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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

# TERRORISM REVIEW

**SPECIAL EDITION:**

**1996 IN PERSPECTIVE**

APPROVED FOR RELEASE   
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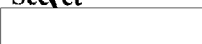
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January 1997

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**Terrorism Review**



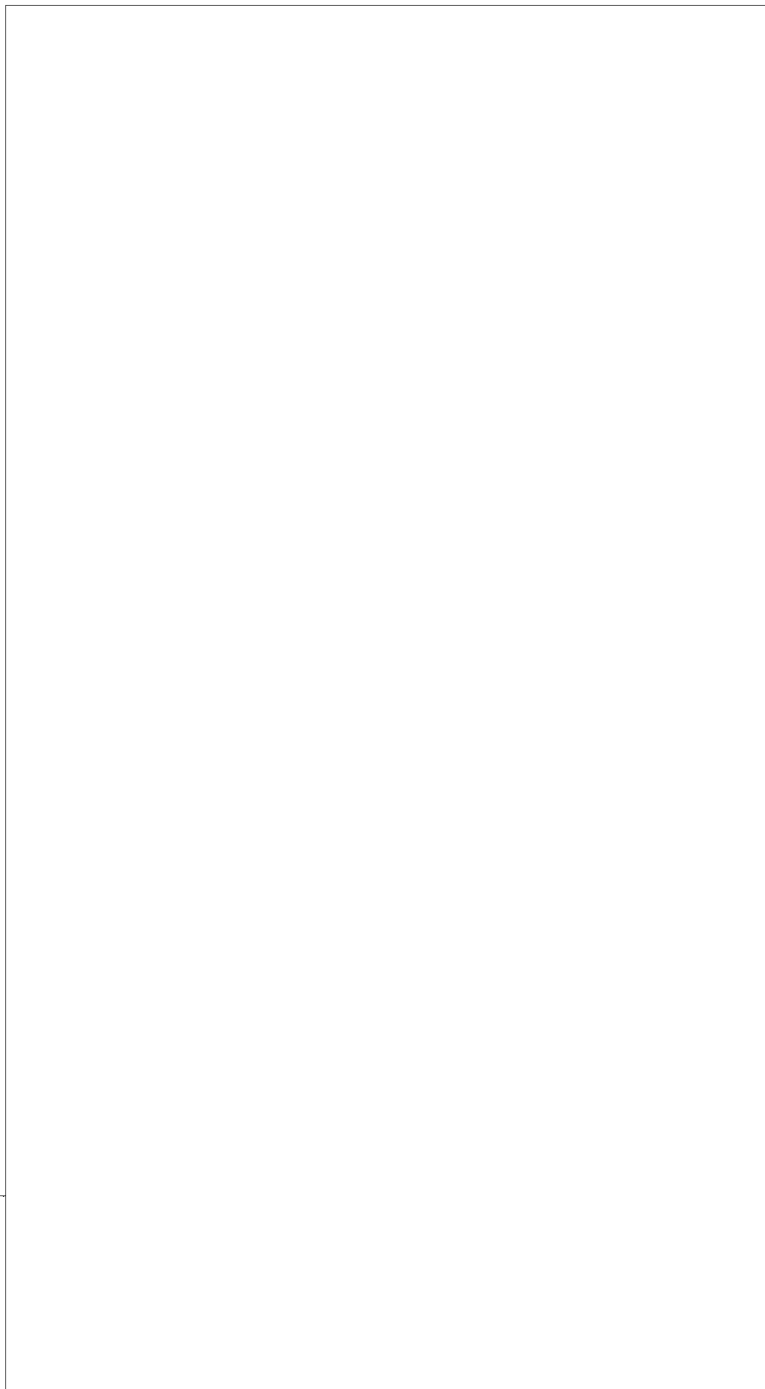
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*This review is published monthly by the DCI Counterterrorist Center. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to*

