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OPERATIONAL DIVISION
BUREAU OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WORKING PAPER

NOV 30 1949

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NEAR EAST/AFRICA DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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**For Week Ending
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NEAR EAST/AFRICA INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

TURKEY

The right to strike: The opposition Democratic Party, in the course of its current drive to win the support of Turkey's small but politically significant wage-earning population, has ventured to challenge a hitherto sacrosanct aspect of Turkish labor policy. Although strikes have never been legal under the Turkish Republic, the Democrats are now openly asserting that the right to strike must be recognized if Turkey is to be a properly functioning democratic state. The government--to its credit--has responded to this challenge by frankly opposing any such concession. In a recent speech delivered in Adana, Turkey's fourth largest city, the Minister of Labor characterized the strike as an outmoded weapon which might boomerang rather than the magic talisman which the Democrats evidently considered it to be. He concluded, rather hopefully, that the Turkish worker would have no desire to risk wounding himself by using so "fabled" (i.e. antiquated) a weapon.

In the exchange thus far, the Democrats have the better of it. The Turkish voter tends to be more realistic and less susceptible to oratory than his counterpart in other countries, however, and his vote will finally hinge largely on his conclusion as to which party will provide him the most tangible benefits.

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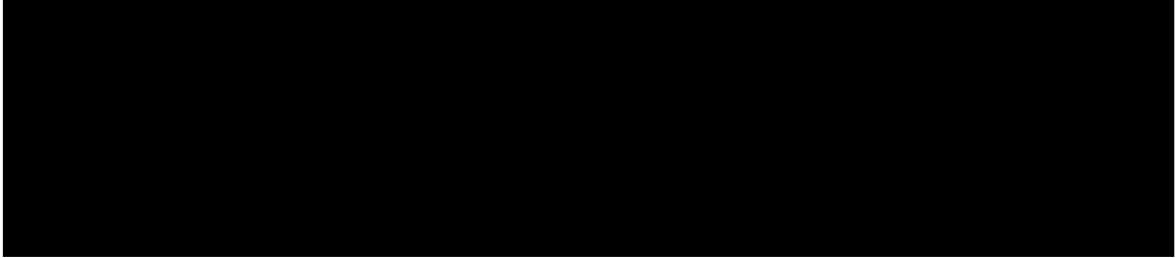
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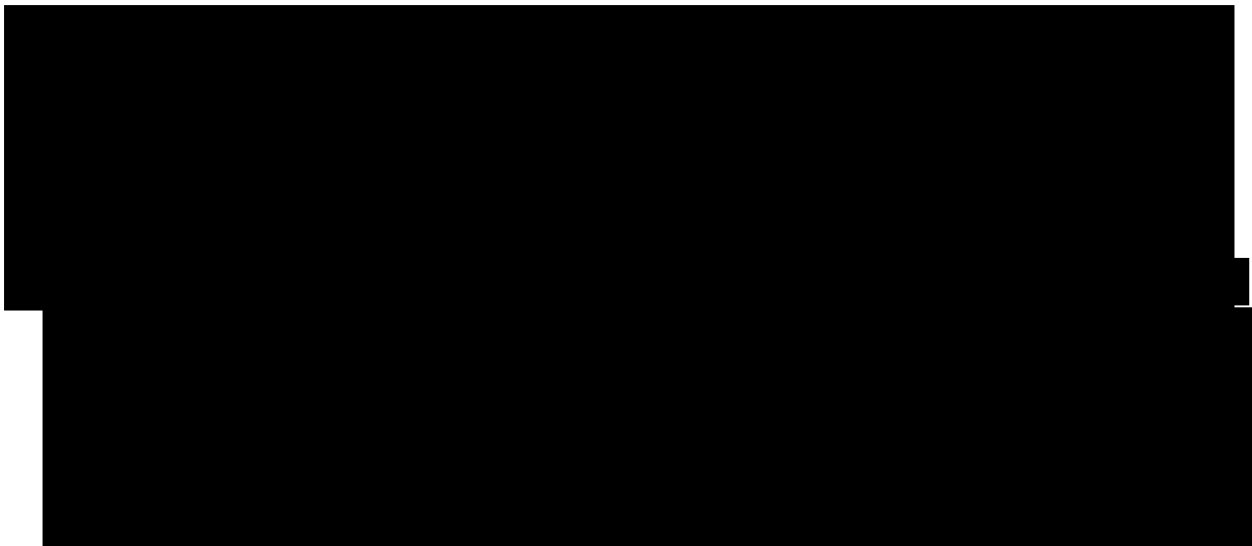
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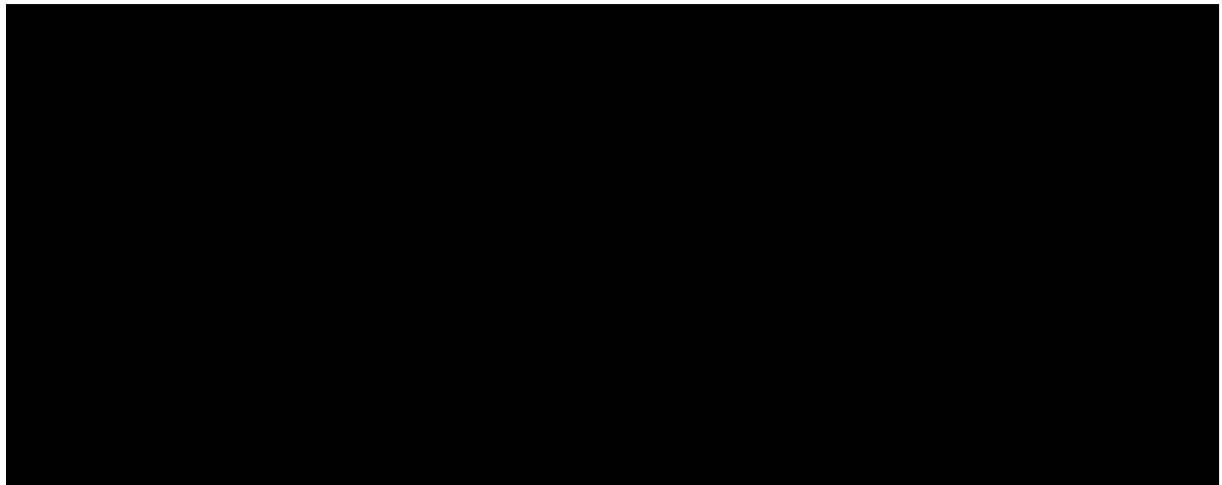
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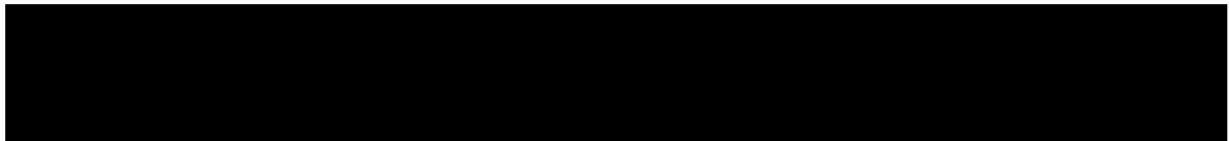
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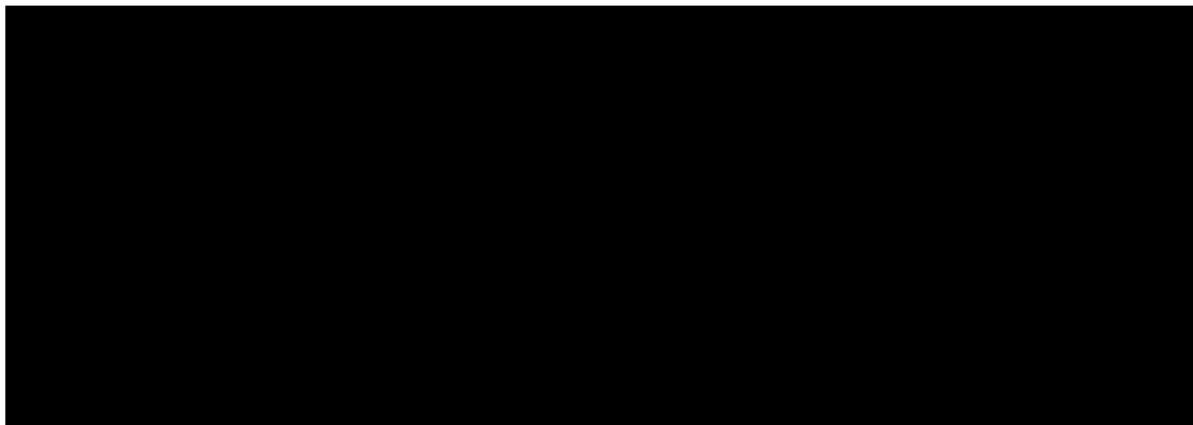
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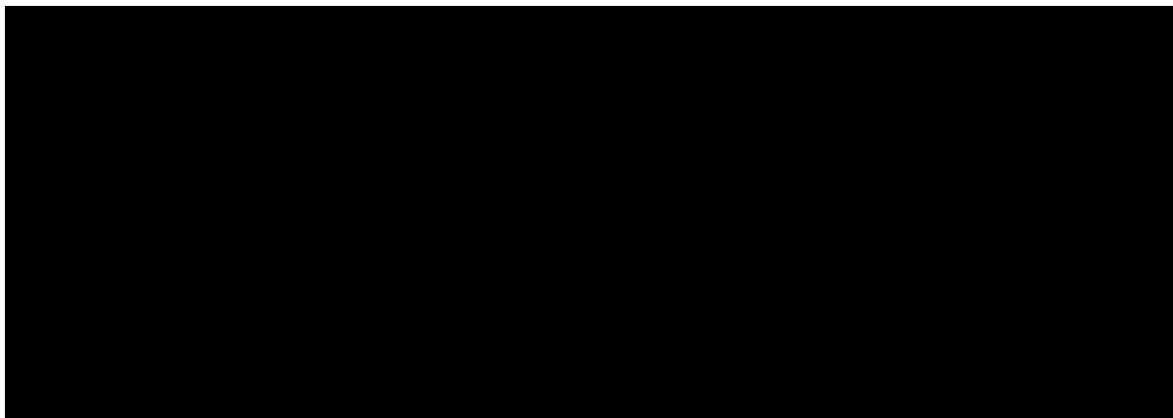
The charges that a plot to assassinate President Inonu of Turkey was being organized by prominent members of the opposition Nation Party are apparently being hastily abandoned for lack of sufficient evidence. Why the charges were levelled at all, under these circumstances, is still a mystery, especially since complete abandonment of the case would undoubtedly discredit the government more than its target.

* * *

The Regent of Iraq has finally prevailed upon Nuri Said, who resigned as prime minister on 7 November, to resume his old duties. Recent attempts to set up a new cabinet can now be relaxed, although Nuri may make some much-needed changes in the government's makeup after the opening of Parliament on 1 December.

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The UN General Assembly's 21 November resolution on the Italian colonies brought jubilation to the Tripolitani-ans, who were promised a united independent Libya by 1952. The decision to give Italy a 10-year UN trusteeship over Italian Somaliland, however, is opposed by a majority of the population there even though they are then to get their independence, and the Italians will probably be confronted with considerable unrest when they take over. The disposition of Eritrea was postponed to next year's session of the General Assembly, when a newly created investigating commission will submit its recommendations.

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