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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

TERRORISM REVIEW

APRIL 1996

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April 1996

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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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Information available as of 17 April 1996 was used in this Review.

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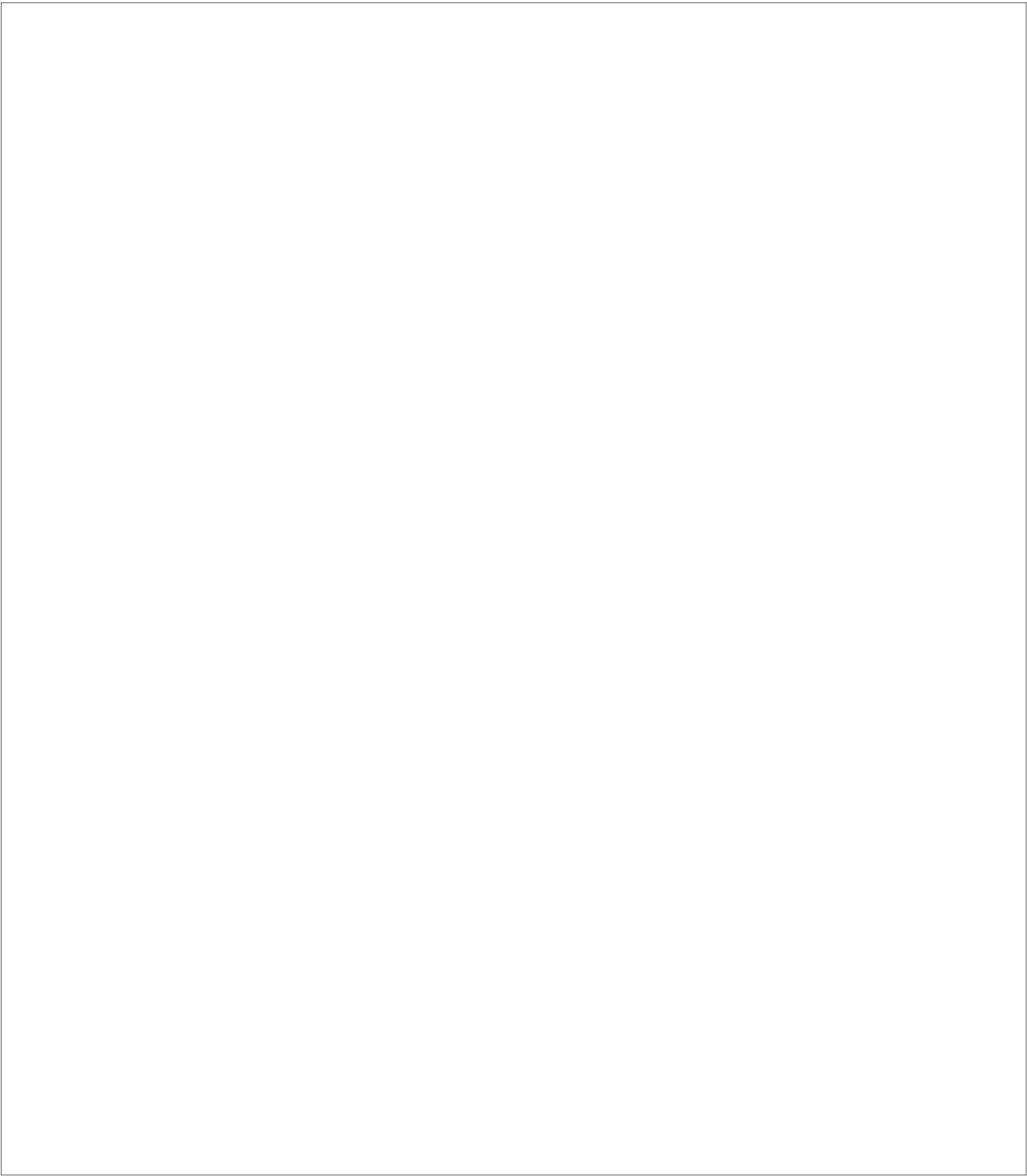


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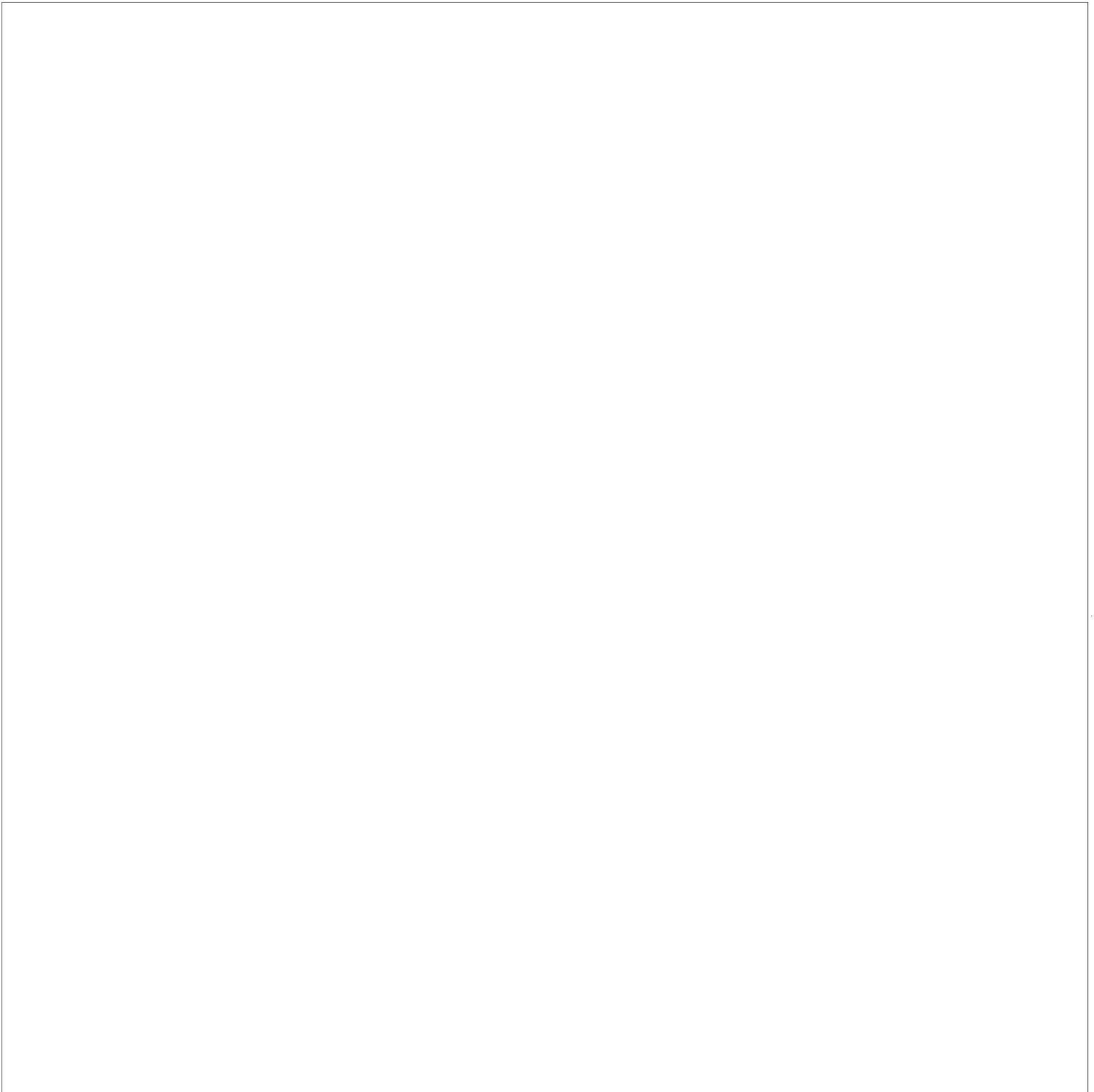
