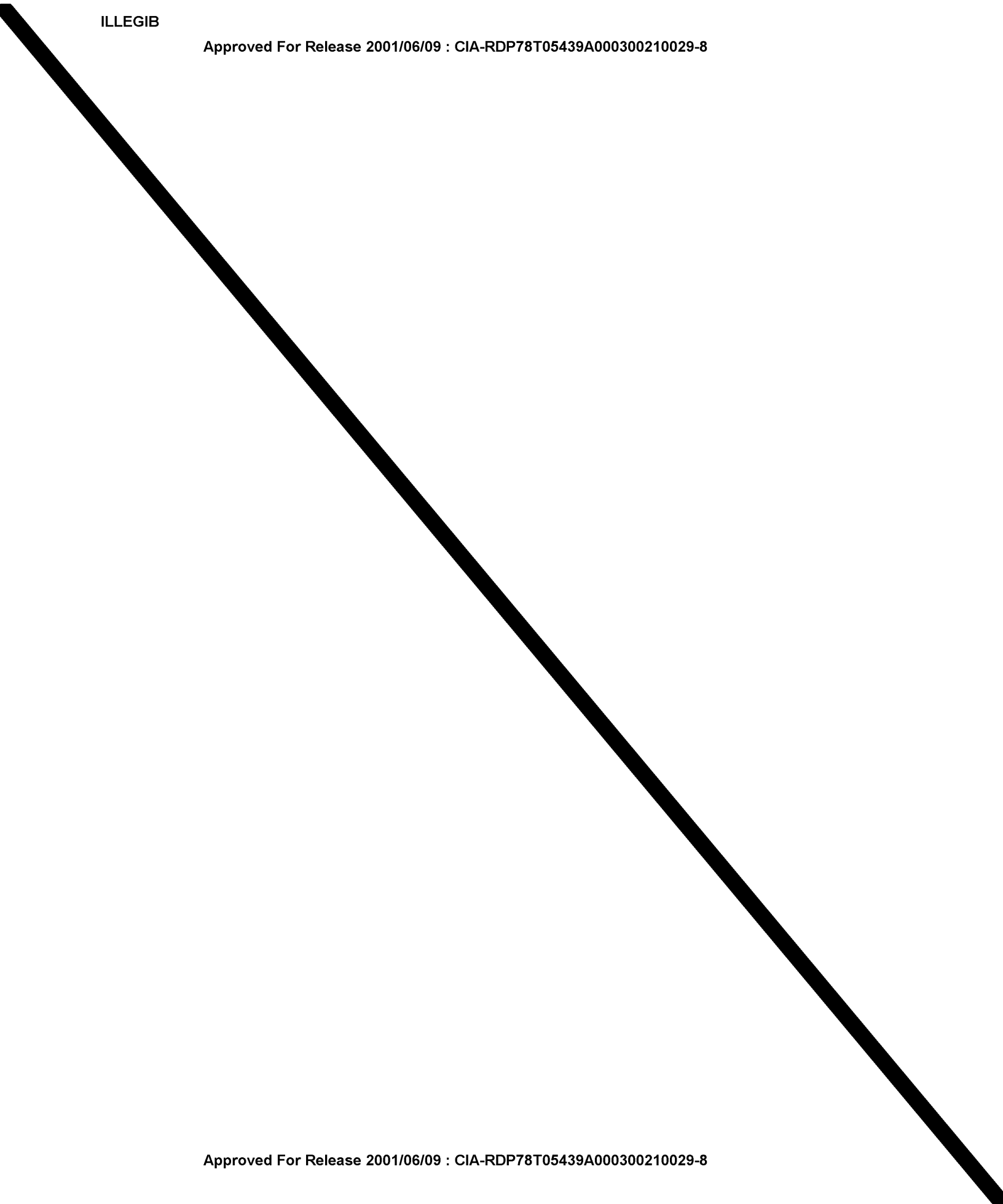

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IB 64/64
31 January 1964
Copy 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Resources Division, ORR

25X1A

ATTENTION : [redacted] R/FU

THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS

FROM : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT : Chin-Hsi Synthetic Fuels Plant and Chemical Plant, China

REFERENCES : (1) ORR Requirement No. ORR/41/62
(2) CIA/PID Project No. C 711/63 and C 720/63

1. Referenced requirements request descriptions of the synthetic fuel plant/refinery and the chemical plant at Chin-hsi, China. These descriptions are to include and evaluation of the plants' level of activity, comments about changes and recent expansions, and if possible, an estimation of capacity or status of operation. Annotated photographic enlargements of the plants were also requested.

