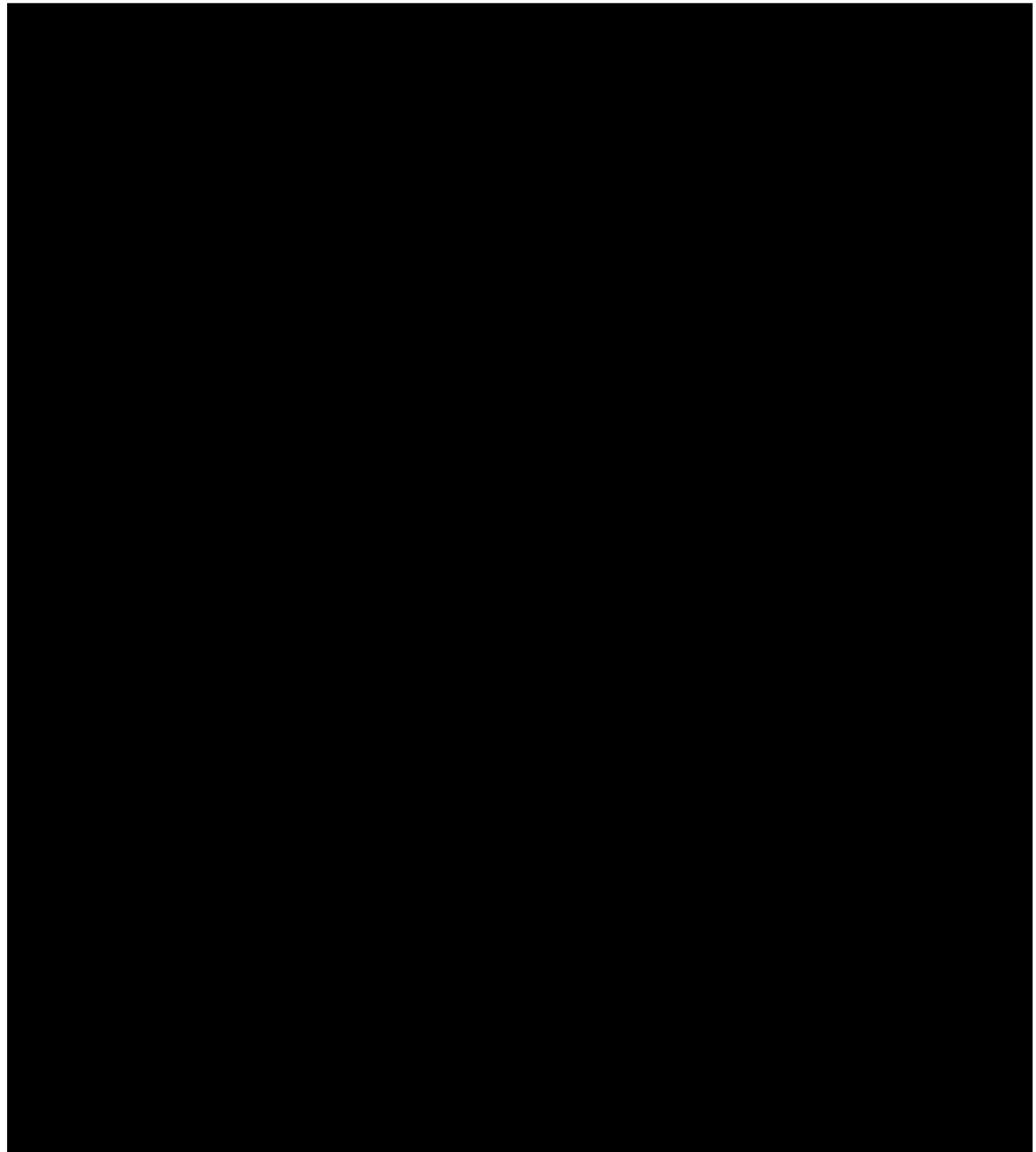
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

