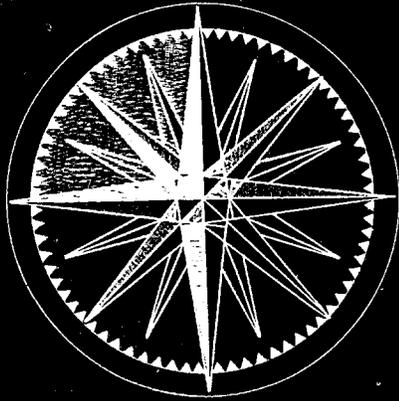
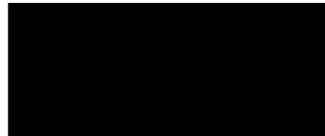


TOP SECRET



15 October 1965

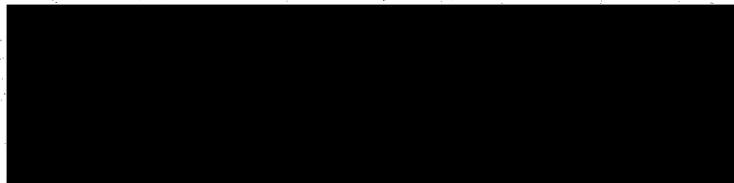
(b)(1)
(b)(3)



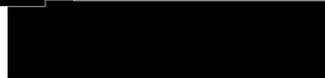
WEEKLY REVIEW

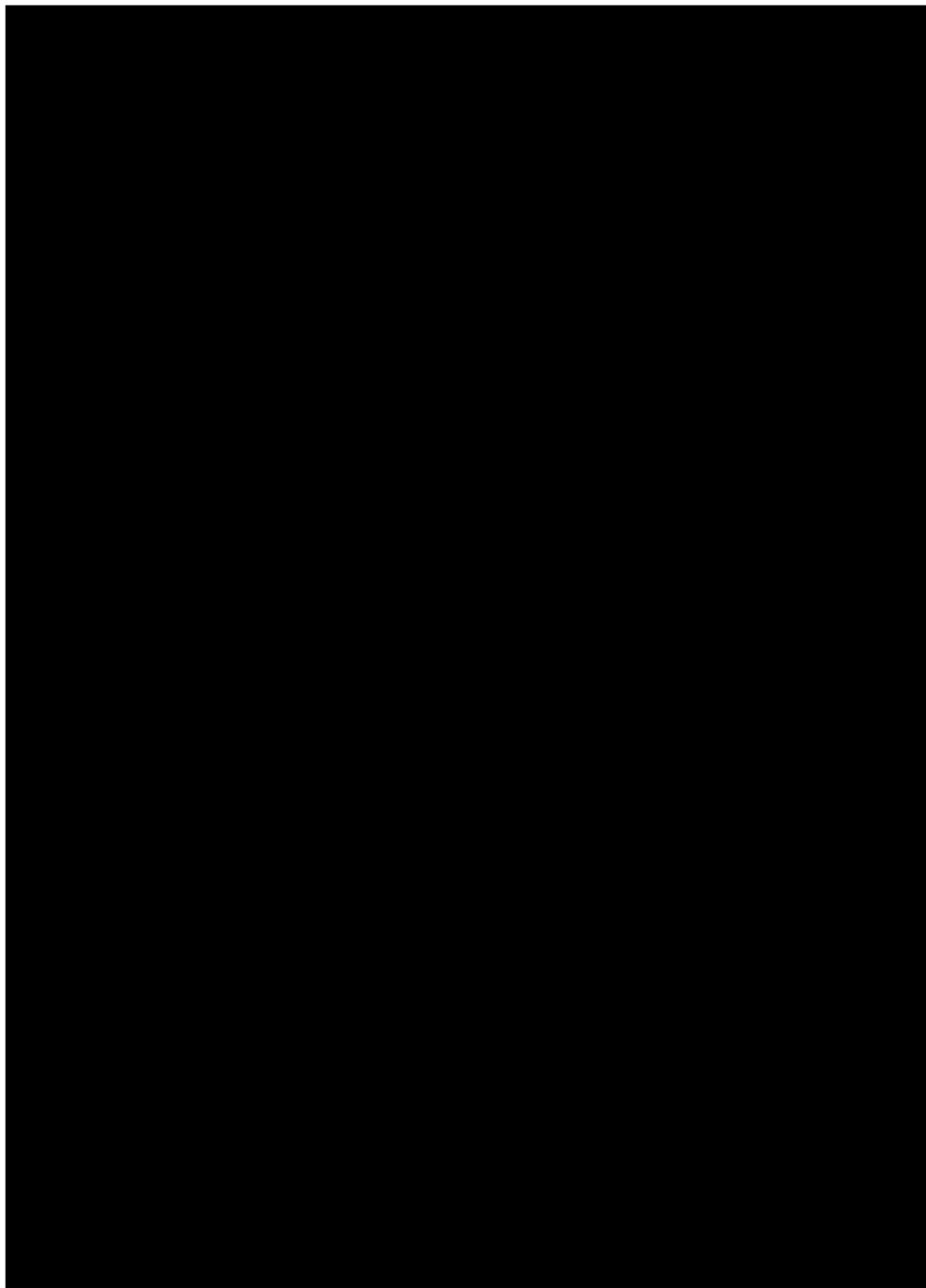
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