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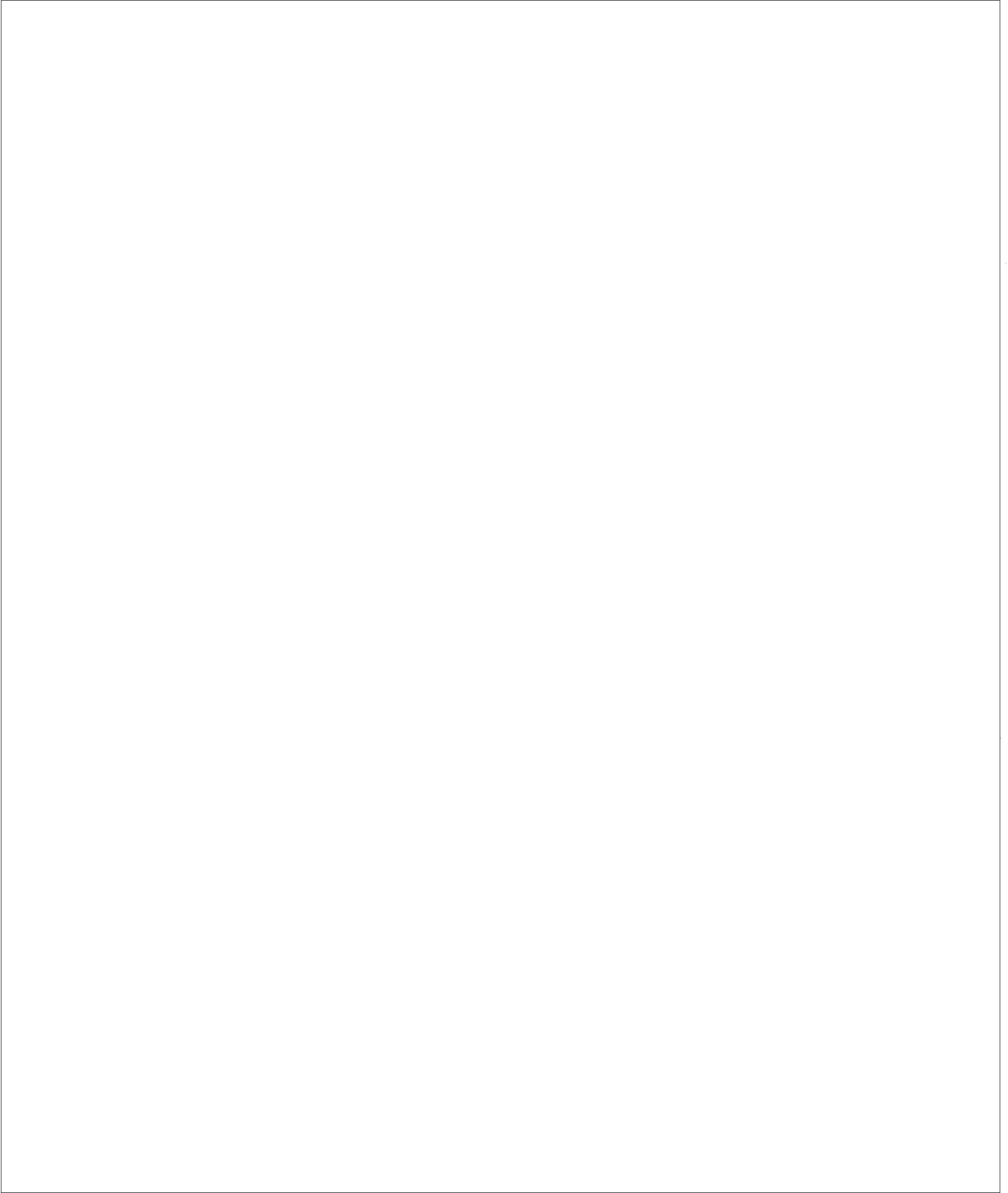
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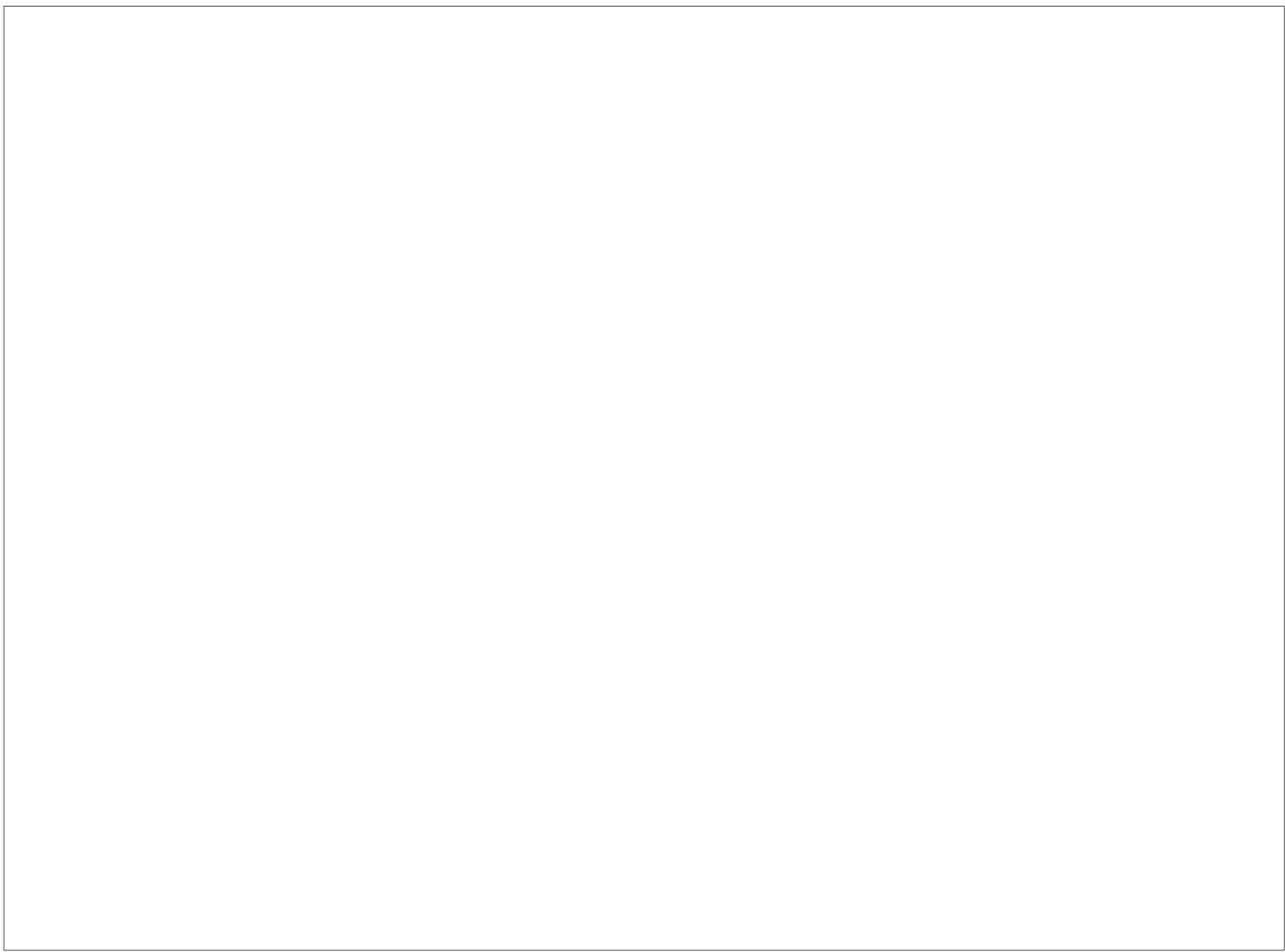
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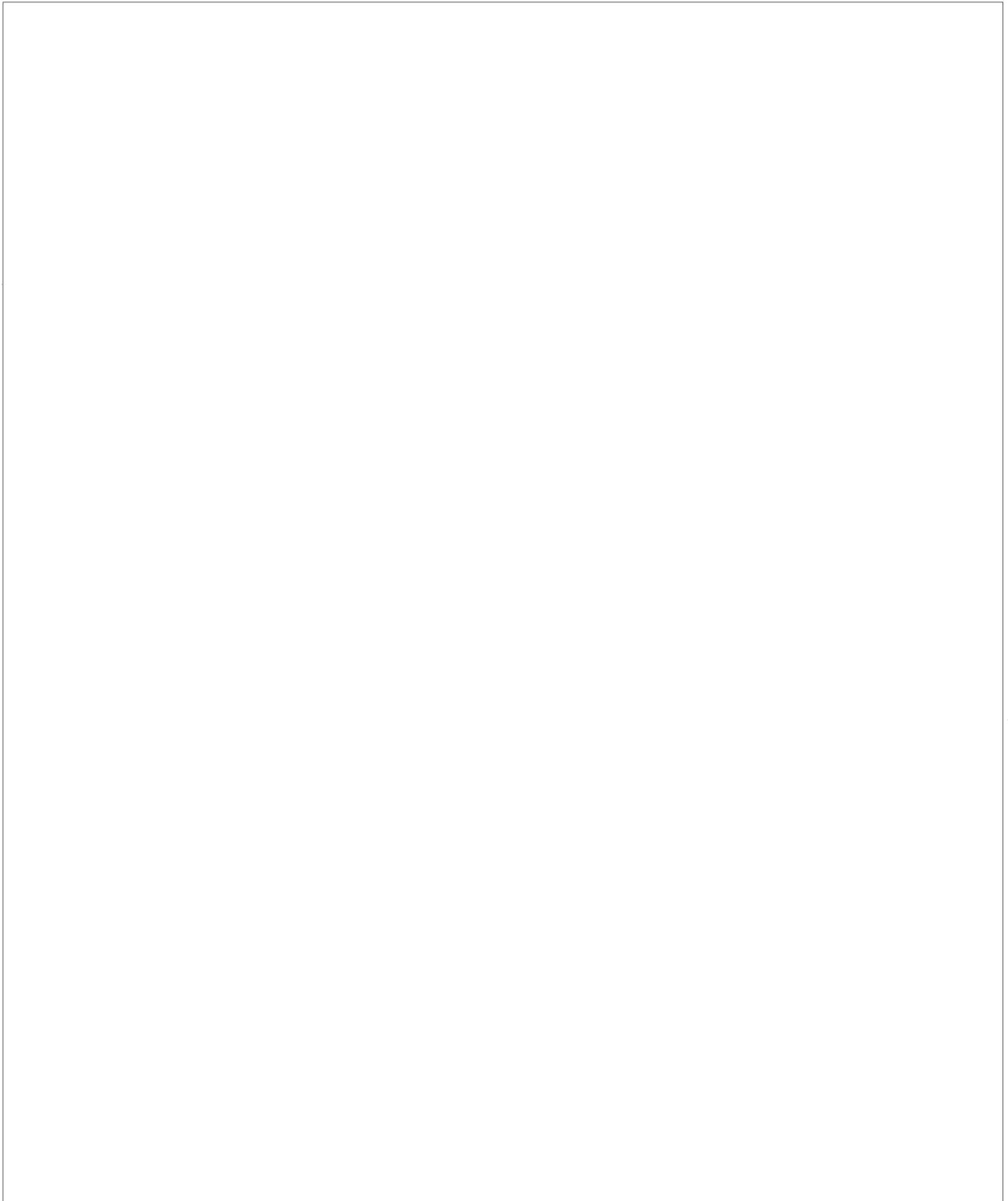
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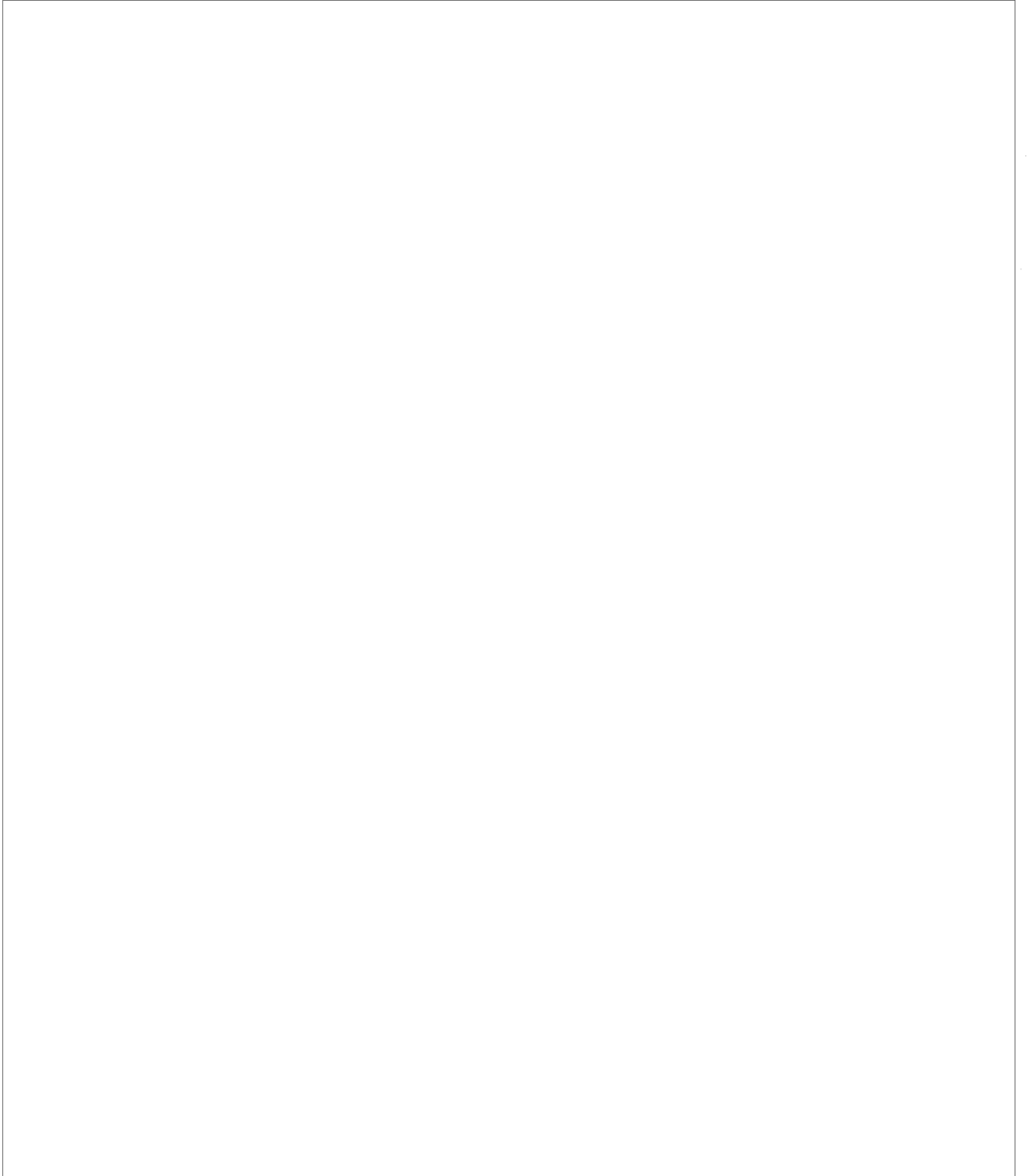
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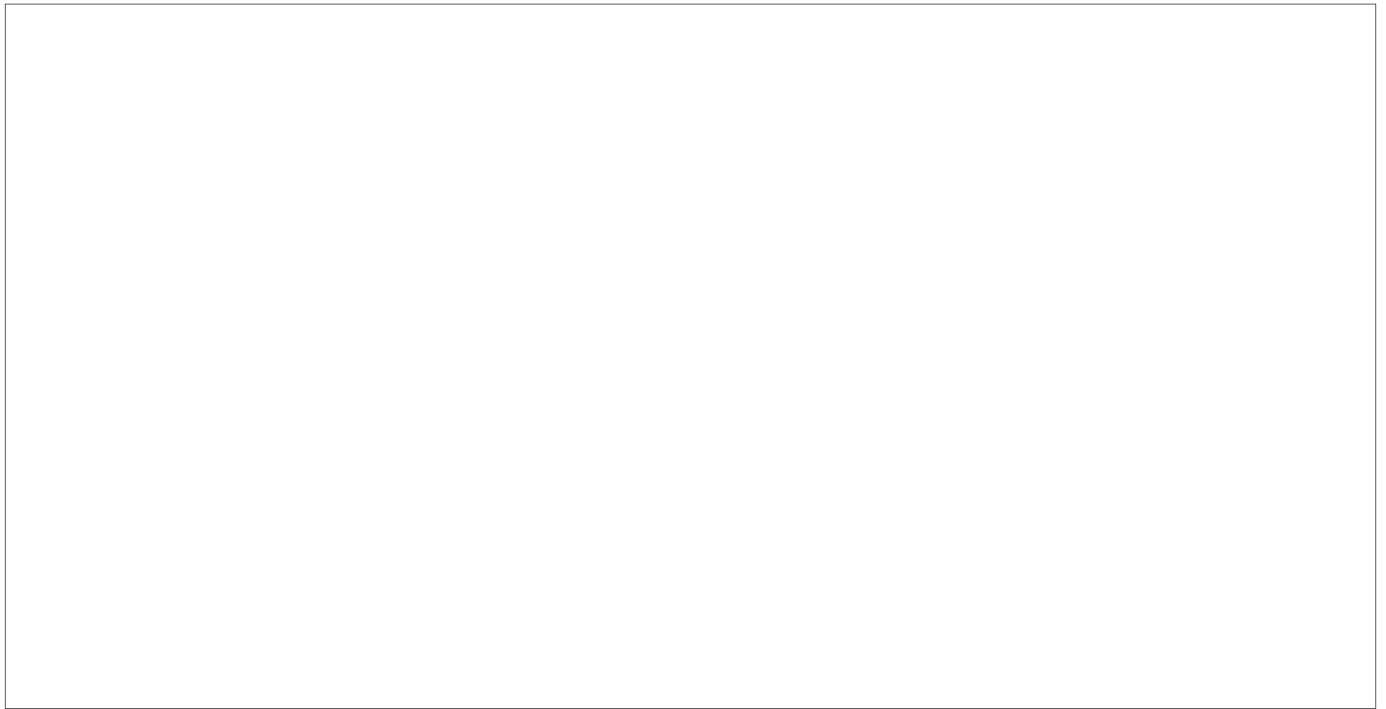