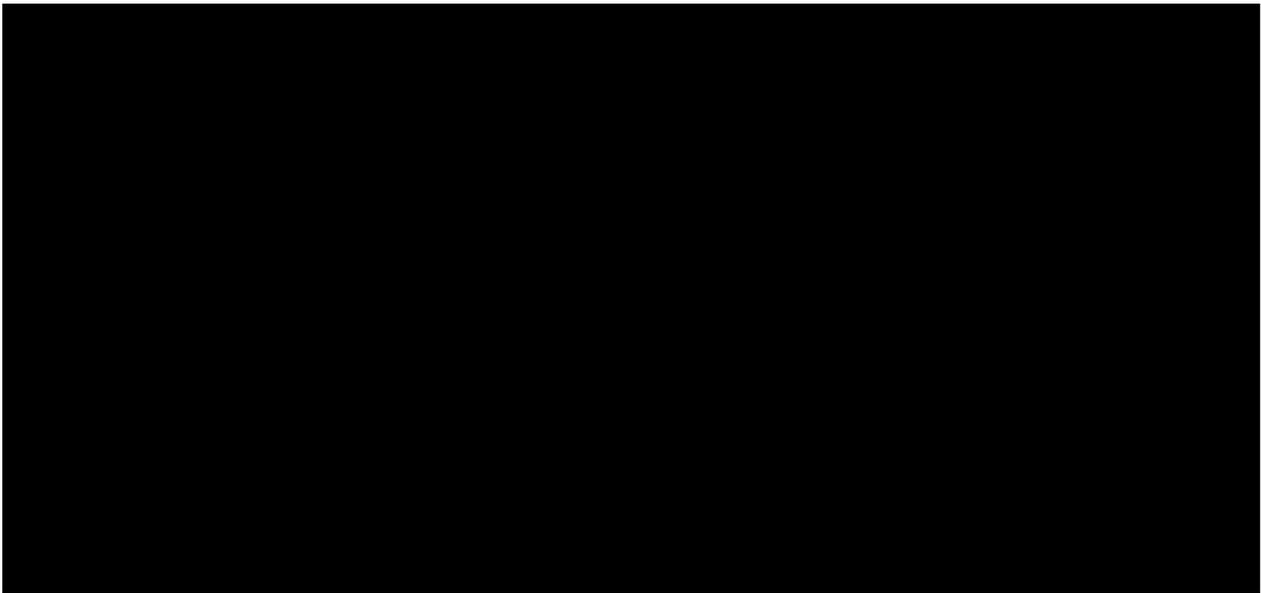


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C O N T E N T S

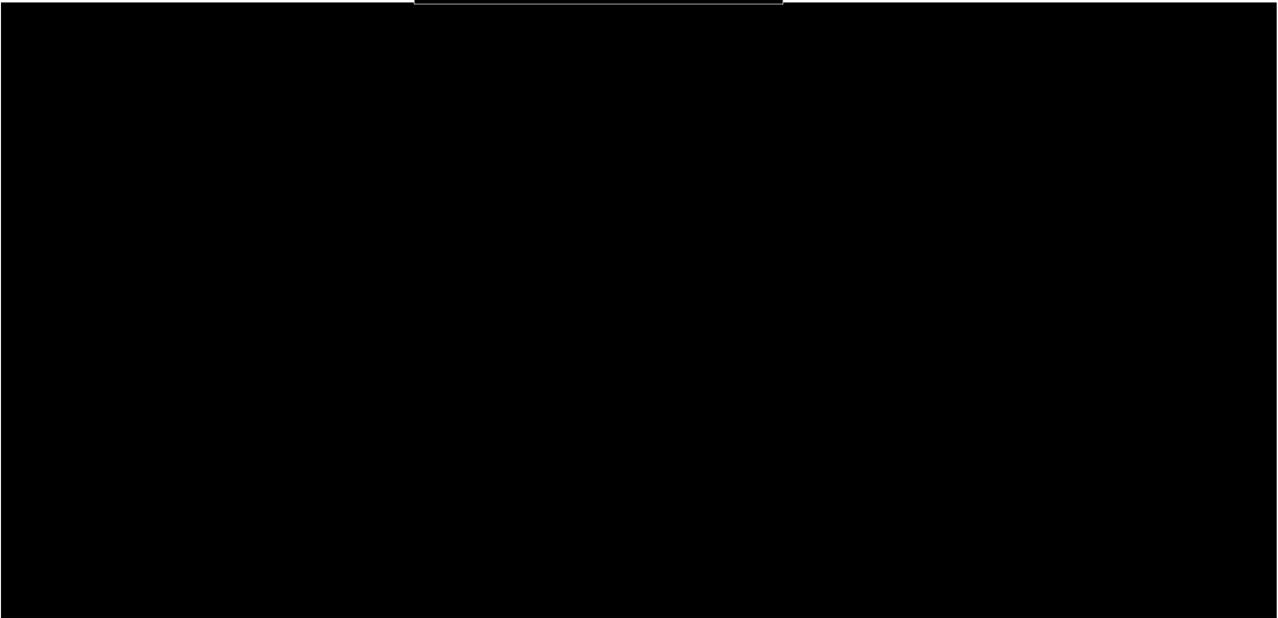


The Communist World

