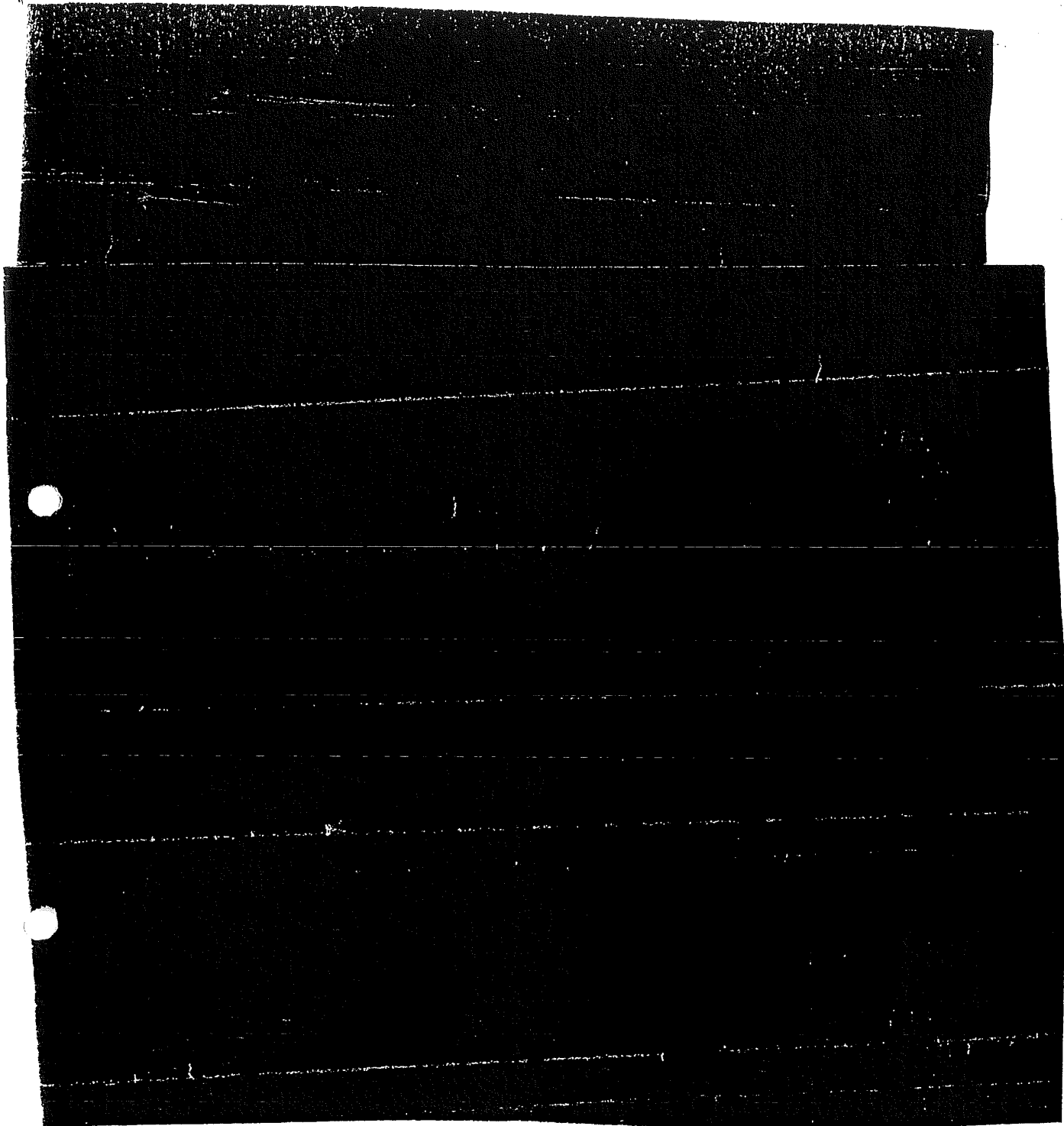


WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

Minutes of One Hundred and Seventeenth meeting of the
Western Health and Social Services Council
held in The Training Room, Limavady Borough Council Offices
Connell Street, Limavady, Co Londonderry
on Thursday 6 March 2003
at 2.00PM