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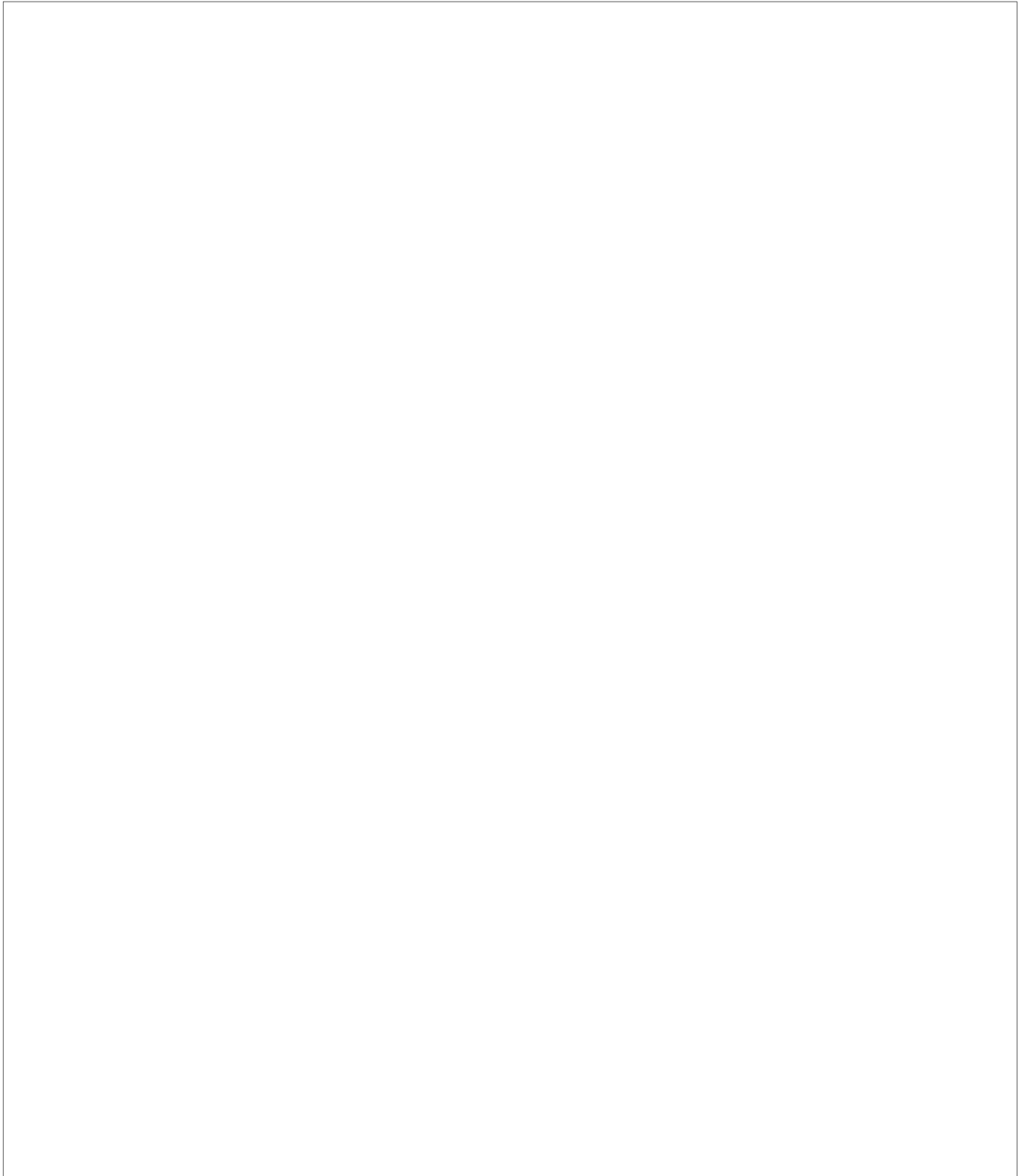
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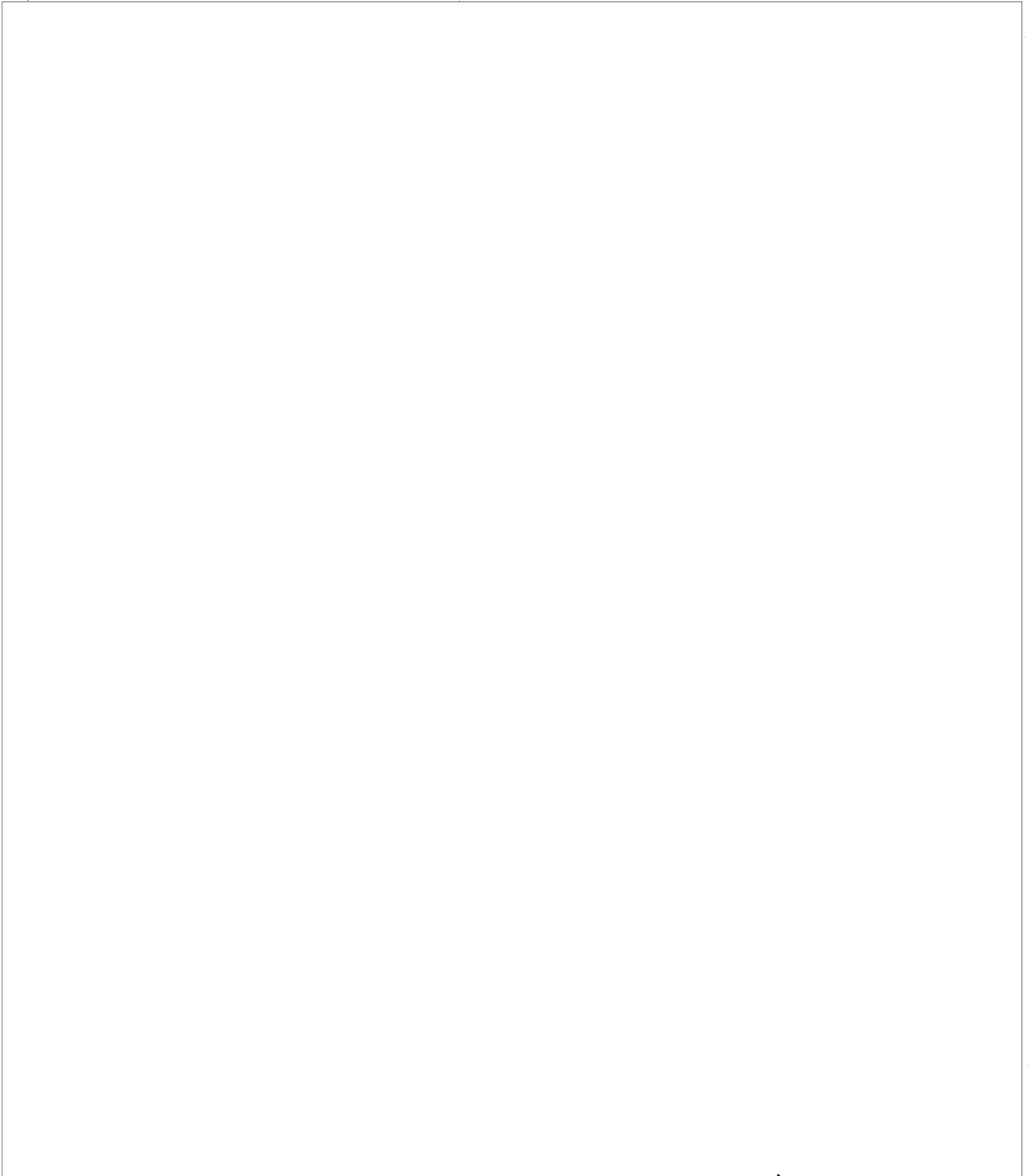
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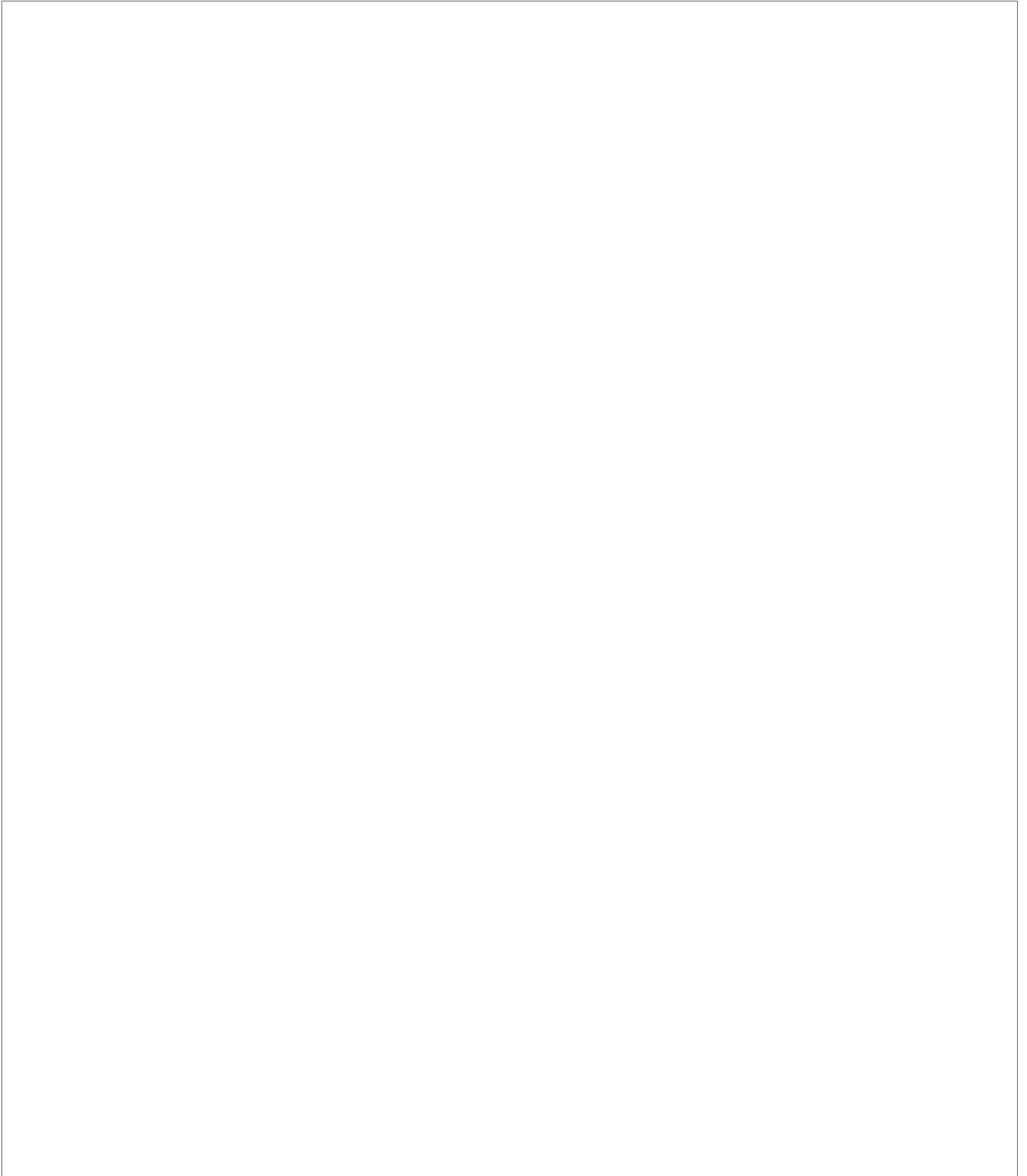
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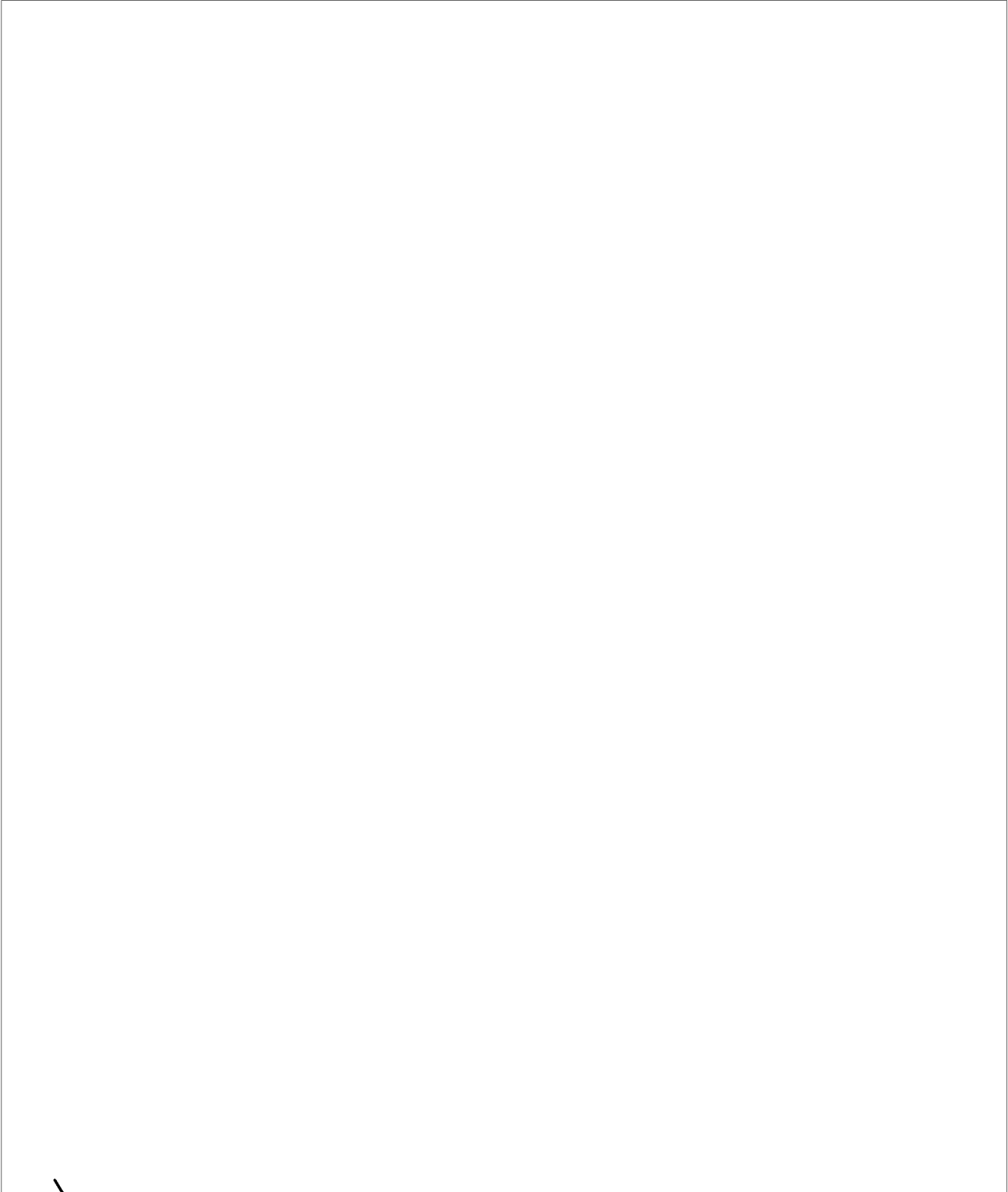