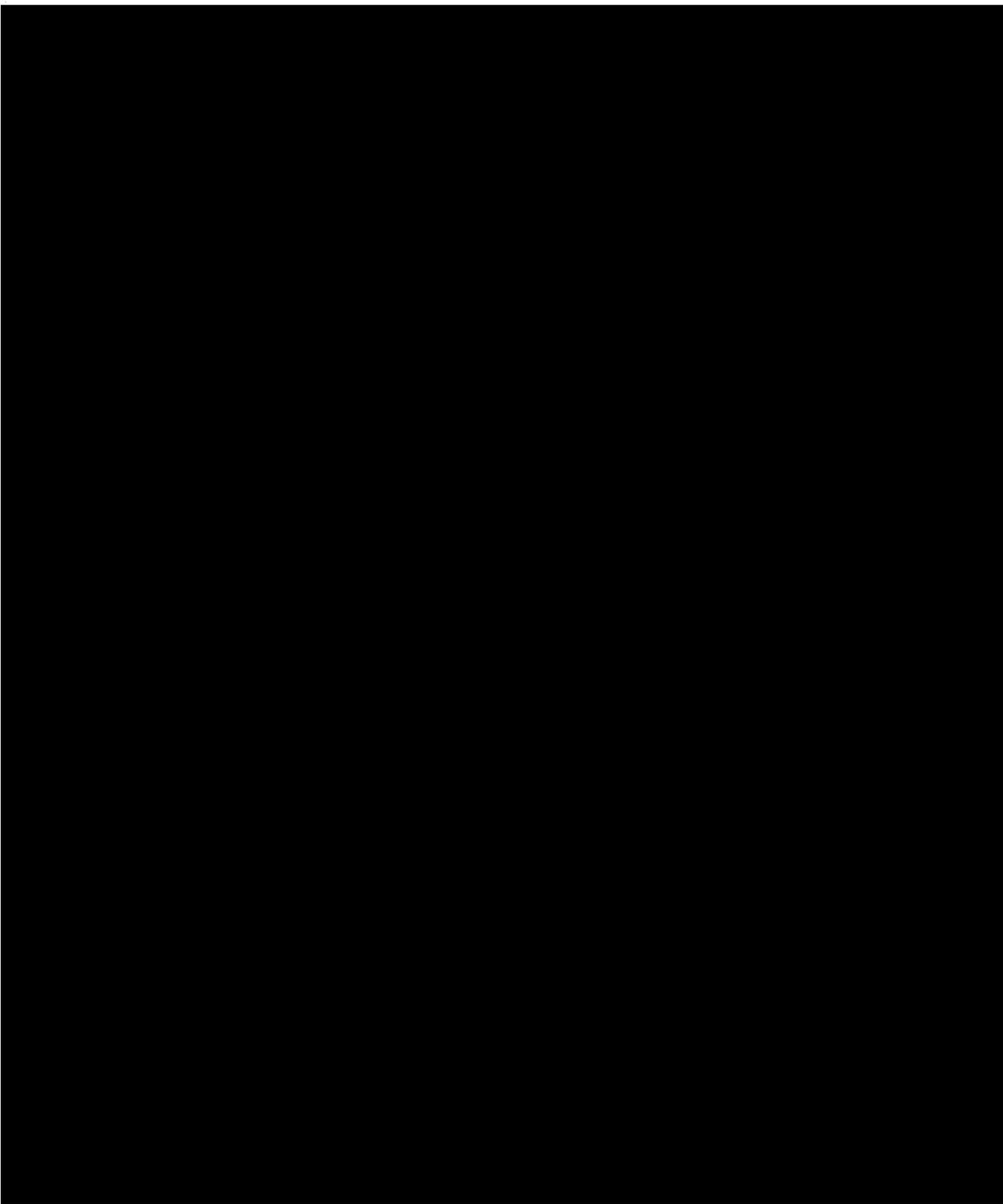
SOVIET LUNAR PROBE FAILS TO SOFT-LAND

4

The Soviets may try to take advantage of the opening of the lunar "window" at the end of this month for another attempt. [REDACTED]