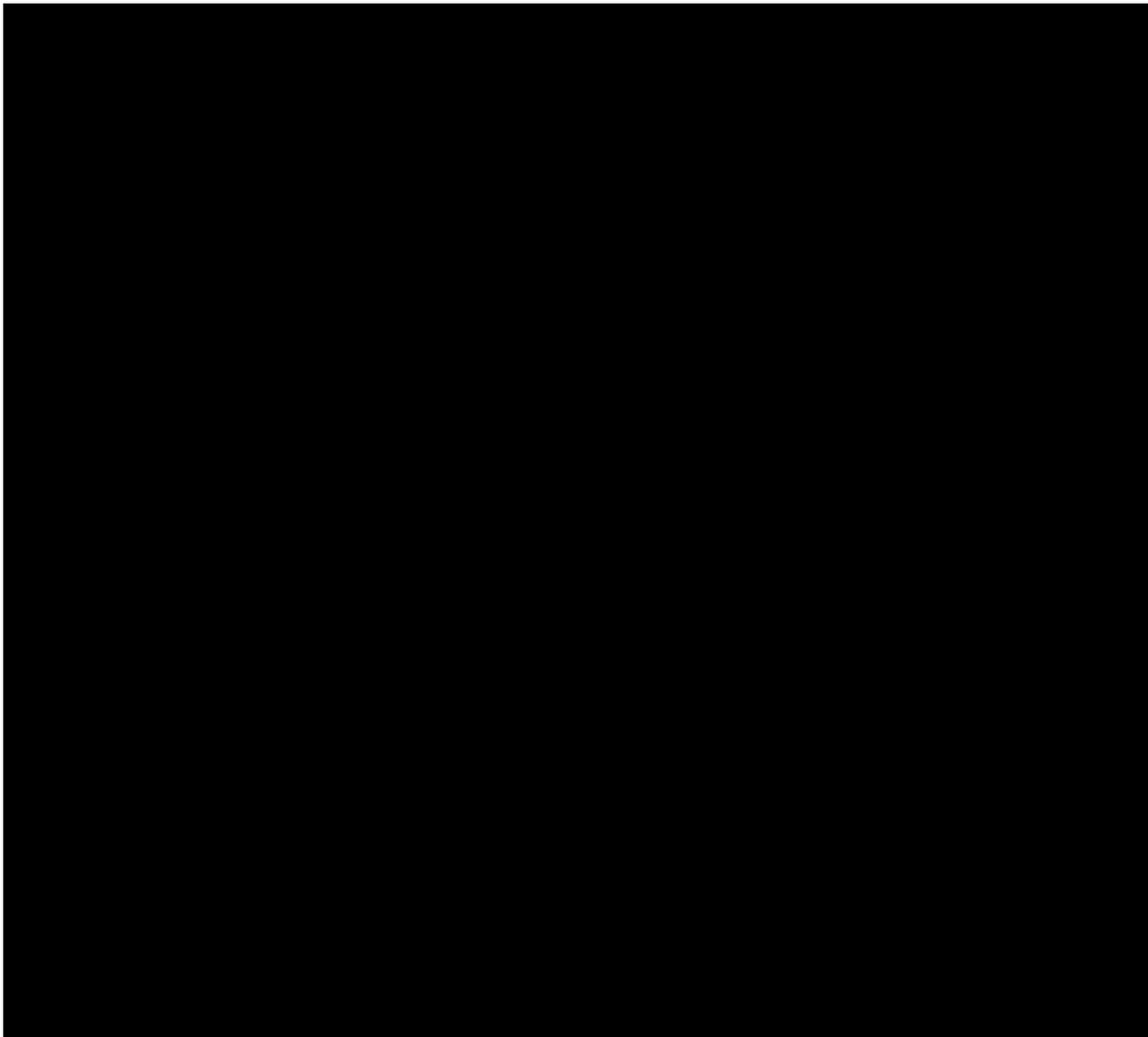


~~TOP SECRET~~





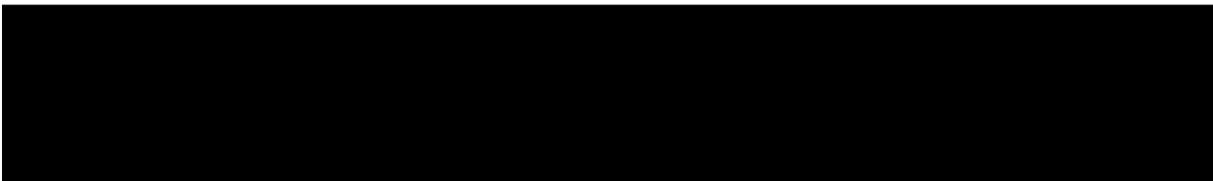
C O N T E N T S



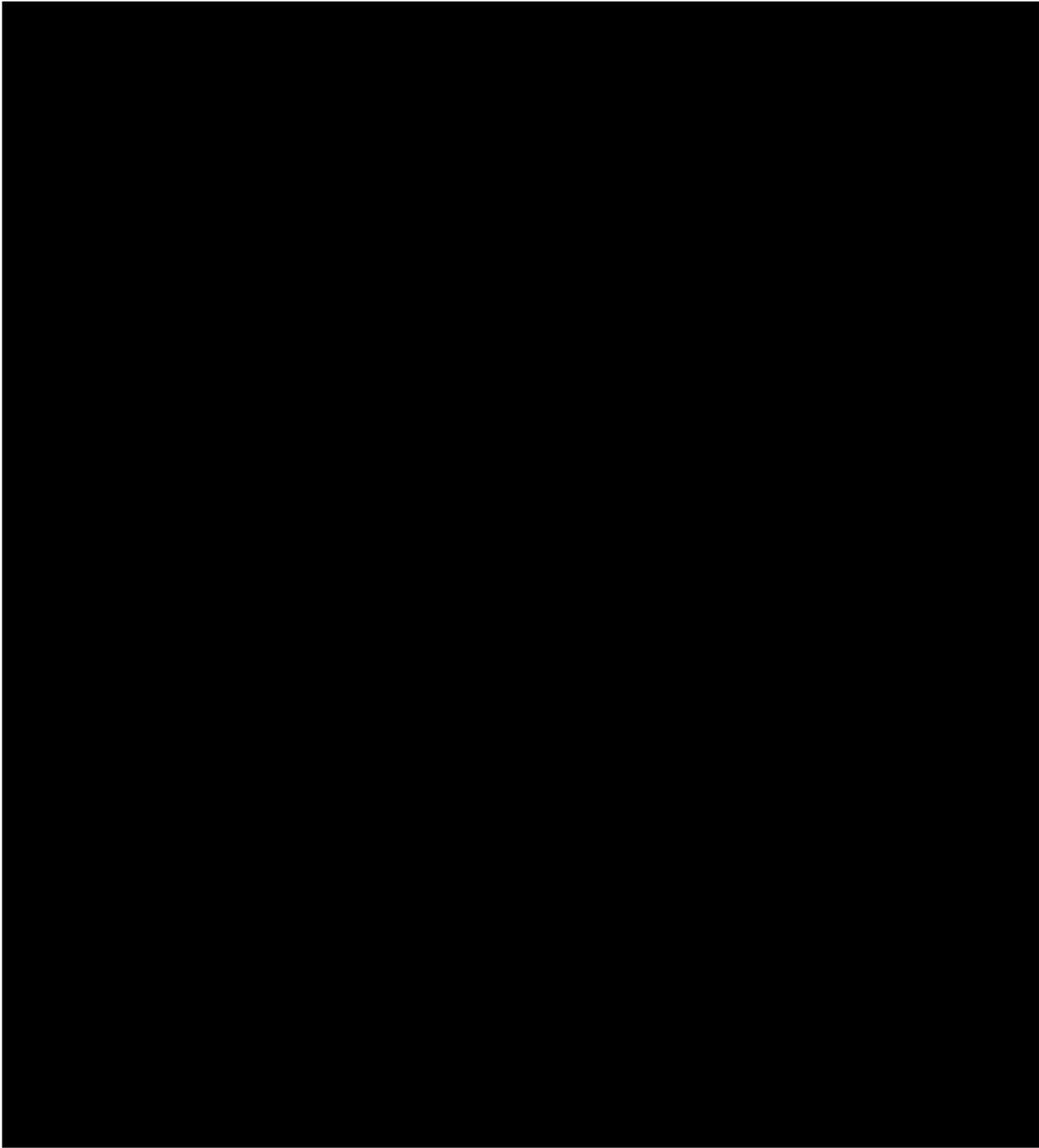
ANOTHER SOVIET LUNAR PROBE FAILS

7

The increasing frequency of Soviet lunar probes suggests that the USSR is anxious to show some results from a program which has suffered badly in comparison with US lunar exploration.