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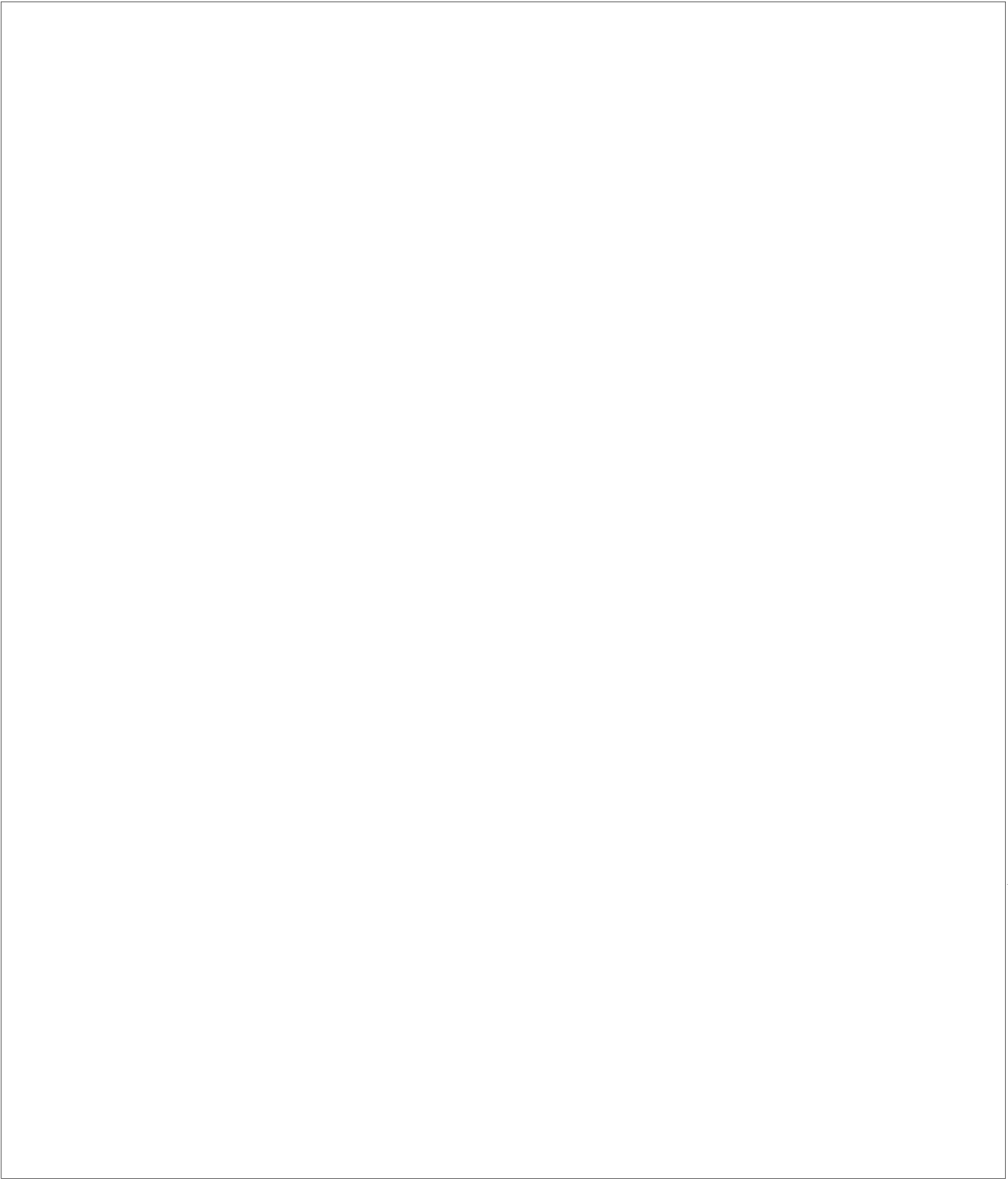
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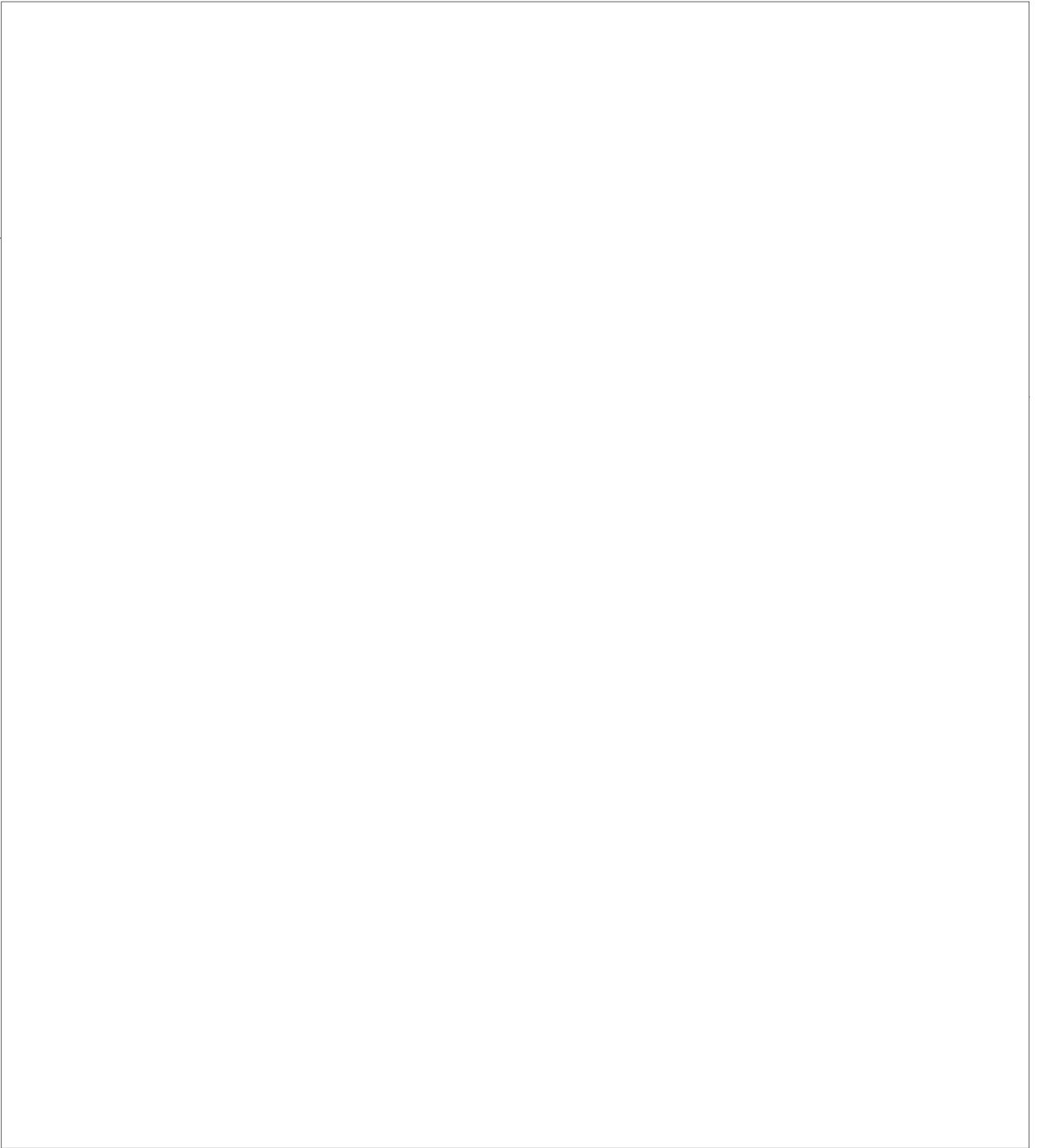
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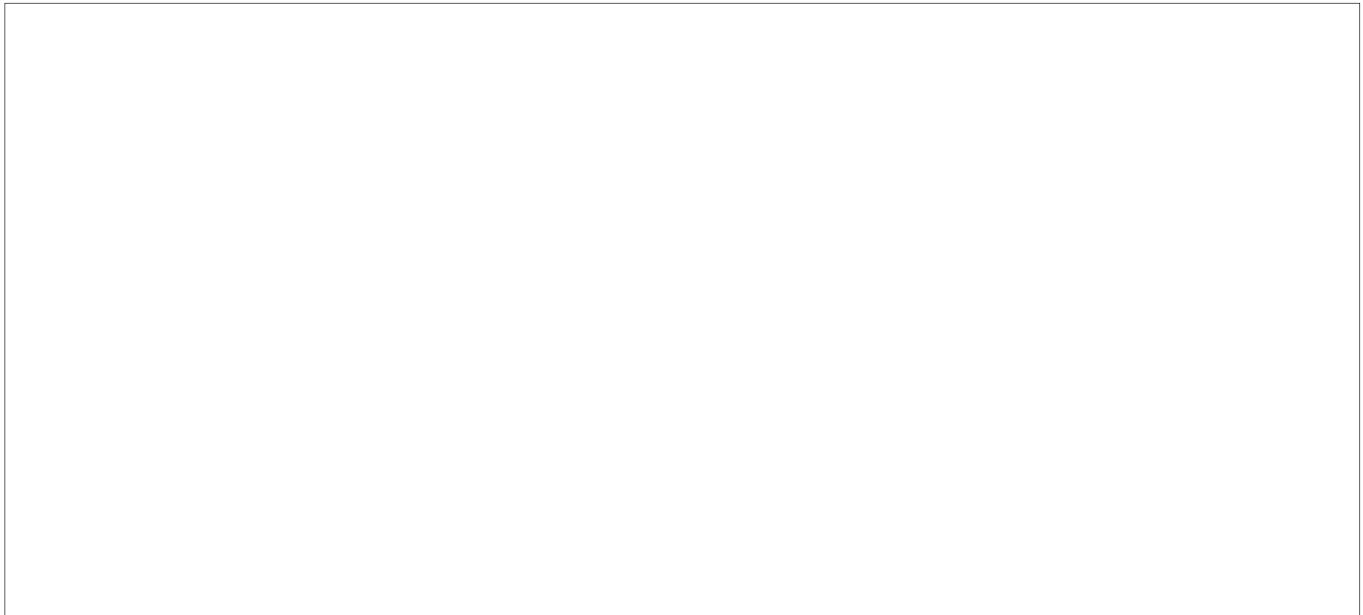
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**The Terrorism Diary for February and March**