Present: Ms M Reilly, Chairperson
Mr H Andrews
Mrs V Brown
Mr M Coyle
Mr E Friel
Mr P Gilgunn
Mr I Maguire
Mr B McAleer
Mr P McGowan
Mr R McKelvey
Mr W Page
Mrs H Quigley
Mrs F Robson

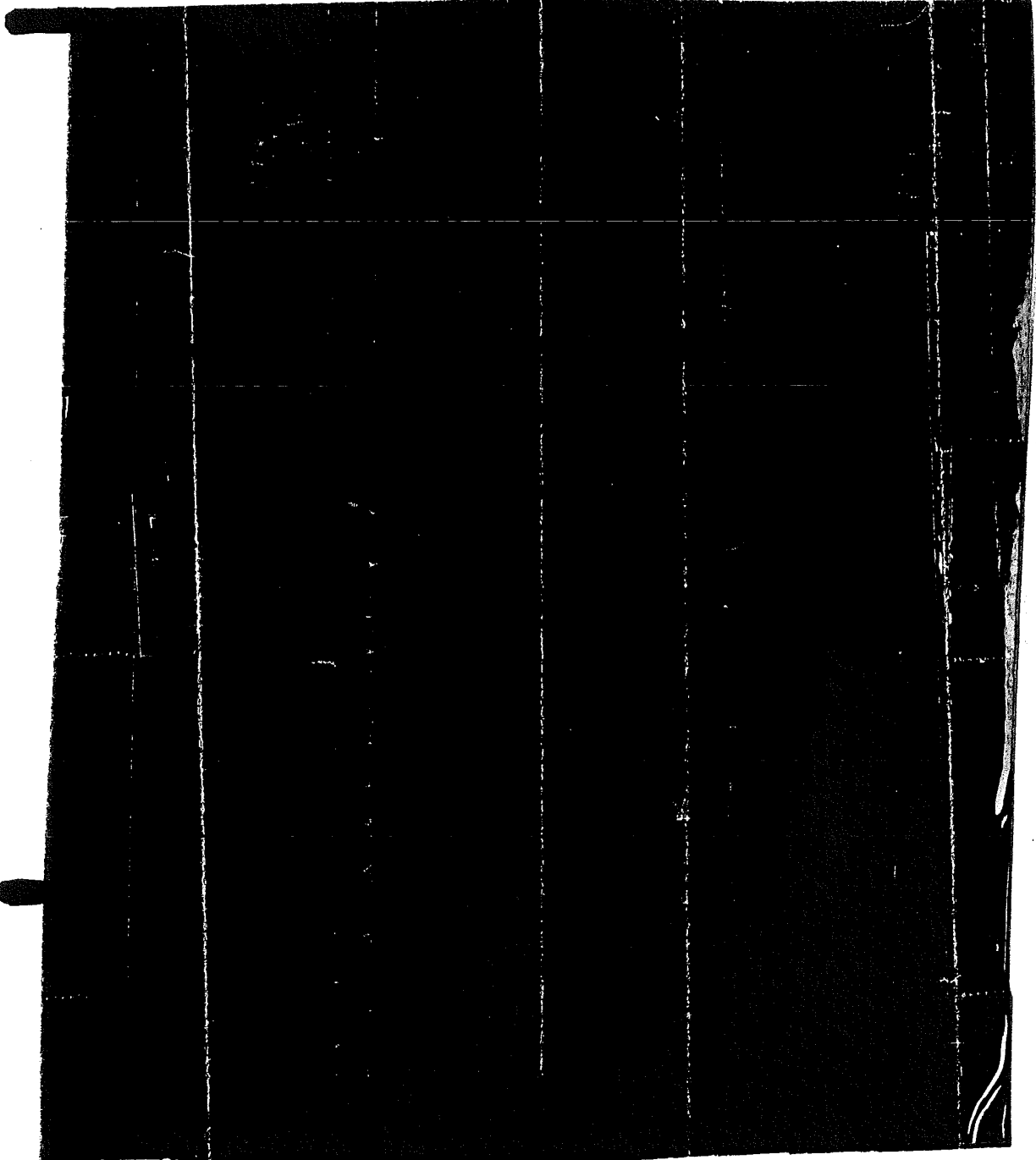
In Attendance: Mr S Millar
Mrs L Preston



C16/03 Confidential Briefing by Altnagelvin Hospitals Trust on the events leading up to the death of Raychel Ferguson:

Members who attended the Confidential Briefing on 19 February 2003 discussed the outcomes of the meeting and the Press Release published by the Trust. The Members who attended agreed they had received a detailed presentation on the circumstances. Mrs Quigley was disappointed the Trust did not give answers to her specific written questions. Mr Friel noted the Trust was facing litigation which

meant it could not make any further statements to counter speculation and rumour in the community. Mr Page said the Trust had to tackle the important matter of a lack of confidence in Children's Services. The meeting agreed to discuss with the Trust (1) A means whereby the Trust can place its perspective on controversial issues before the public (even in the context of threatened litigation) (2) An arrangement to call upon a Council Member on a strictly confidential basis to assist in the investigation of controversial issues. The Members accepted the proposals could help redress public disquiet over the self investigation process. The Chief Officer was asked to ascertain the cost of litigation arising from medical negligence in the past five years in the Western area and whether the Western Board holds a contingency fund to meet the costs.



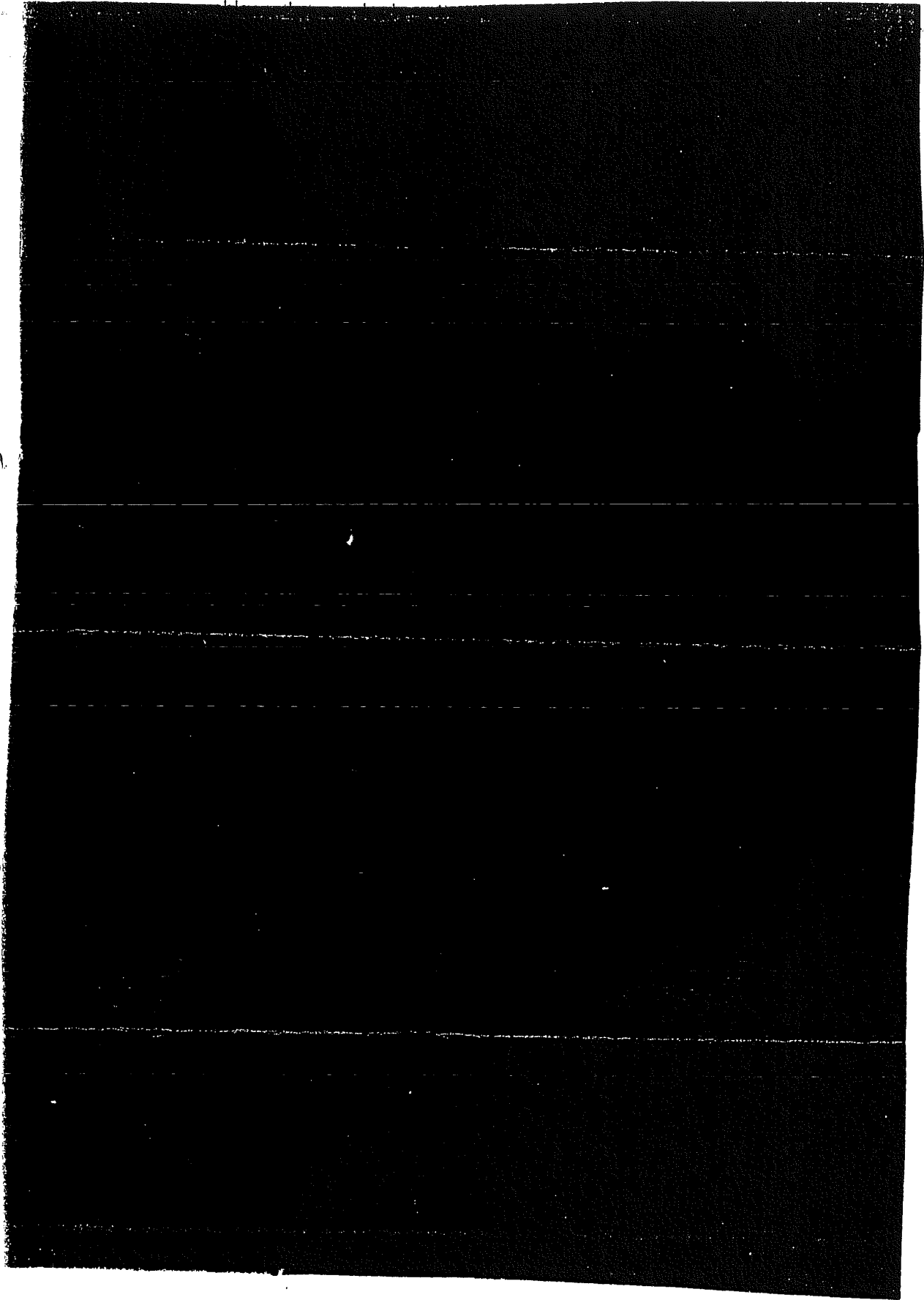