2. The Chin-hsi synthetic fuels plant and refinery is made up of a series of units for the synthesizing of crude oil by coal liquefaction, and refinery units for producing finished products from both synthetic and natural crude oil. Also, included in the complex is a large chemical and acid section, a heat and power plant, and a large maintenance, storage and packaging area.

The synthesizing area contains a bank of retorts for production of coal gas, gas purification and compression units, a synthesis building, a large gasometer, and several storage tanks to handle liquid ends from the combustion of coal in the retorts. This area appears more or less static with respect to expansion.

The refinery end of the complex contains several distillation units and numerous crude and products storage tanks. Expansion and construction in the refinery area has been more or less limited to the building of additional tank capacity. Some of the larger tanks and the reservoir under construction near the distillation areas appear to be for the storage of crude oil.

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SUBJECT: Chin-Hsi Synthetic Fuels Plant and Chemical Plant, China

The maintenance, storage and packaging areas contain numerous shop and warehouse type buildings and considerable open storage space. Some new building in this area was noted, and large stockpiles of construction material would indicate planning for future expansion.

The chemical section contains two separate tower and production building layouts for acid production and many chemical storage tanks. This area is particularly active in construction and expansion.

3. The Chin-hsi Chemical Plant was broken down for this report into four main sections - the caustic soda and chlorine section, the bleach and chlorides section, the coal gas section, and the possible nitric acid and nitrates section.

The main components of the caustic section are the cell buildings, the brine handling facilities, and the probable caustic fusion building. Construction in this area appears to be more or less complete.

The bleach and chlorides section of the plant contains a tower and buildings for bleach production, several tanks and facilities which indicate the production of hydrochloric acid, several warehouses and packaging buildings, and storage tanks. Additional facilities were noted on the latest photography to be under construction in this section of the plant.

The coal gas section contains a bank of retorts, a heat and power facility, gas purification and compression units, and a large gasometer. No new construction was noted at this section.

The possible nitric acid and nitrates section contains several scattered banks of absorbers and purification units, storage tanks and gasometers, and numerous buildings. The functions of a large percentage of these buildings could not be determined from the available photography. Considerable construction is being carried on in this area.

4. Atmospheric emmissions from various parts of the complex, stockpiles of raw materials, and considerable rail activity throughout the areas indicate that both plants are operational. Because of the nature of the products and the rate of expansion, it is not possible to estimate from available photography what percentage of the plants' capacities are being used.

25X1C 5. Comparative photographic coverage of the fuels and chemical plants [redacted] dated 25X1C
25X1C [redacted] show the plants to be in a very active stage of construction and expansion. On the latter mission, large quantities of construction materials in storage areas and numerous construction sites were noted which would indicate
25X1D a future rate of expansion comparable to that noted during the interval of time form [redacted]

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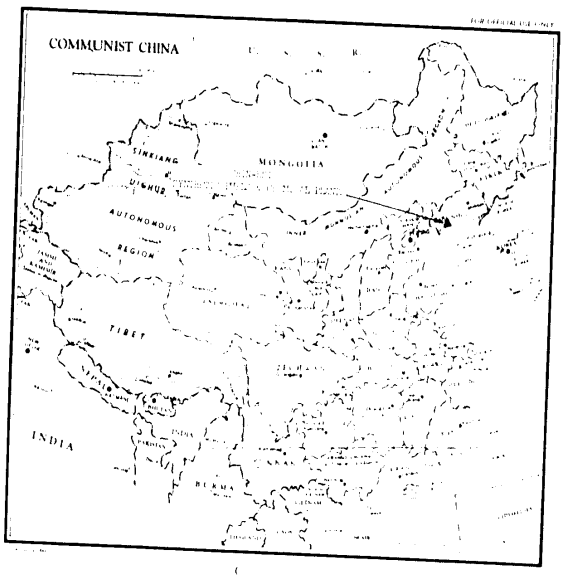
SUBJECT: Chin-hsi Synthetic Fuels Plant and Chemical Plant, China

Photographic enlargements from the above [redacted] Missions are 25X1C
included with this report to better illustrate the great amount of change
that has taken place in the plants. Also, the enlargements from [redacted] (with 25X1C
annotated overlays) show the still very active building program being carried
on.