*Below is a compendium of February and March dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.*

- 1 February 1979** *Iran.* Return of Ayatollah Khomeini to Iran from exile in Paris.
- 1 February 1984** *India.* Kashmir separatist leader Maqbool Butt executed.
- 3 February 1963** *Iraq.* Anniversary of Ba'th Revolution.
- 4 February 1948** *Sri Lanka.* Independence Day.
- 4 February 1979** *Iran.* Revolution Day.
- 7 February 1997** Quds Day or Jerusalem Day. Muslims protest Israeli occupation of Jerusalem. (Quds Day is commemorated on the last Friday of Ramadan, which in 1997 ends on 8 February.)
- 8 February 1963** *Iraq.* Revolution Day.
- 14 February 1979** *Iran.* Attack on US Embassy in Tehran; the Embassy was briefly occupied and the Ambassador briefly held.
- 19 February 1980** *Egypt, Israel.* Exchange of ambassadors.
- 22 February 1969** *Palestinians.* Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine founded.
- 25 February 1991** *Iraq.* Beginning of the ground war in Desert Storm.
- 26 February 1993** *United States.* World Trade Center bombing in New York City.
- 2 March 1956** *Morocco.* Independence Day (termination of Treaty of Fez).
- 2 March 1977** *Libya.* Establishment of Jamahiriyah (Masses' State).
- 3 March 1878** *Bulgaria.* Independence Day.
- 3 March 1961** *Morocco.* Accession of King Hassan to throne.
- 4 March 1982** *Colombia, United States.* Effective date of extradition treaty aimed at narcotics traffickers.
- 6 March 1957** *Ghana.* Independence Day.
- 6 March 1975** *Kurdish region.* Algerian accord between Iran and Iraq abandoning support for the Kurds.