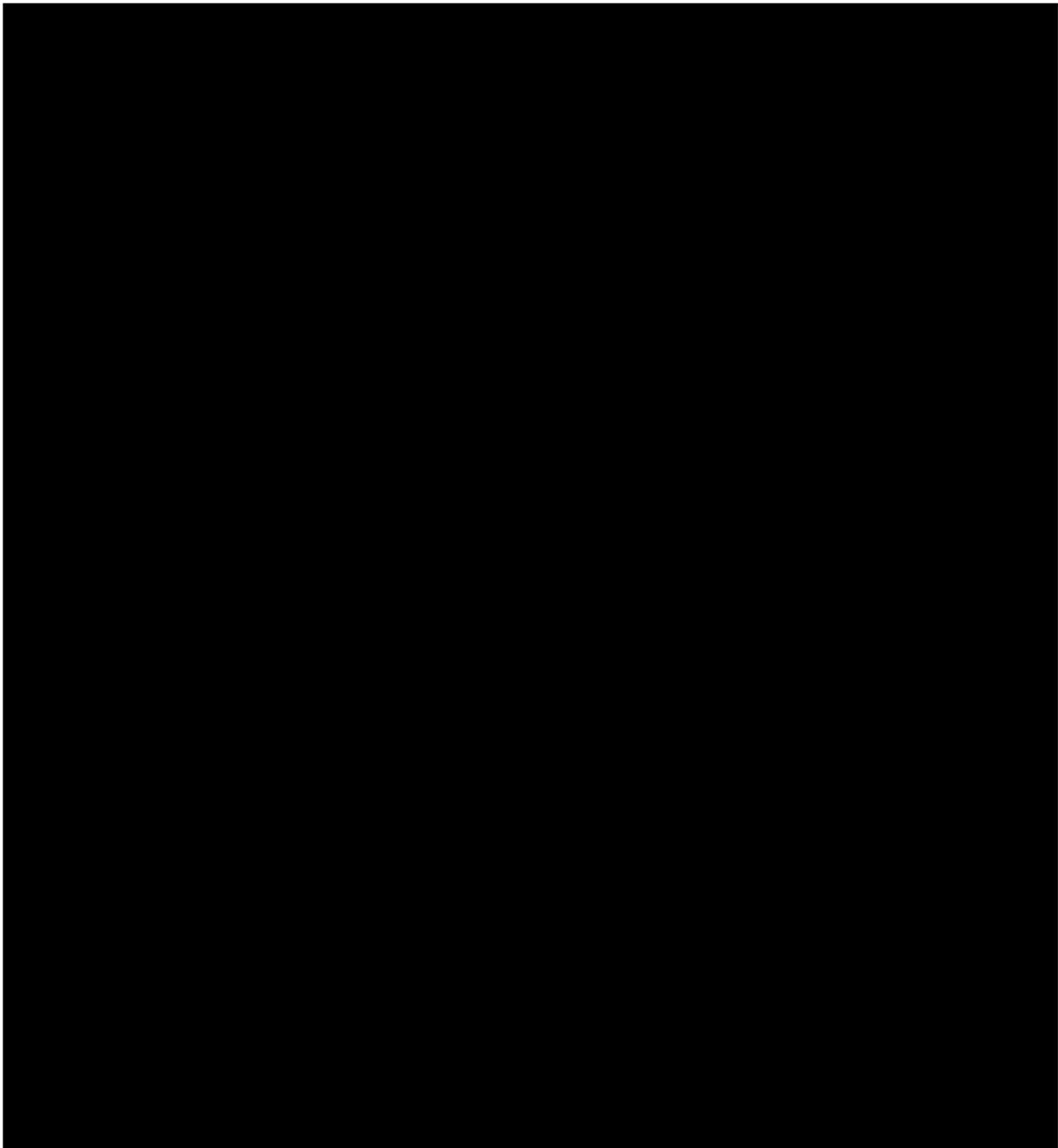
~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~