6. The photo analysts assigned to these projects were [redacted] 25X1A
25X1A and [redacted] who may be contacted on extension 2934 should you
have further questions regarding the projects. These requirements are
considered to be complete as of the date of this memorandum.

[redacted] 25X1A

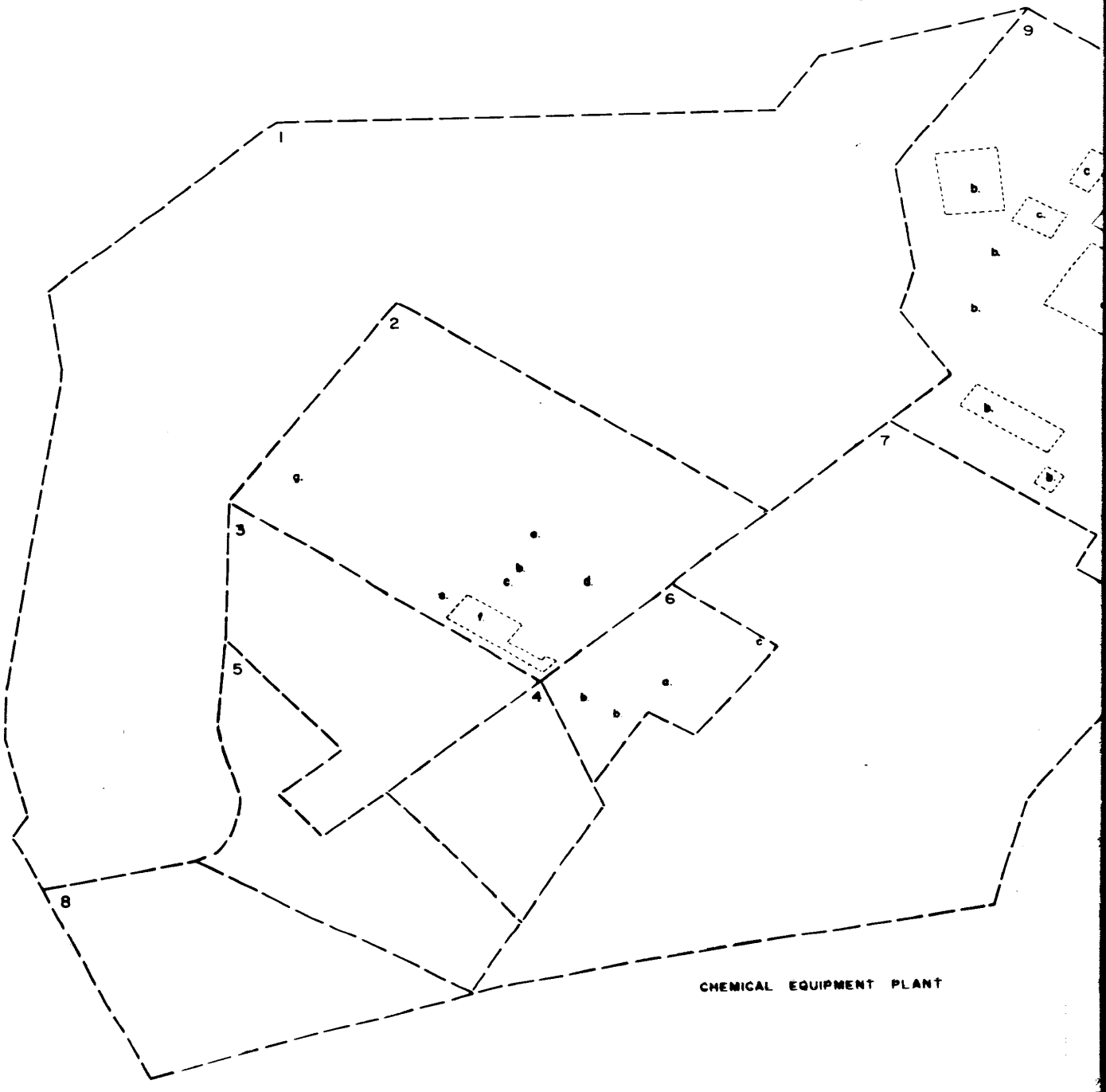
ENCLOSURES:
5 Enlargements (CIA/PID/IB-P-103/64 thru P-107/64)
2 Overlays (CIA/PID/IB-P-225/64 and P-226/64)