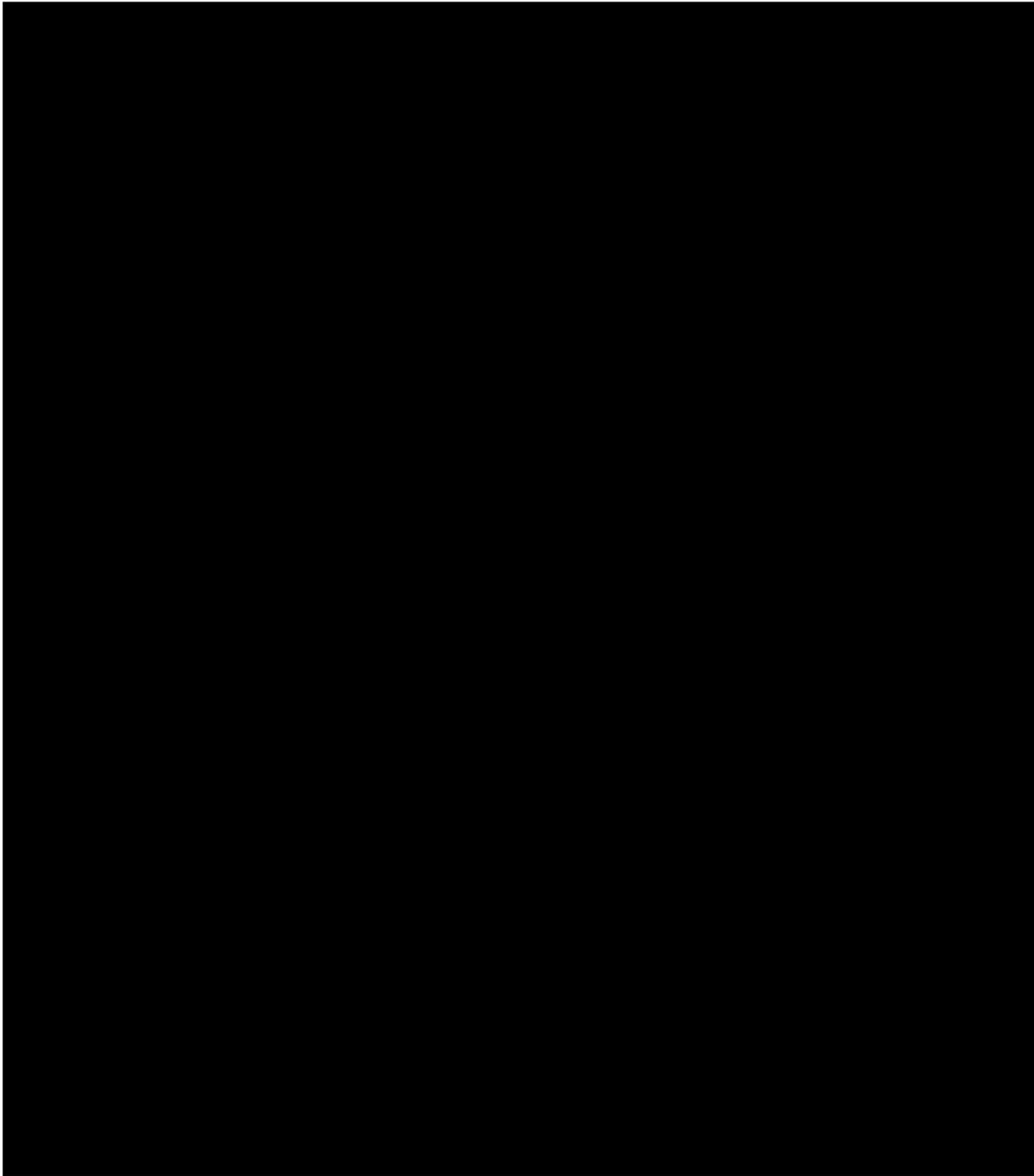


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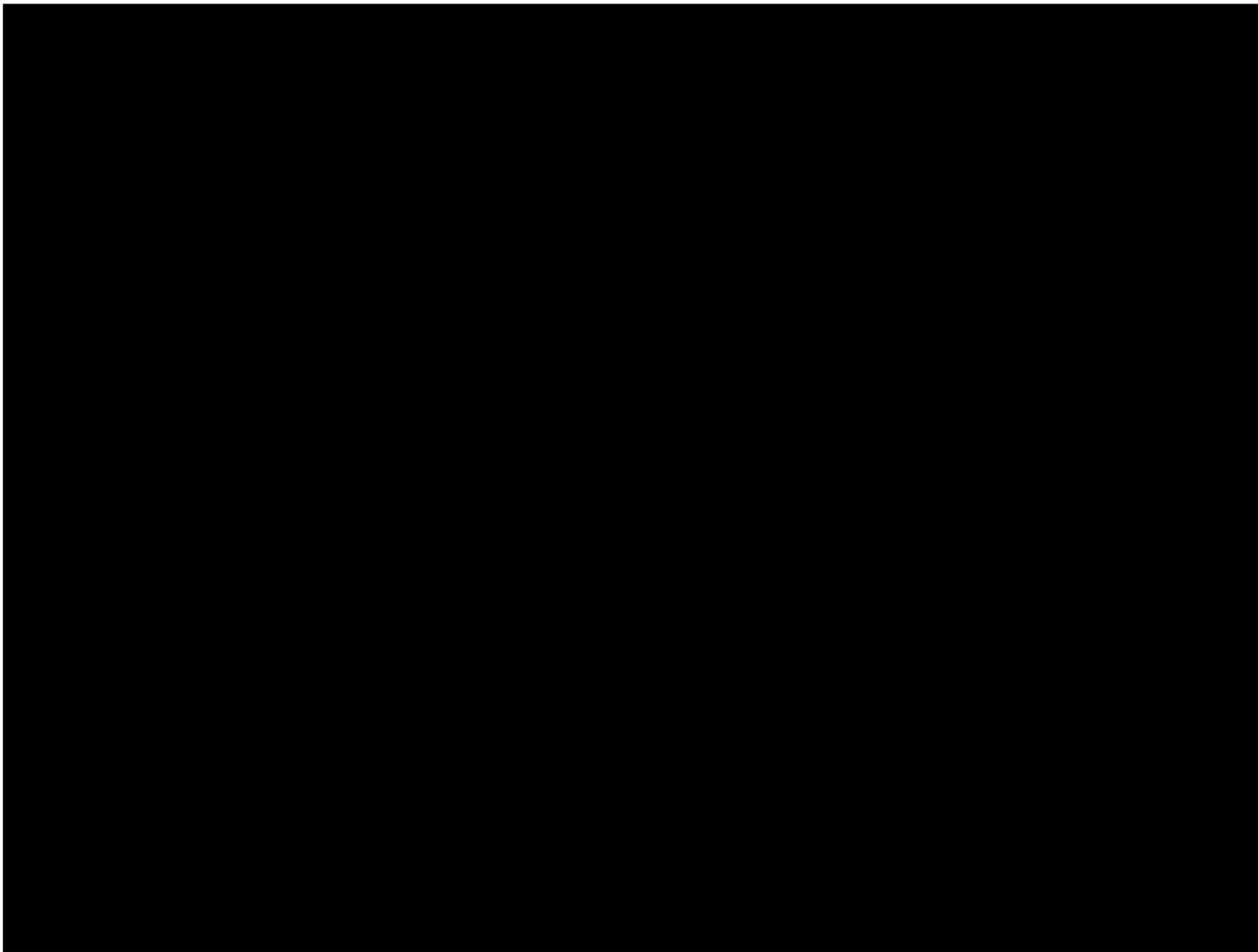
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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