**10 March 1979** *Kurdish region.* Death of Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani.

**11 March 1966** *Indonesia.* President Sukarno turns over power to Suharto.

**12 March 1968** *Gabon.* National Day.

**12 March 1880** *Turkey.* Birthday of Ataturk.

**12 March 1968** *Mauritius.* Independence Day.

**13 March 1979** *Grenada.* Coup d'etat by Maurice Bishop (National Day).

**14 March 1975** *Japan.* Chukaku-ha (Nucleus Faction) Secretary General Honda assassinated by rival radical groups.

**17 March** *Ireland.* St. Patrick's Day (National Day).

**20 March 1956** *Tunisia.* Independence Day.

**20 March 1981** *Colombia.* Death of M-19 terrorist Carmenza Londono (La Chiqui).

**21 March** *Turkey.* Kurdish New Year.

**22 March 1945** *Arab World.* Founding of Arab League (original members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Syria).

**23 March 1956** *Pakistan.* Pakistan Day (founding of Islamic republic).

**25 March 1921** *Greece.* Greek Revolution Memorial Day (celebrating beginning of independence from Turkey).

**25 March 1932** *Iraq.* Independence Day.

**25 March 1975** *Saudi Arabia.* Assassination of King Faisal and accession of King Khalid.

**26 March 1971** *Bangladesh.* Independence Day.

**26 March 1978** *Egypt, Israel.* Peace agreement ratified.

**26 March 1970** *Libya.* UK Evacuation Day (day British forces turned over bases and departed).

**28 March** *Palestinians.* National Day.

**30 March 1974** *Turkey.* Death of terrorist Mahir Cayan, member of Turkish People's Liberation Party.

**30 March 1976** *Palestinians.* Day of the Homeland.





## Chronology of International Terrorism

The following incidents were considered by the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review and were determined by the Panel to constitute international terrorism. Such incidents provide the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.