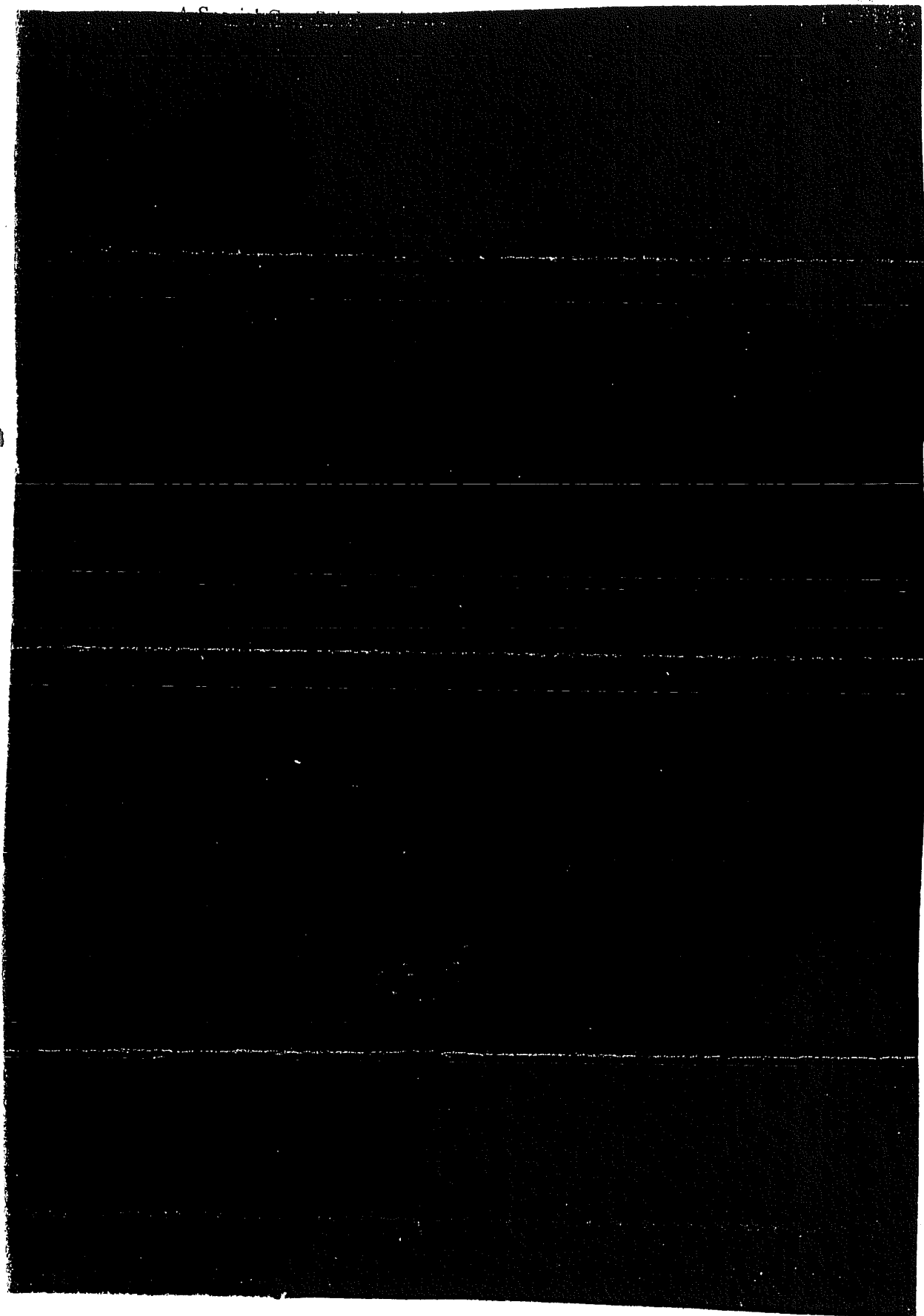
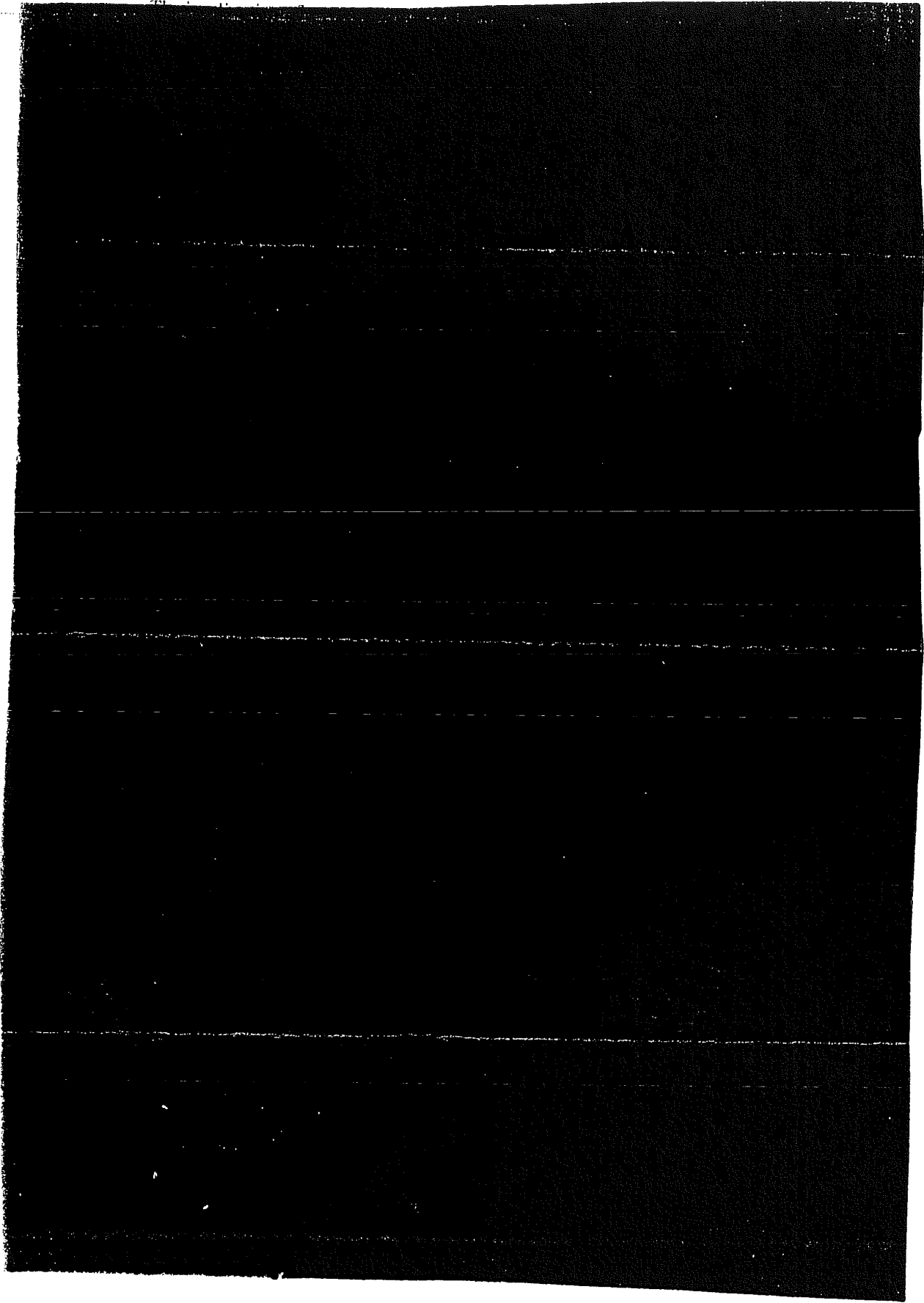
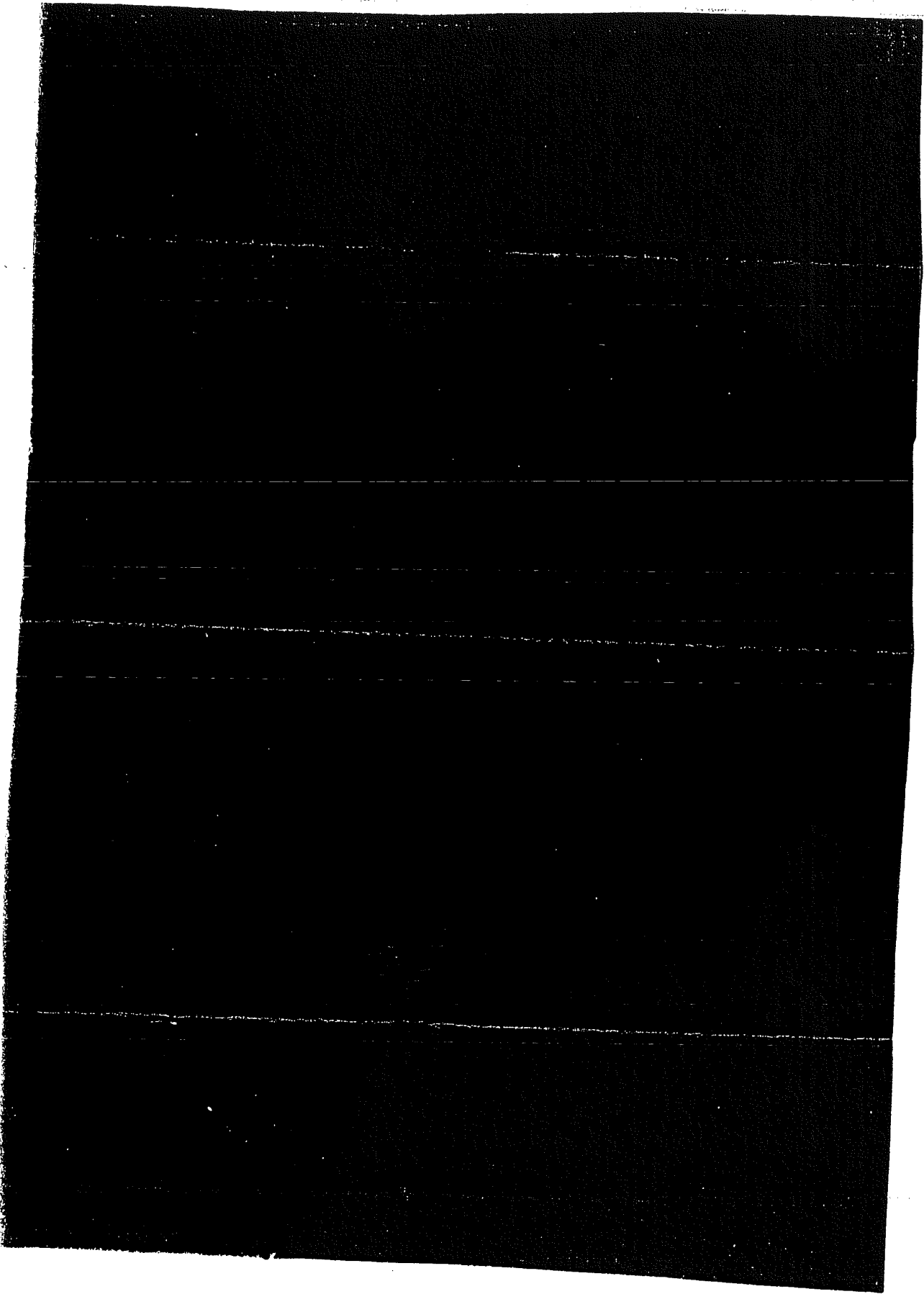


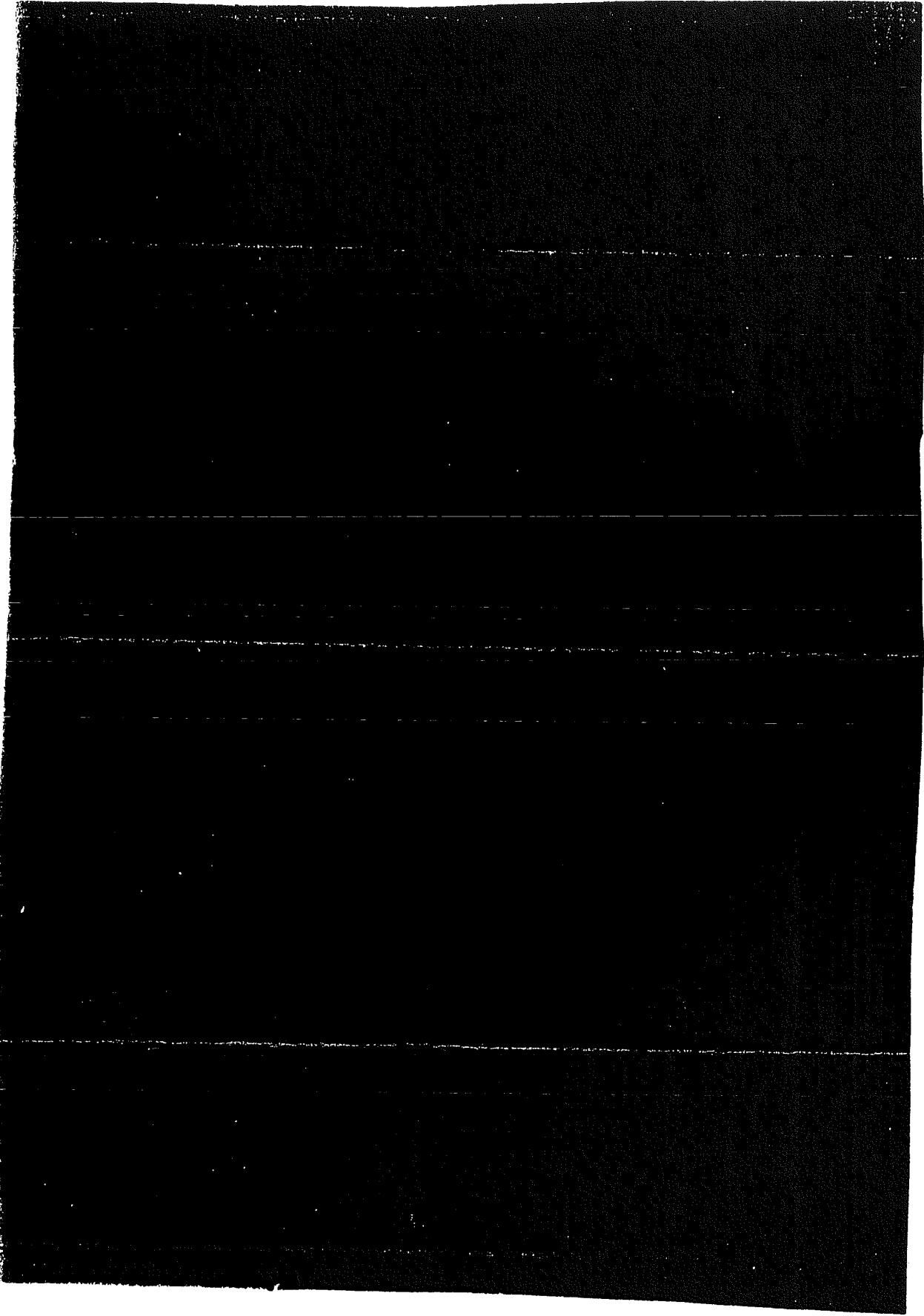
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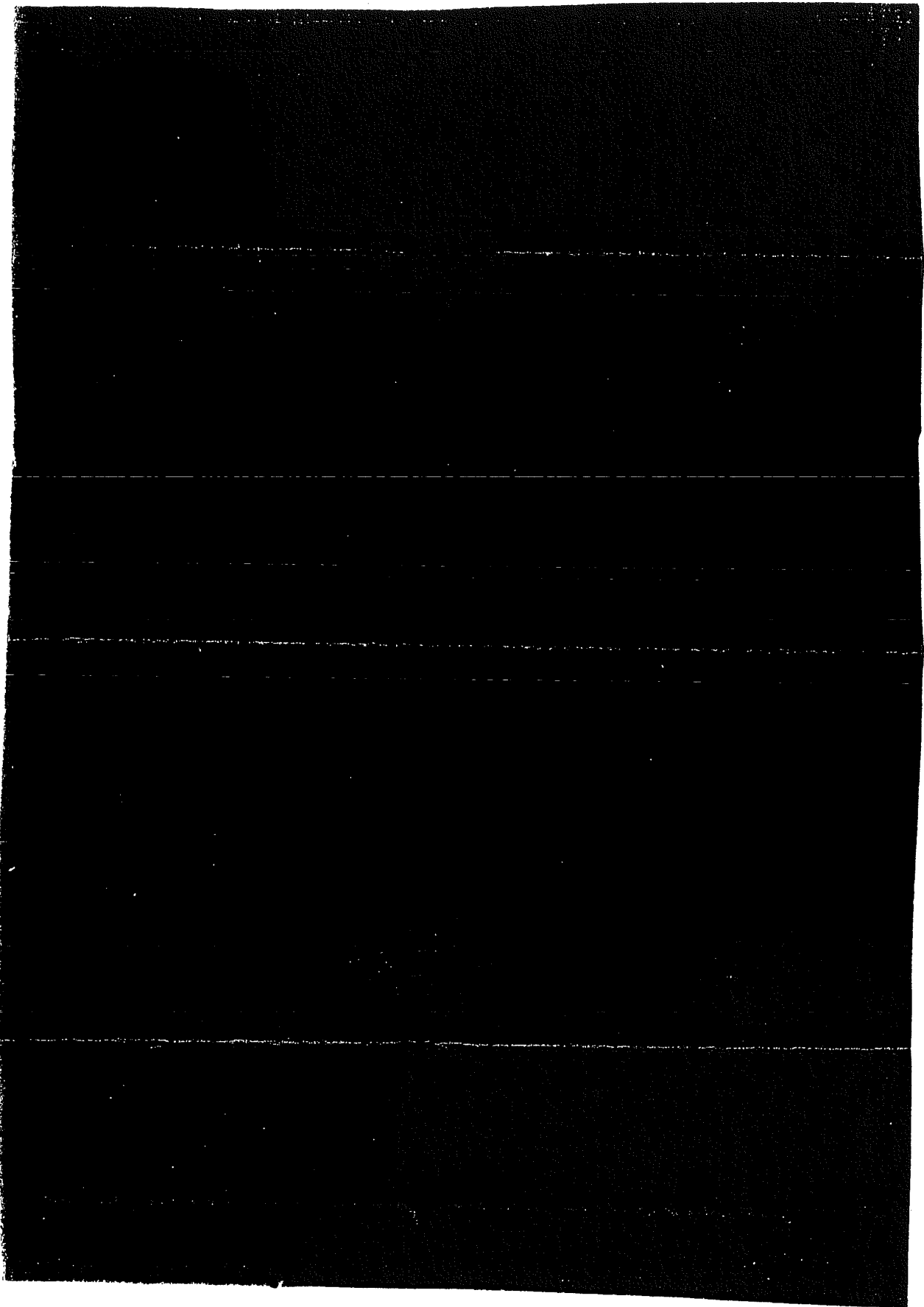


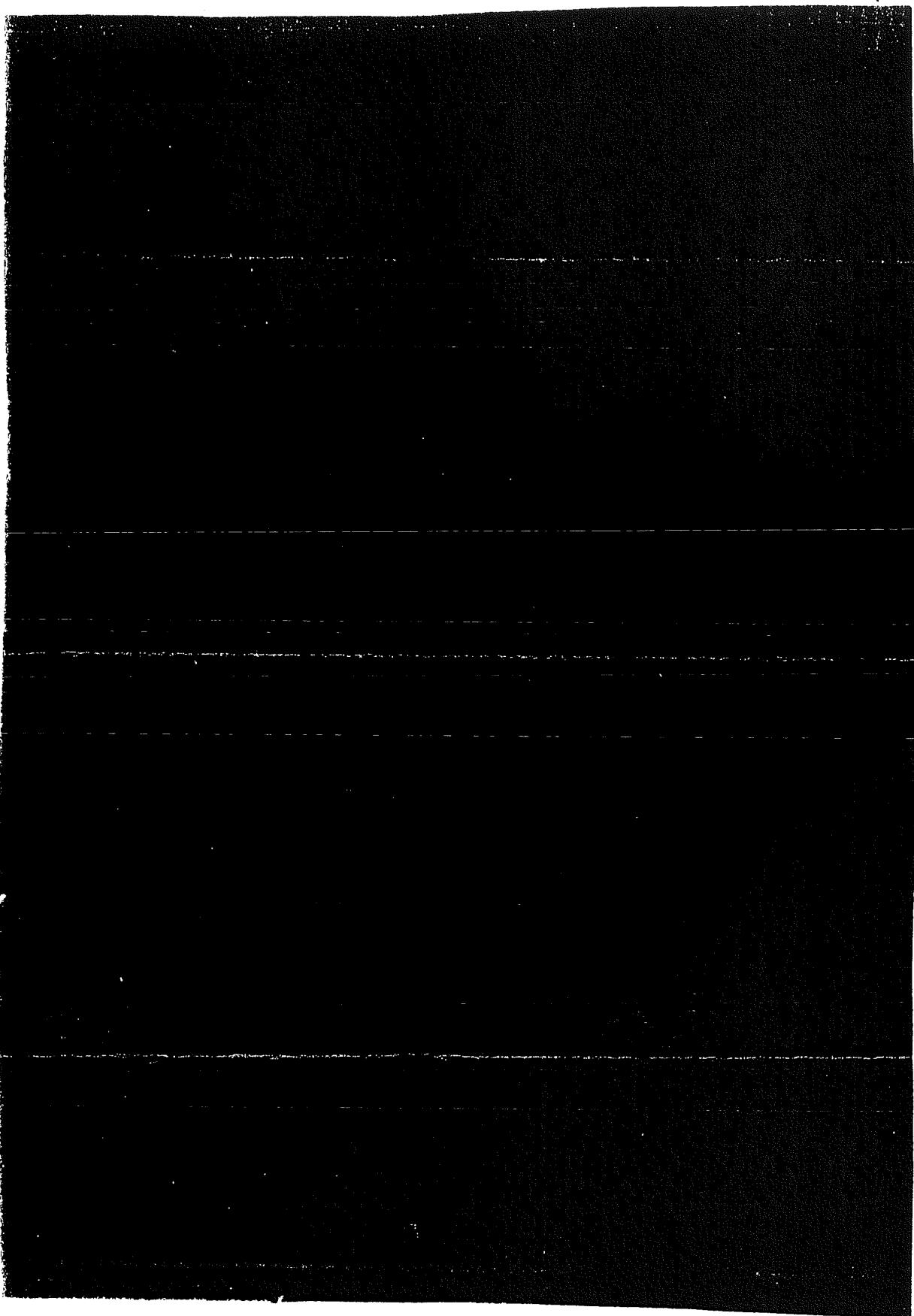