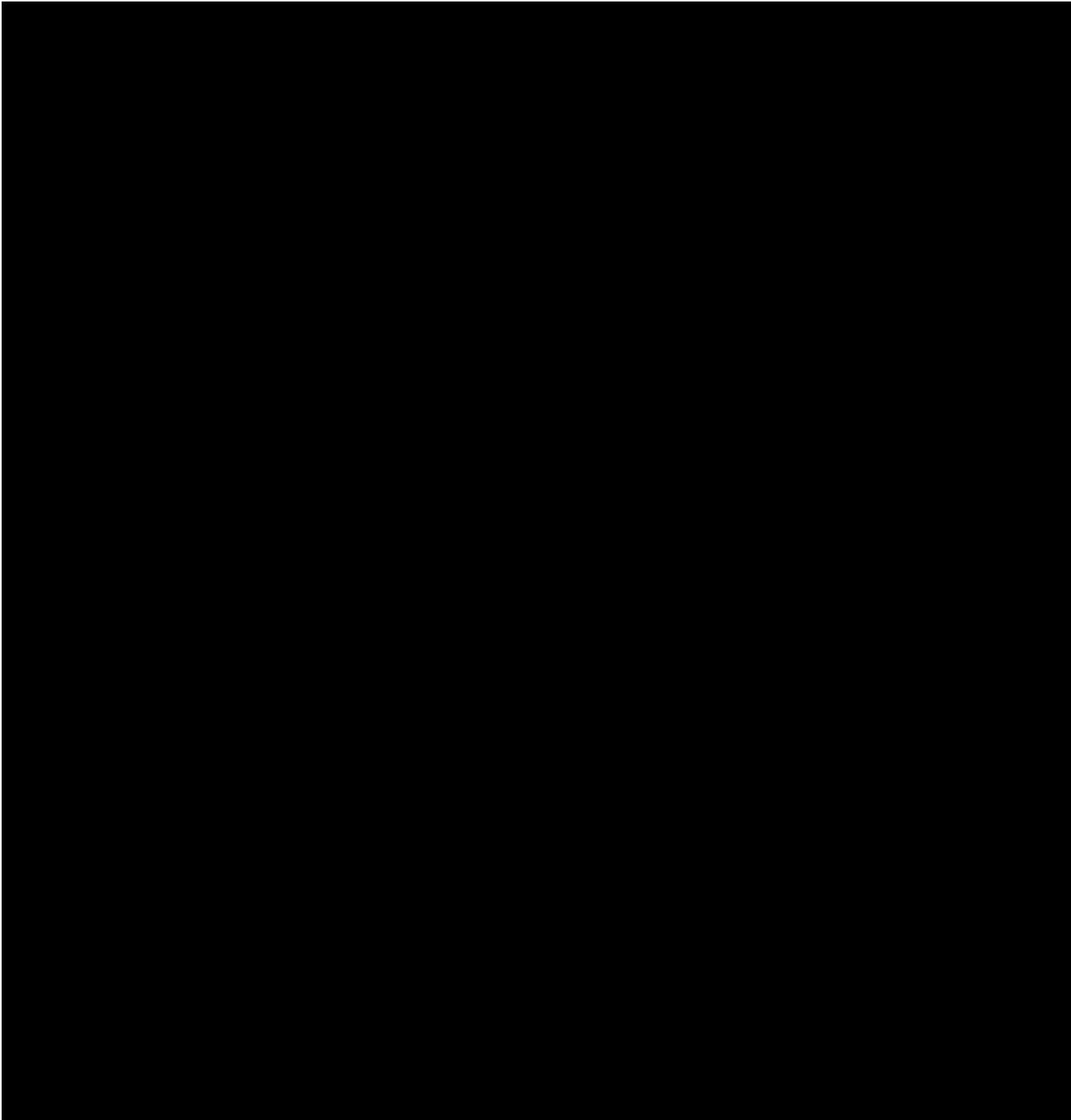
~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~



ANOTHER SOVIET LUNAR PROBE FAILS

The increasing frequency of Soviet lunar probes suggests that the USSR is feeling a sense of urgency to show some results from this program. Luna 7, launched on 4 October, was the Soviets' tenth lunar probe failure since early 1963, when they adopted the earth-parking-orbit technique for their lunar program.

Luna 7 was intended to make a soft landing. The probe's retro-rocket system apparently malfunctioned, however, and the vehicle crashed on the moon on 7 October.

Nevertheless a TASS announcement released some 13 hours after the impact stated that the probe's operation was generally successful.

Undoubtedly the mission did produce some data which will be useful in further efforts to perfect a soft-landing system.

So far this year the Soviets have launched five probes, none of them wholly successful. At least three of these--Luna 5, 6, and 7--have had soft landing missions. This indicates that the Soviets have stepped up their program to develop a soft-landing technique, possibly in an attempt to obtain lunar surface data useful for an eventual manned lunar landing. In addition, Moscow certainly feels the need to show some results from a program which has suffered badly in comparison with US lunar exploration.