### Africa

**1 November**

**Sudan:** A breakaway group from the Sudanese People's Liberation Army kidnapped three International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers when their plane landed in Wunrock. The hostages, a US citizen, an Australian, and a Kenyan, were transporting five wounded Sudanese soldiers who had been released from a Red Cross hospital in Kenya. On 9 December the rebels released the hostages in exchange for ICRC supplies and a health survey for their camp.

### Asia

**20 November**

**Philippines:** Authorities detonated a bomb found in a bag in the arrival area of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. No one claimed responsibility for the bomb.

### Eurasia

**8 December**

**Tajikistan:** Guerrillas attacked a jointly owned Tajik-British gold mine in Darvaz, abducting four employees and causing an unknown amount of damage. Two of the hostages were a Briton and a South African. The assailants occupied the mine for five days. After negotiations, the hostages were released on 28 December in the village of Childara.

**12 December**

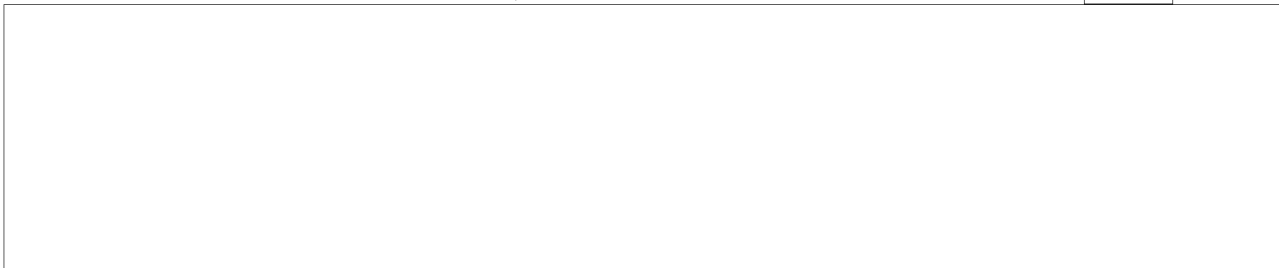
**Tajikistan:** A mine placed in a Pakistani Embassy vehicle detonated in front of the Embassy in Dushanbe, destroying the vehicle and damaging the Embassy. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. Tajik opposition forces or groups opposing the cease-fire agreement may be responsible.

**17 December**

**Russia:** Gunmen broke into a residential area for the ICRC in Novyye Atagi, Chechnya, shooting to death six ICRC staff employees while they were sleeping and wounding a seventh. The victims included two Norwegians, a Dutch national, a Canadian, a New Zealander, a Spaniard, and a Swiss national.

**19 December**

**Bosnia-Herzegovina:** *An assailant threw a hand grenade at a regional office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, causing major damage to two vehicles. One of the vehicles belonged to the international Implementation Force. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.*



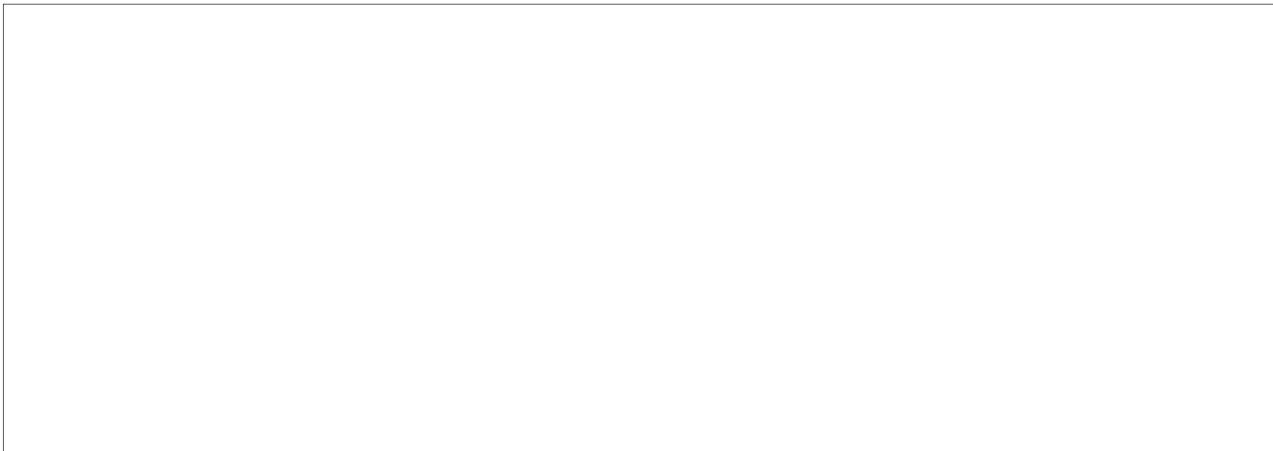
**25 December**

**Bulgaria:** *A bomb detonated outside the Serbian Embassy's consular section in Sofia, causing minor damage. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.*

**Europe**

**30 September**

**Turkey:** *Assailants threw a handgrenade at the Eastern Orthodox Church's headquarters in Istanbul. The grenade exploded in the garden, causing minor damage. The Great Eastern Islamic Raiders-Front claimed responsibility for the attack.*



**19 December**

**Greece:** *Unknown assailants bombed a Citibank office building in Athens, causing extensive damage to the facade, nearby vehicles, and surrounding buildings. Authorities believe members or sympathizers of the Revolutionary Organization 17 November or the Revolutionary People's Struggle are responsible.*

**20 December**

**Italy:** *An improvised incendiary device detonated outside the Peruvian consulate building in Milan, causing minor material damage. A note found at the scene hinted that the attack was perpetrated by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), but local authorities suspect Italian sympathizers of the Peruvian leftist group which is holding hostages in the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru (see page 38).*



**Latin America**

**22 October**

**Colombia: National Liberation Army (ELN) members attacked the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline near Araquita, causing a spill and igniting a fire.**



**7 November**

**Colombia: Assailants hurled two explosive devices at a Mormon church in Tulua, causing minor material damage but no injuries.** The attackers left several pamphlets outside the church identifying themselves as *ELN* members and denouncing US efforts to reinstate an extradition treaty with Colombia.



**7 November**

**Colombia: An explosive device detonated in Bogota near Colombia's national newspaper library, where representatives of the Nonaligned Movement were meeting in the library's auditorium.** The explosion damaged a library office but caused no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.



**8 November**

**Chile: Six hooded individuals hurled five Molotov cocktails inside a Mormon church on Cerro Navia, causing minor damage but no injuries.** No group claimed responsibility for the attack.



**1-2 December**

**Colombia: On two consecutive days, suspected Colombian guerrillas dynamited two sections of the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in the Arauca province, causing major oil spills.** The *ELN* is suspected.



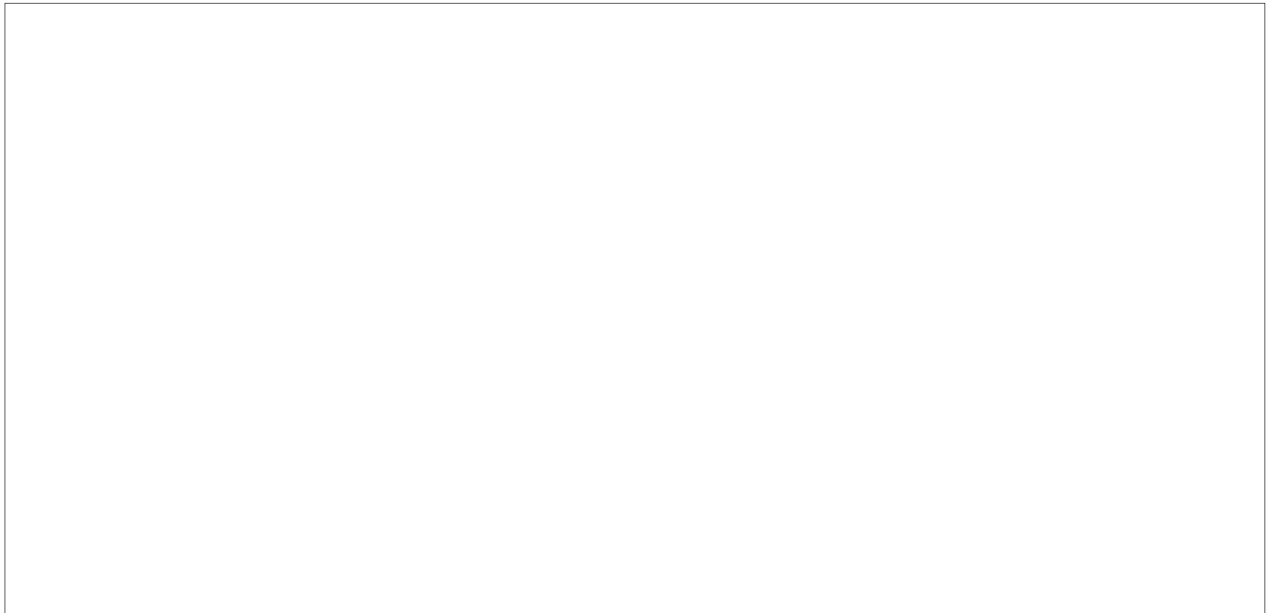
**11 December**

**Colombia: Five armed men claiming to be members of the FARC kidnapped a US mining engineer in La Guajira Departamento.** The engineer was working for a company that is exploring methane gas in the region.