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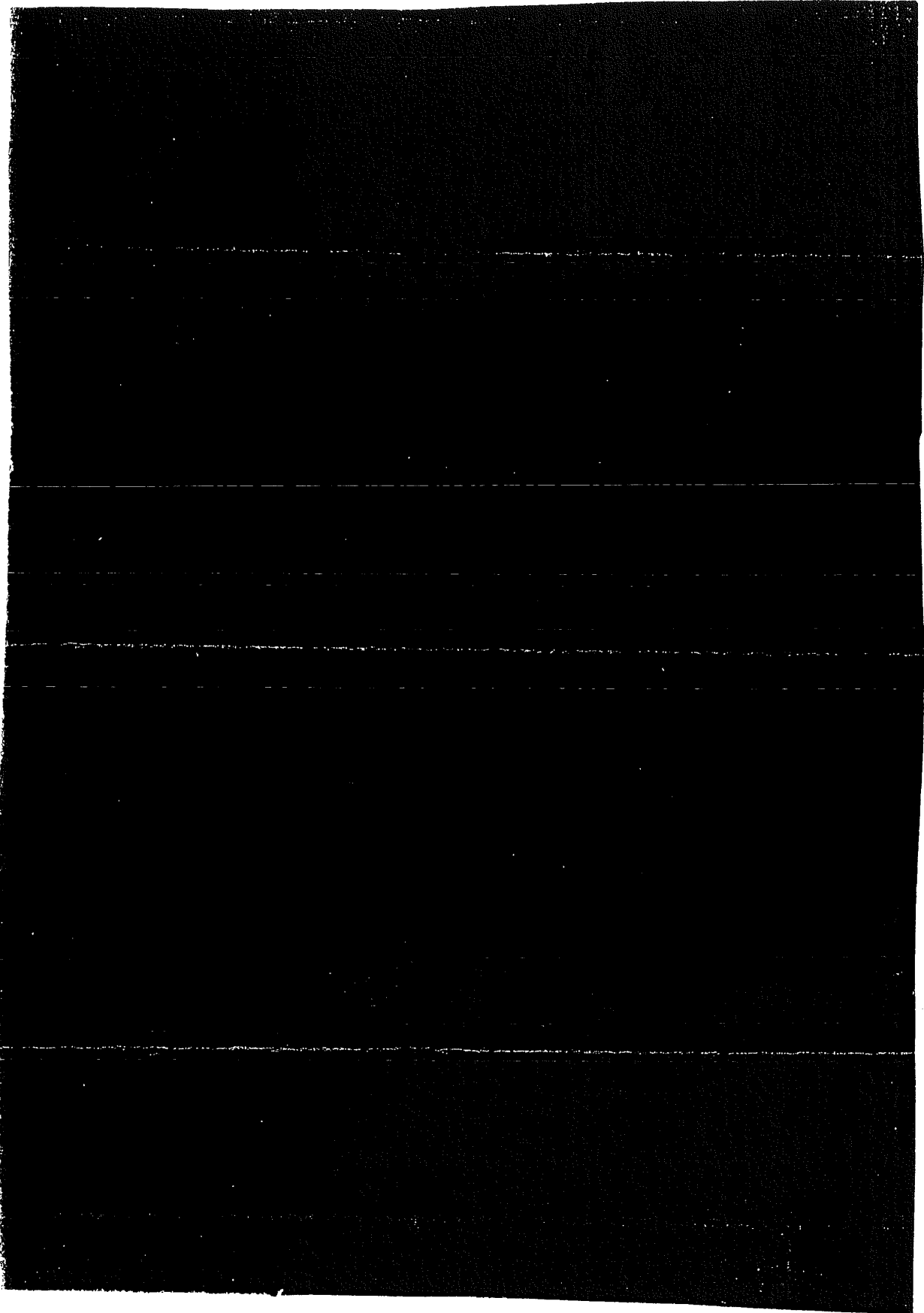


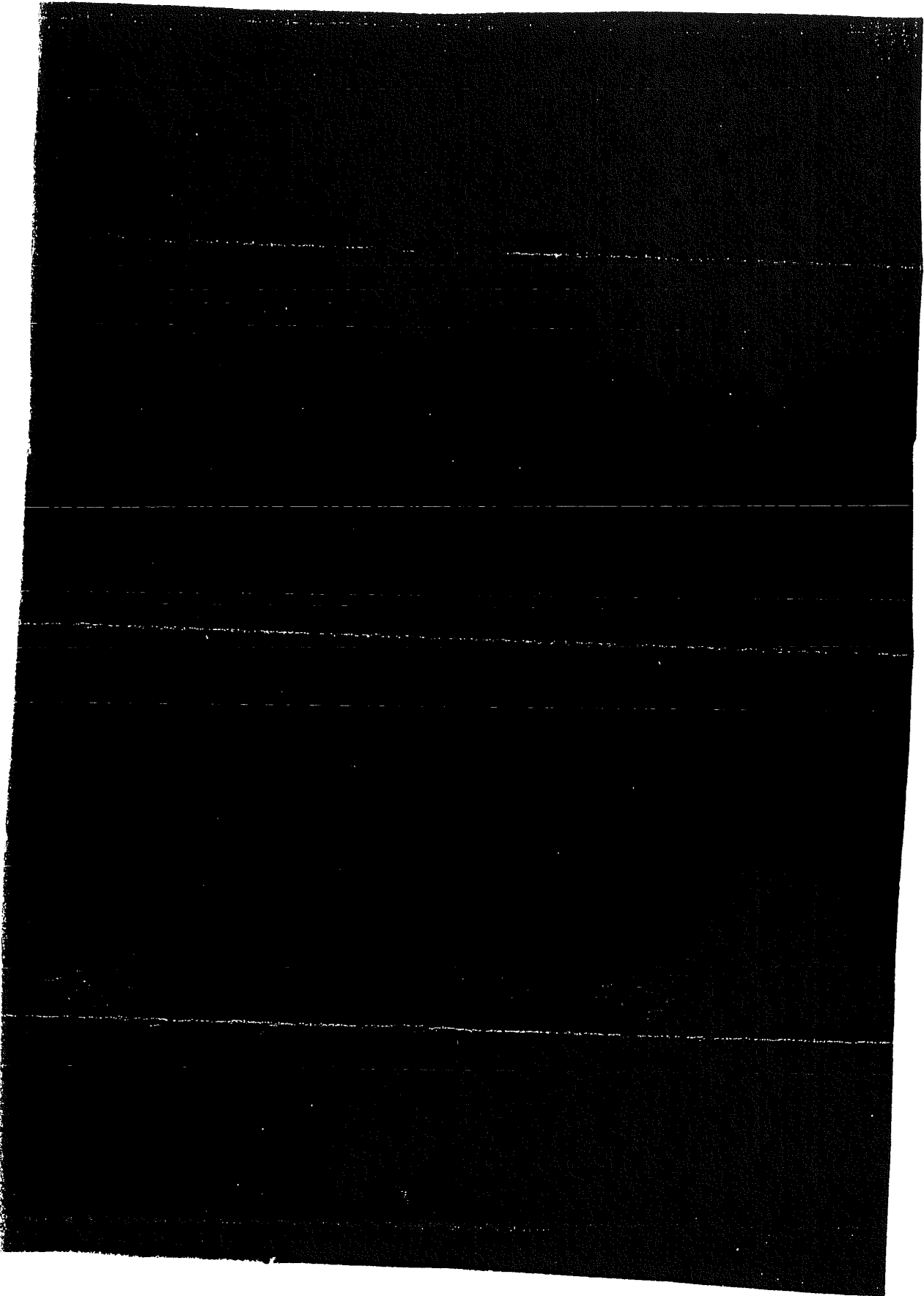
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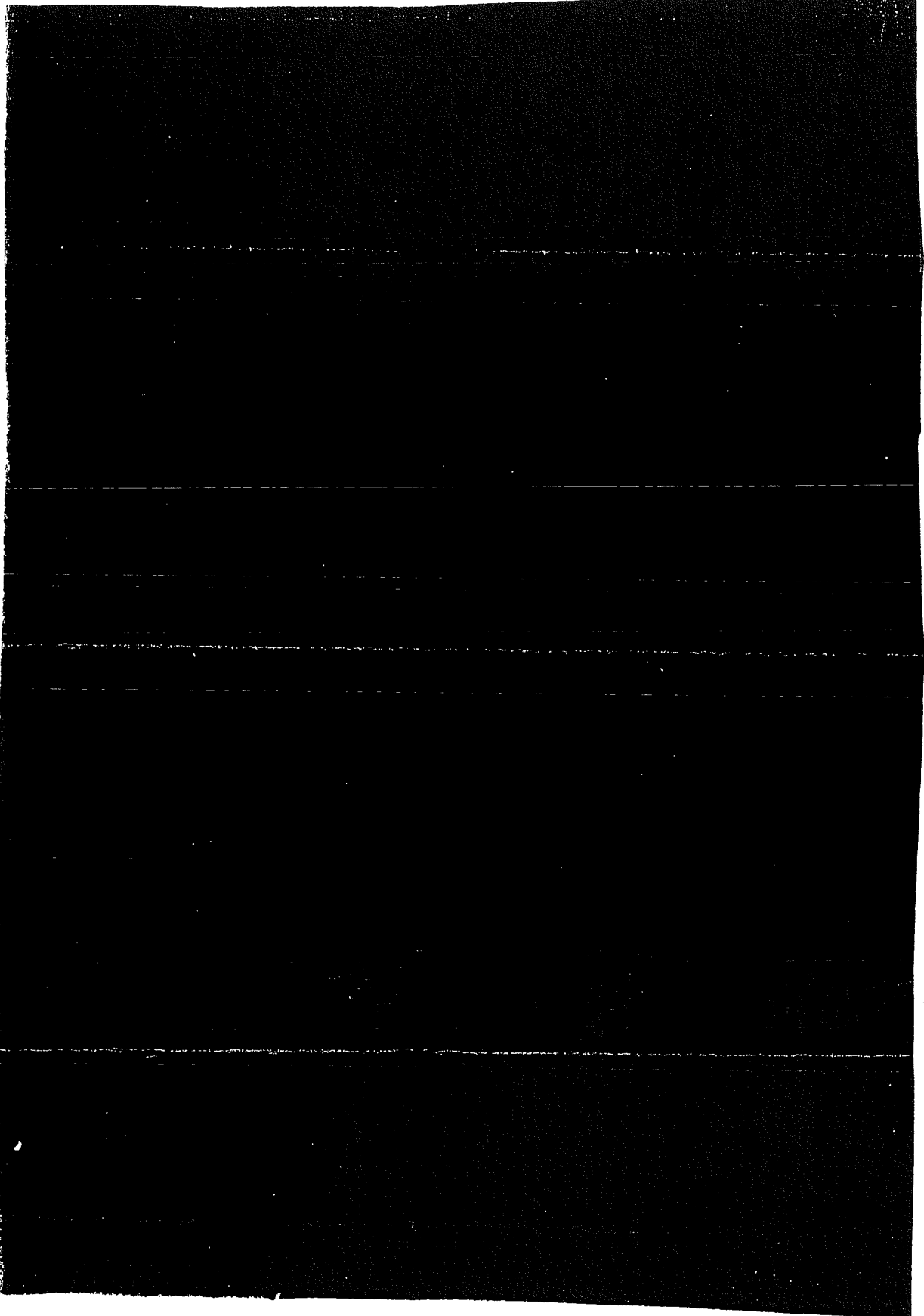


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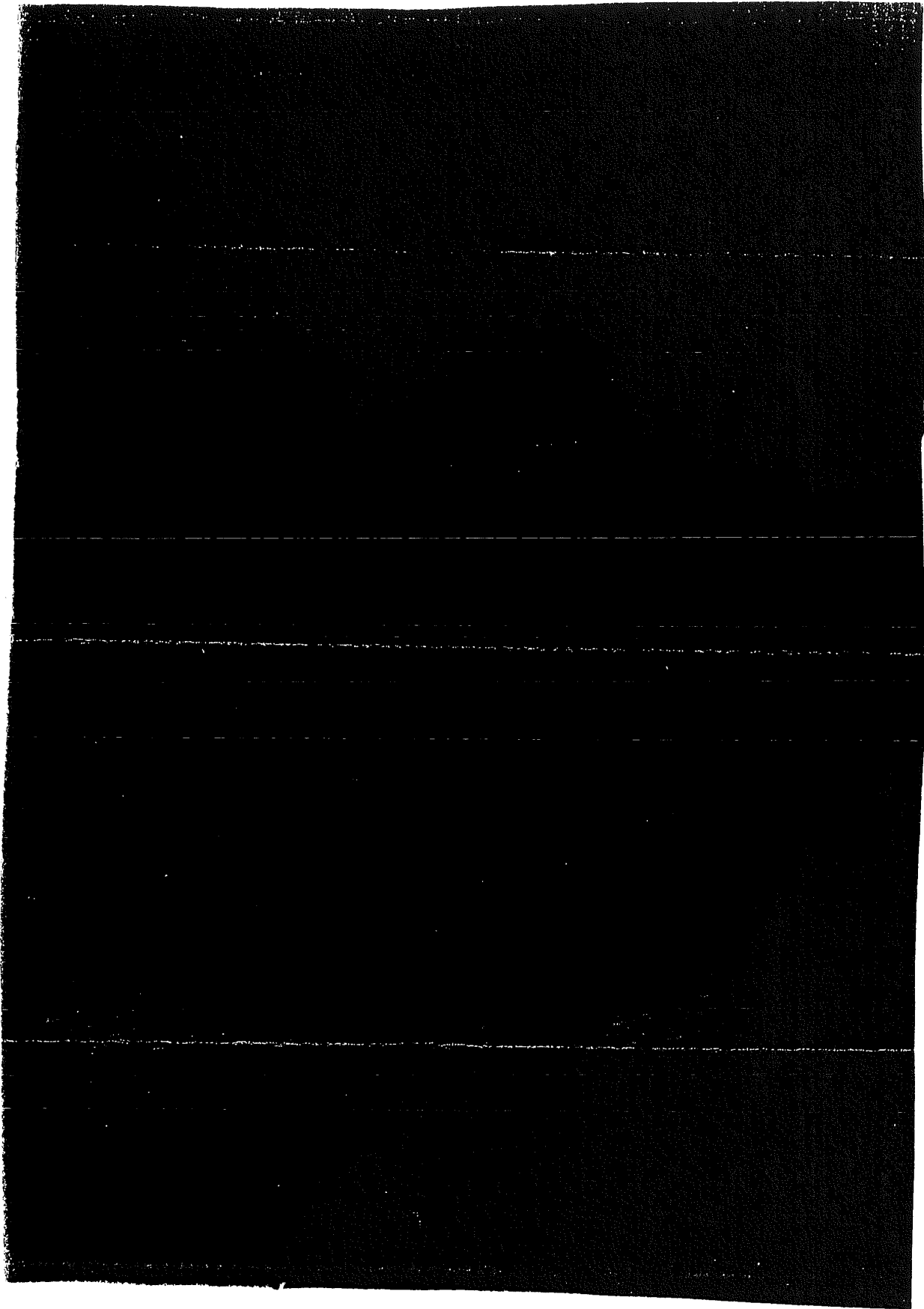




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