SYNTHETIC FUELS PLANT
CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT PLANT


CHEMICAL PLANT
ILLEGIB

ILLEGIB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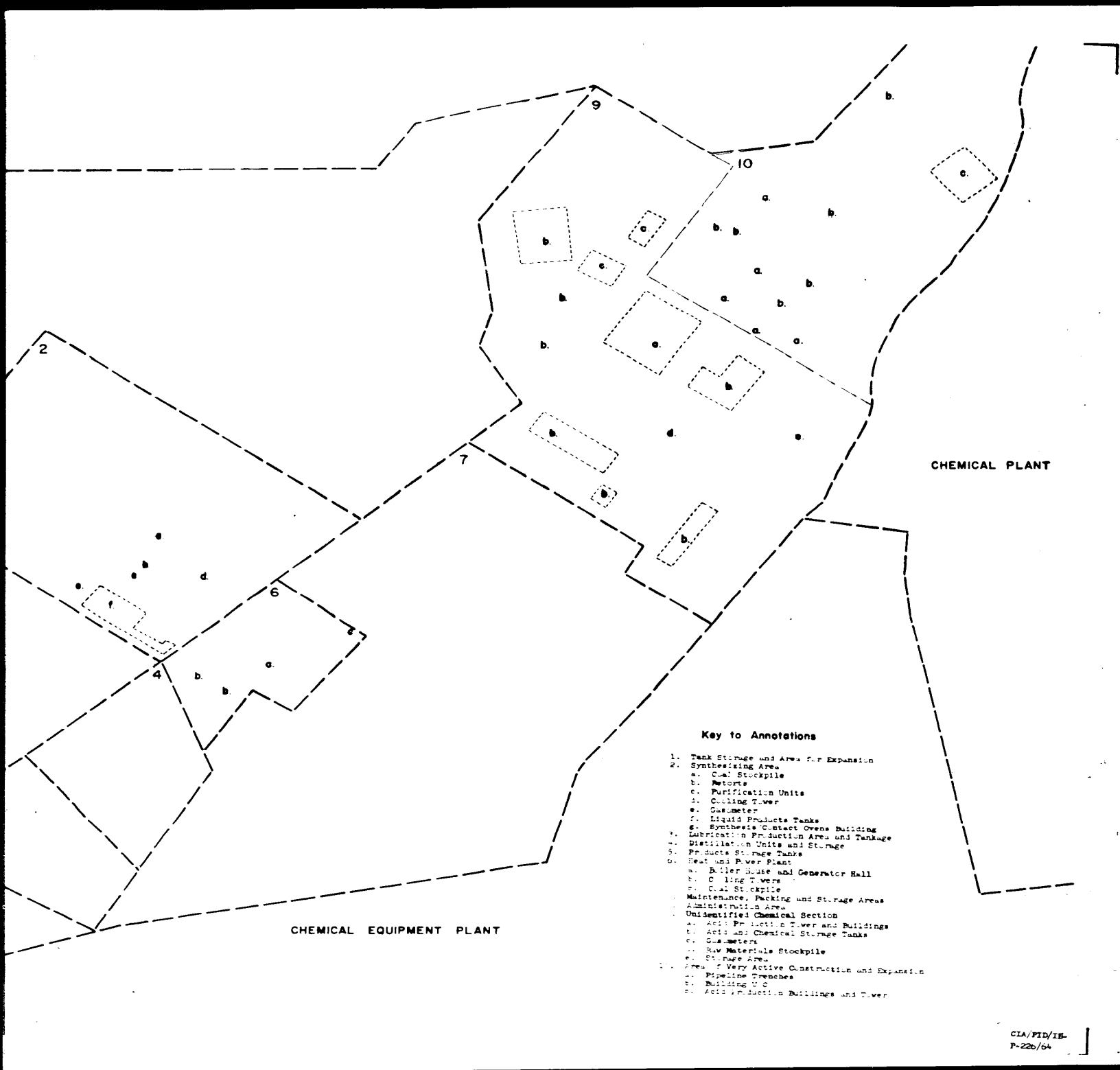
CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT PLANT