**17 December**

***Peru: Twenty-three MRTA militants took several hundred persons hostage at a party given at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima.*** The terrorists entered the compound dressed as waiters and set off explosions and exchanged gunfire with police. Among the hostages were US officials; European, Latin American, and Asian ambassadors; other foreign diplomats and staff; several Peruvian Government officials; and a large number of Japanese businessmen. The group is demanding the release of all MRTA members currently in prison and safe passage for them and the hostage takers. The guerrillas released most of the hostages in December but are holding over 70 Peruvian and Japanese citizens.



**Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—December 1996**

*This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.*

**Asia**

**India**

A bomb exploded on a passenger train in Ambala on 2 December, killing 12 persons and injuring 39 others. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

**Pakistan**

A time bomb exploded outside a branch office of the National Bank of Pakistan in Karachi on 4 December, injuring 19 persons. No one claimed responsibility.

**Sri Lanka**

On 17 December in Karaitivu a *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* suicide bomber on a motorcycle detonated a bomb against a police jeep, killing a police commando and wounding his driver.

**Europe**

**Spain**

A bomb detonated in an Irun courthouse on 5 December, causing minor damage but no injuries. The *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* claimed responsibility.

*ETA* forces threw three grenades at a San Sebastian civil guard barracks building on 18 December, causing minor damage to an outer wall but no injuries. Two persons were arrested.

On 27 December assailants set fire to a police vehicle and two public buses in Bilbao, causing extensive damage but no injuries. Authorities suspect *ETA* youth sympathizers.

*ETA* youth supporters threw several Molotov cocktails at a Hernari train station terminal, bank office, and several parked vehicles on 29 December, injuring a policeman and causing extensive damage

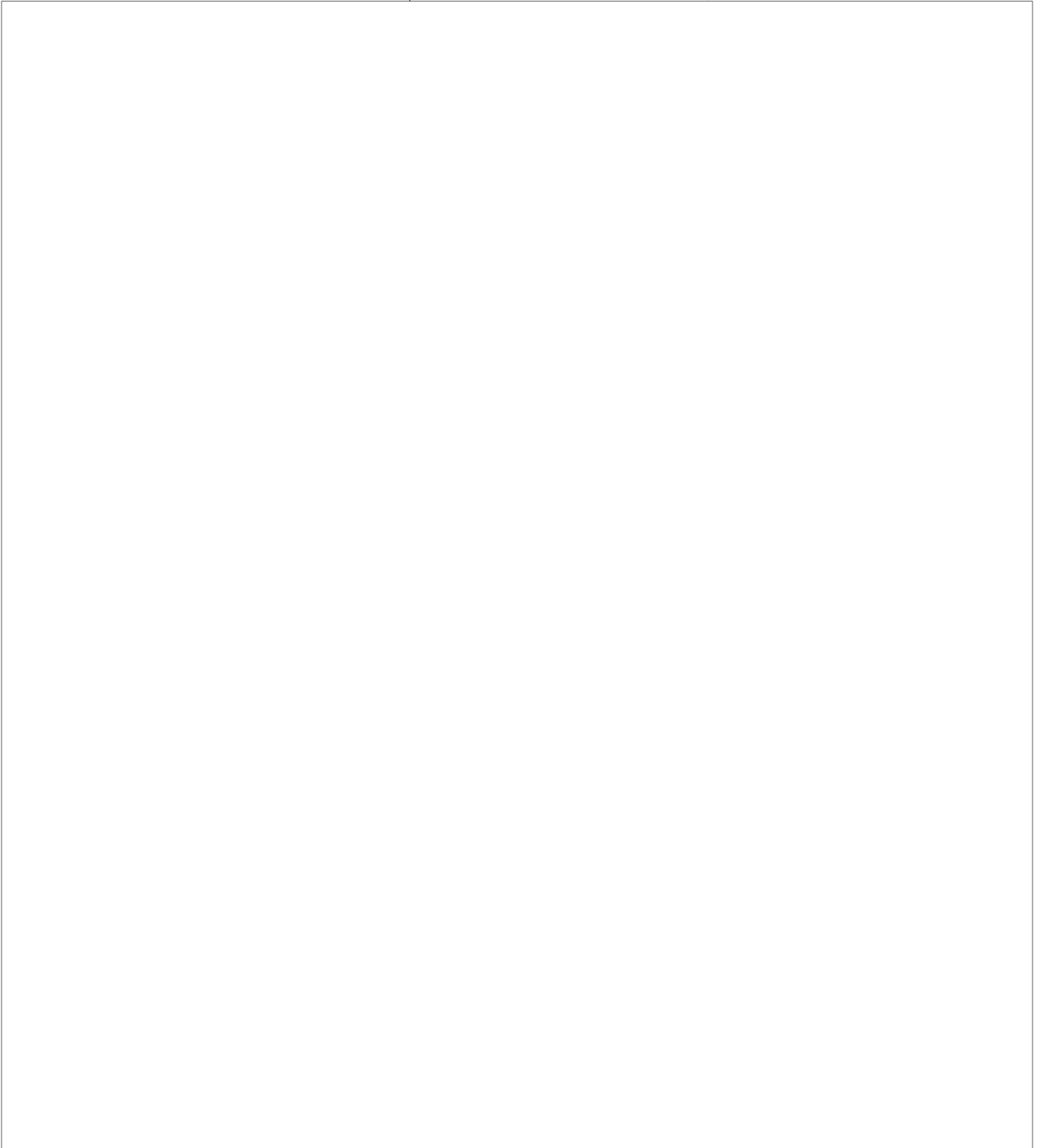
**Turkey**

Gunmen opened fire at the Dargecit Mayor's house on 9 December. The gunmen fled when security personnel returned gunfire. The *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* is suspected.

A bomb exploded next to a confessional booth inside a Catholic church in the district of Beyoglu in Istanbul on 17 December, causing minor damage. No one claimed responsibility.

Five armed assailants abducted the brother of the Mayor of Lice on 30 December from his residence there. The *PKK* claimed responsibility on 2 January.

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Two bombs exploded in Diyarbakir on 31 December. One was near a nightclub and the other was outside a billiard hall in a different part of town. No casualties were reported, and no one claimed responsibility for the attacks [redacted]

**United Kingdom**

Unidentified gunmen shot and wounded a police officer on 20 December as he guarded a Democratic Unionist Party official visiting his son at a Belfast hospital. The *Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA)* claimed responsibility. [redacted]

A car bomb detonated in Belfast on 22 December, injuring a vocal *PIRA* supporter and causing minor damage. Loyalist paramilitary groups are suspected. [redacted]

Authorities defused an explosive device hidden on the car of a suspected *PIRA* official in Londonderry on 28 December after the device became partially detached from the car. Authorities believe loyalist paramilitary groups are responsible. [redacted]

**Latin America**

**Colombia**

On 17 December in Currulao Municipality, 10 *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia* guerrillas bombed a market. No injuries or damage were reported. Army members opened fire, killing four guerrillas. [redacted]

[redacted]

**Peru**

A group of 50 *Sendero Luminoso* rebels used sticks and stones to kill five peasants in Abra De Porculla on 26 December. After a bus arrived they shot the bus driver in the head and set the bus on fire. They fled shouting "death to the informers." [redacted]

**Middle East**

**Algeria**

On 11 December suspected Islamic extremists killed 20 persons and injured seven others who were traveling on a bus in the Blida region. No one claimed responsibility for the attack [redacted]

**Egypt**

On 19 December in Markaz Mallawi in Al Minya Governorate, unidentified gunmen shot and killed two policemen and wounded a third policeman and a civilian. *Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya* may be responsible [redacted]

**Israel**

A bomb exploded on 6 December near a high school bus stop at the exit from Ramla toward Lod, injuring a girl. No one claimed responsibility for the attack [redacted]

[redacted]