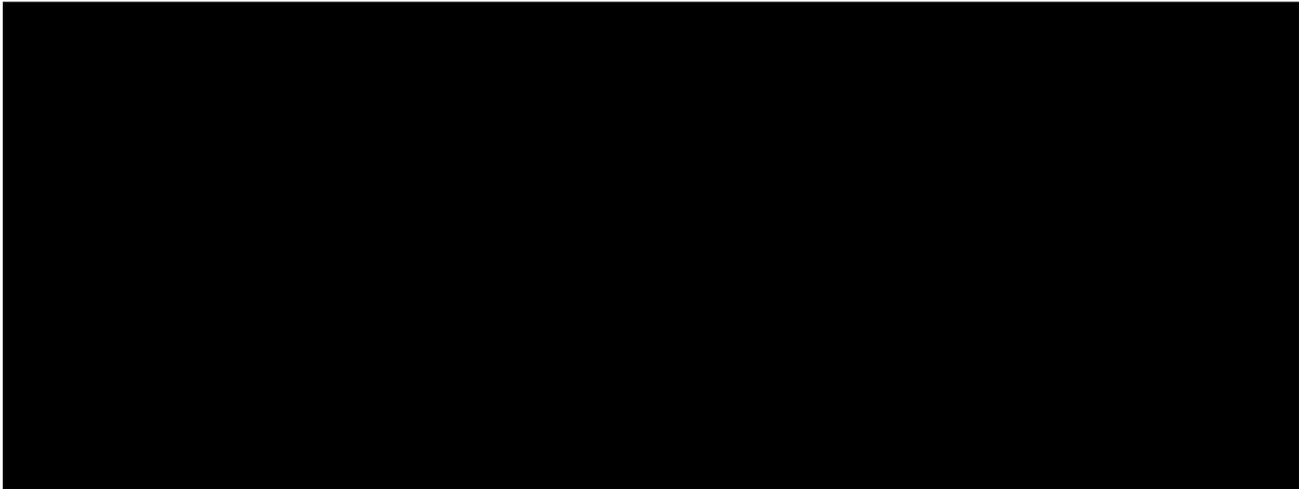


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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]



~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]



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SOVIET LUNAR PROBE FAILS TO SOFT-LAND

Luna 8, which crashed on the moon on 6 December, was the USSR's sixth lunar probe this year and the third to get close enough to the moon to test lunar soft-landing techniques. Like Lunas 5 and 7, the latest probe apparently executed all of the delicate maneuvers of its three-day flight except final touch-down. All three failures--reported by TASS in each case--appear to have resulted from difficulties with the retro-rocket system. Efforts to contact Lunas 7 and 8 after impact suggested that these two came close to success.

Soft-landing a payload on the moon involves complex prob-

lems of guidance, orientation, and deceleration which can be overcome only by tests on the moon's surface. The three unsuccessful landings undoubtedly provided the Soviets with knowledge of soft-landing techniques and will probably increase their chances of future success. However, the structure and composition of the lunar surface are still a mystery that presents unknown hazards to every soft-lander.

The Soviets may make their next attempt when the lunar "window" opens again at the end of this month. [REDACTED]

THE MOON