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P-226/64

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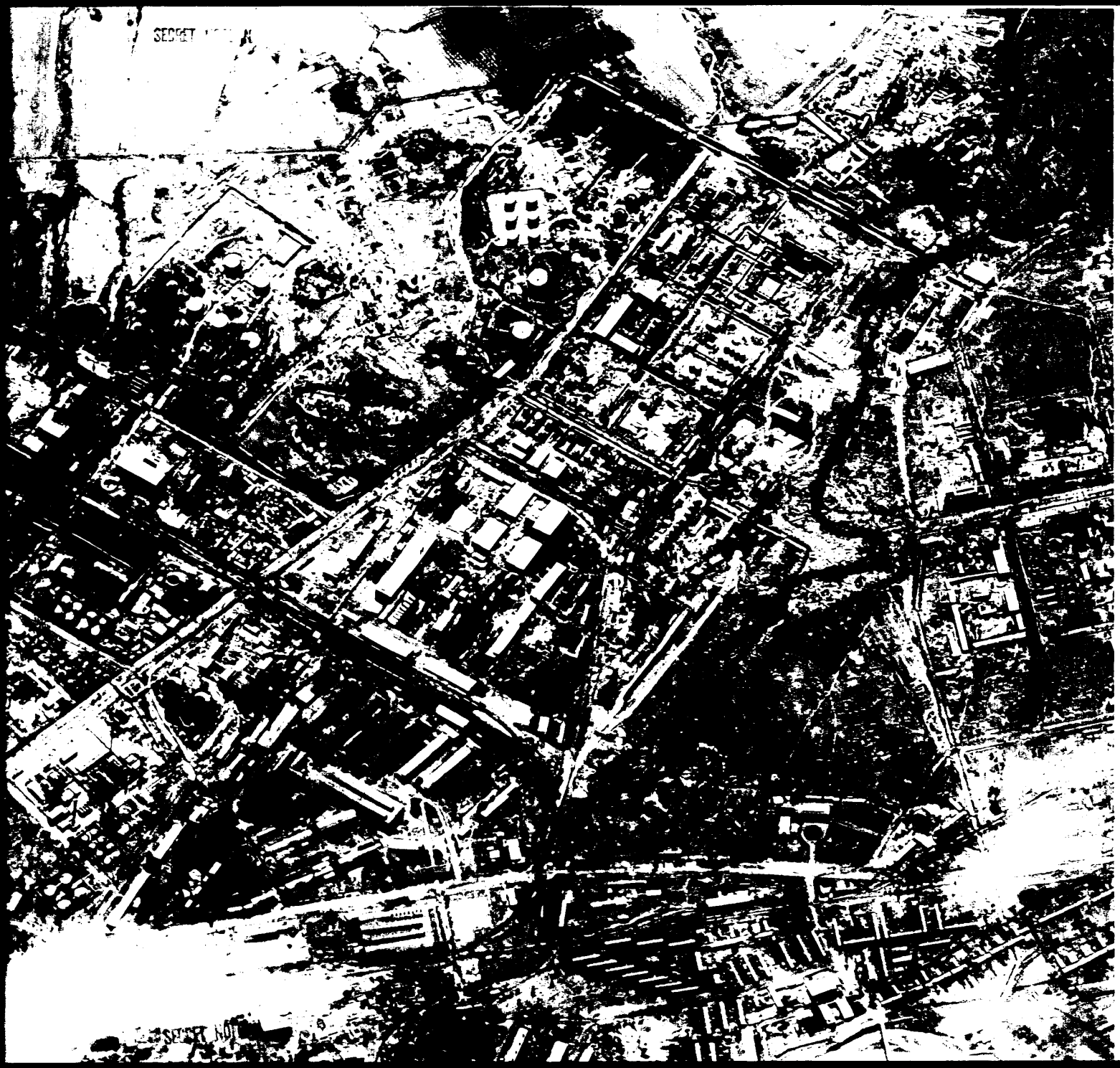


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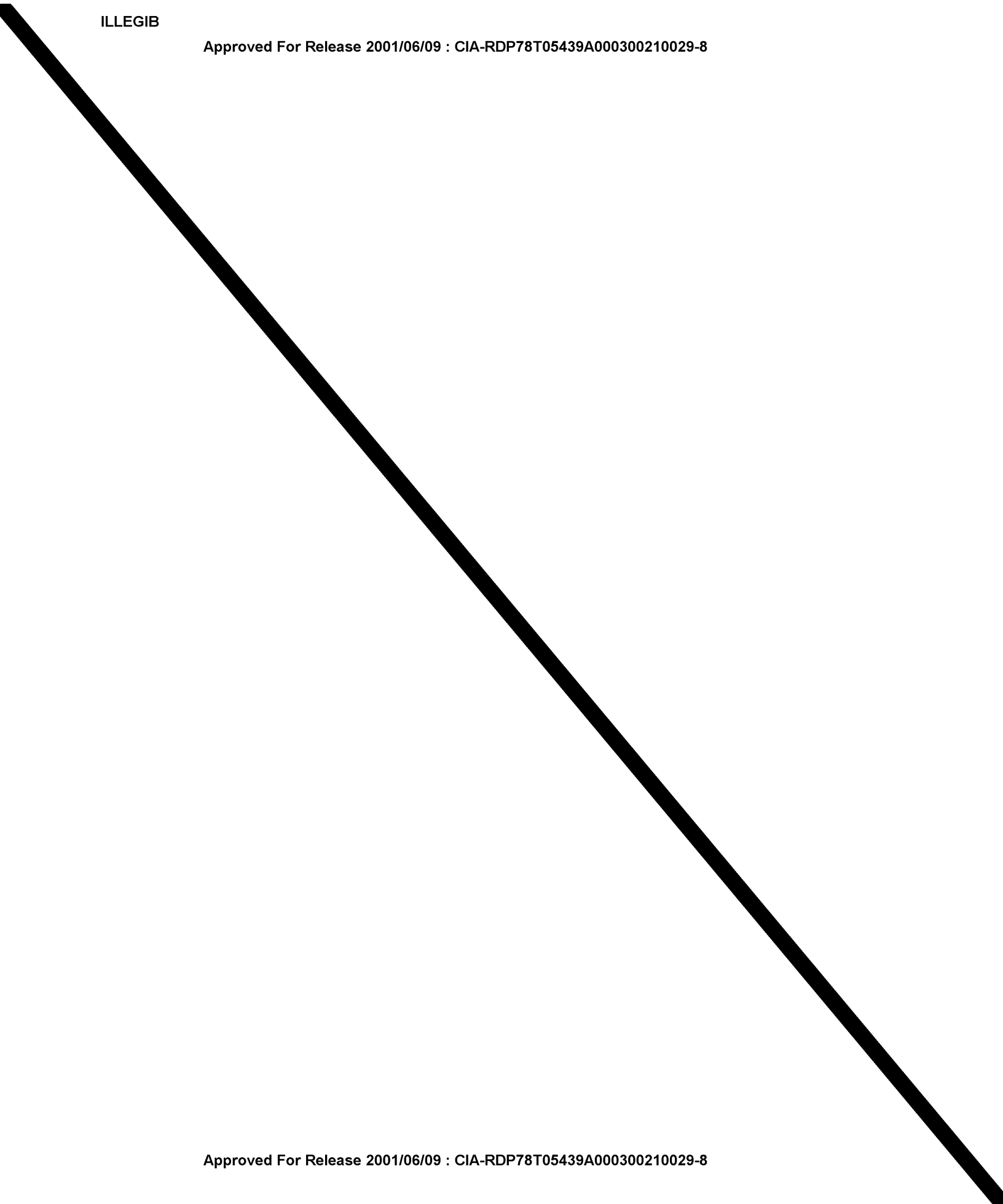

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