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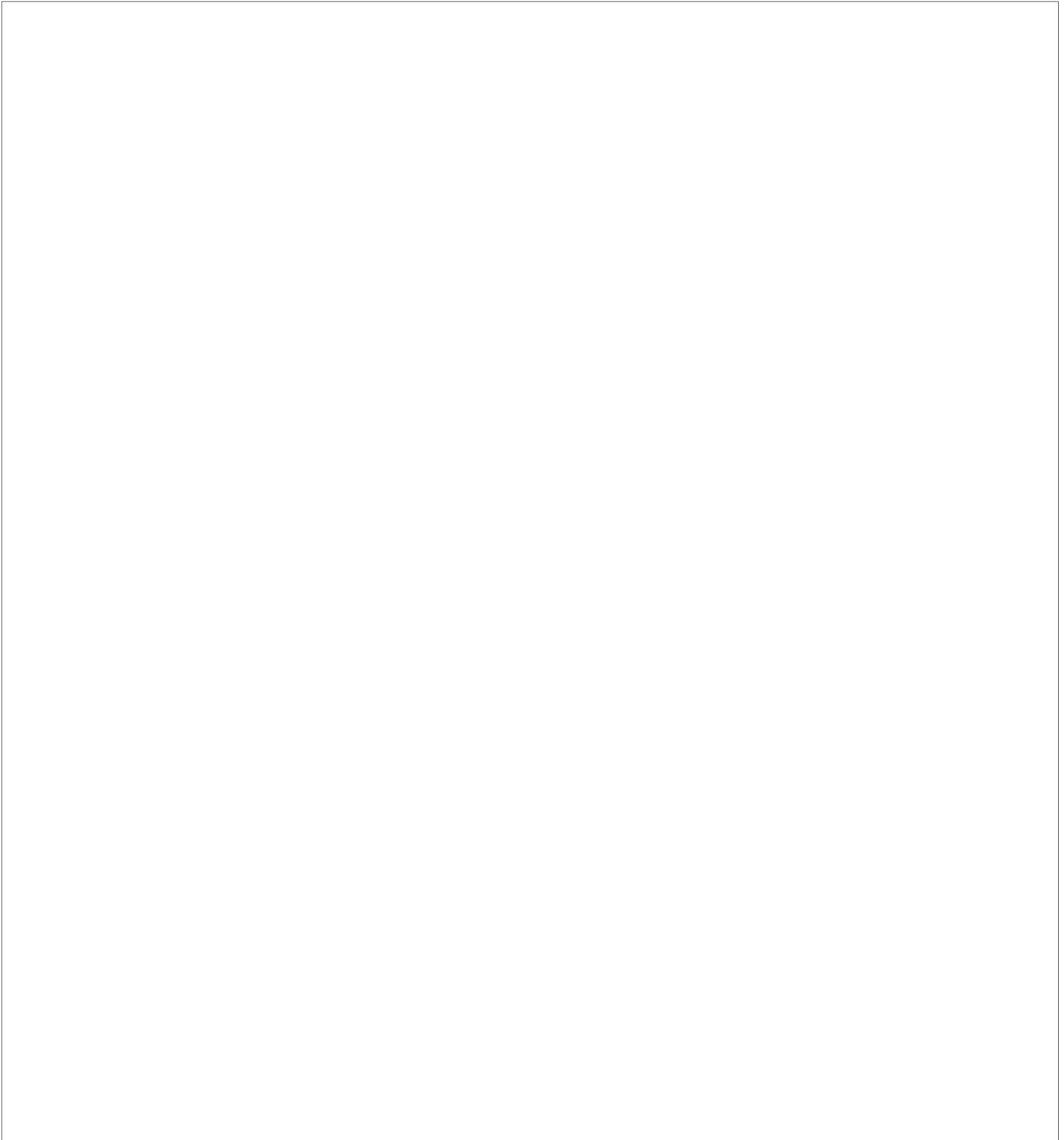
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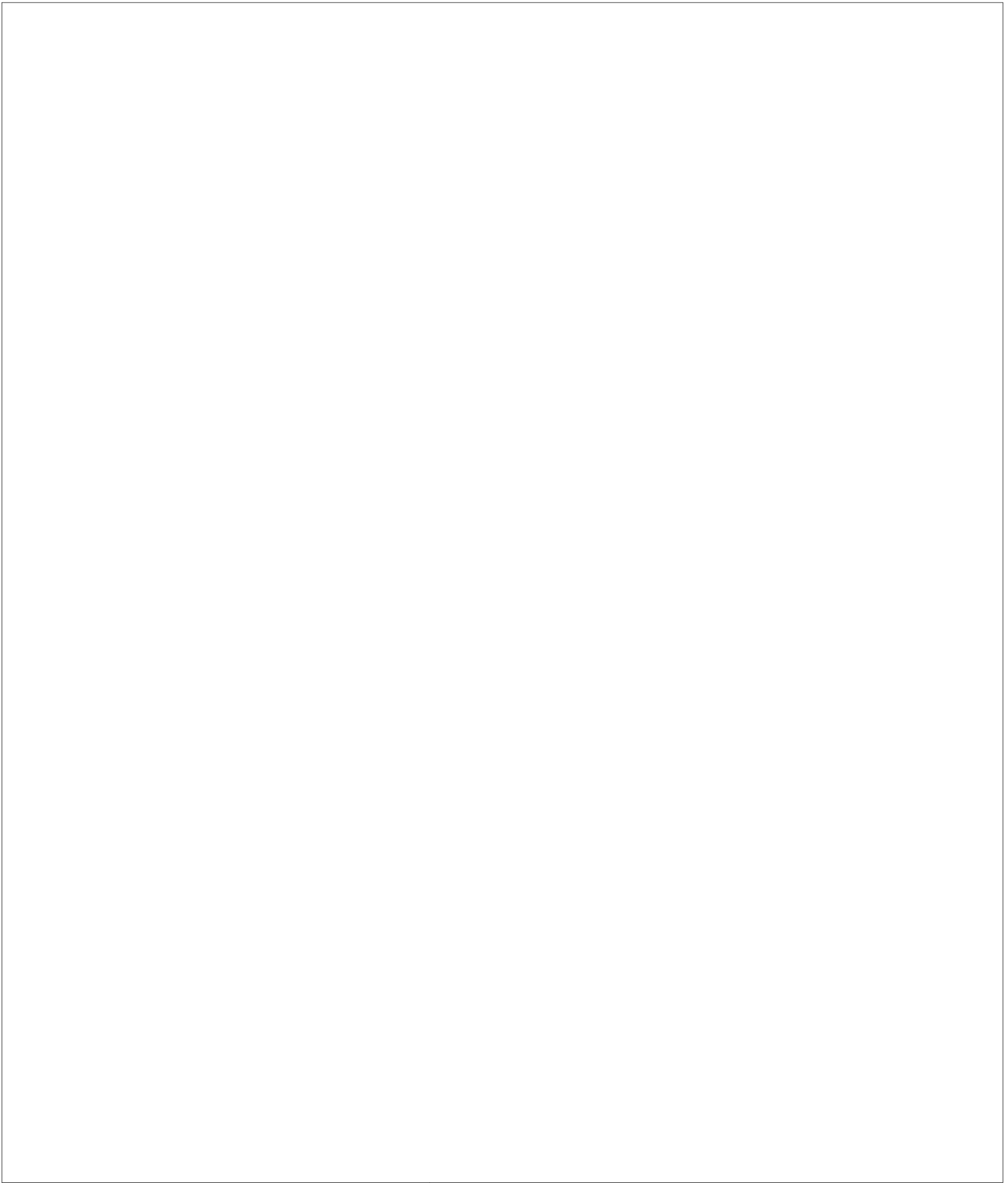
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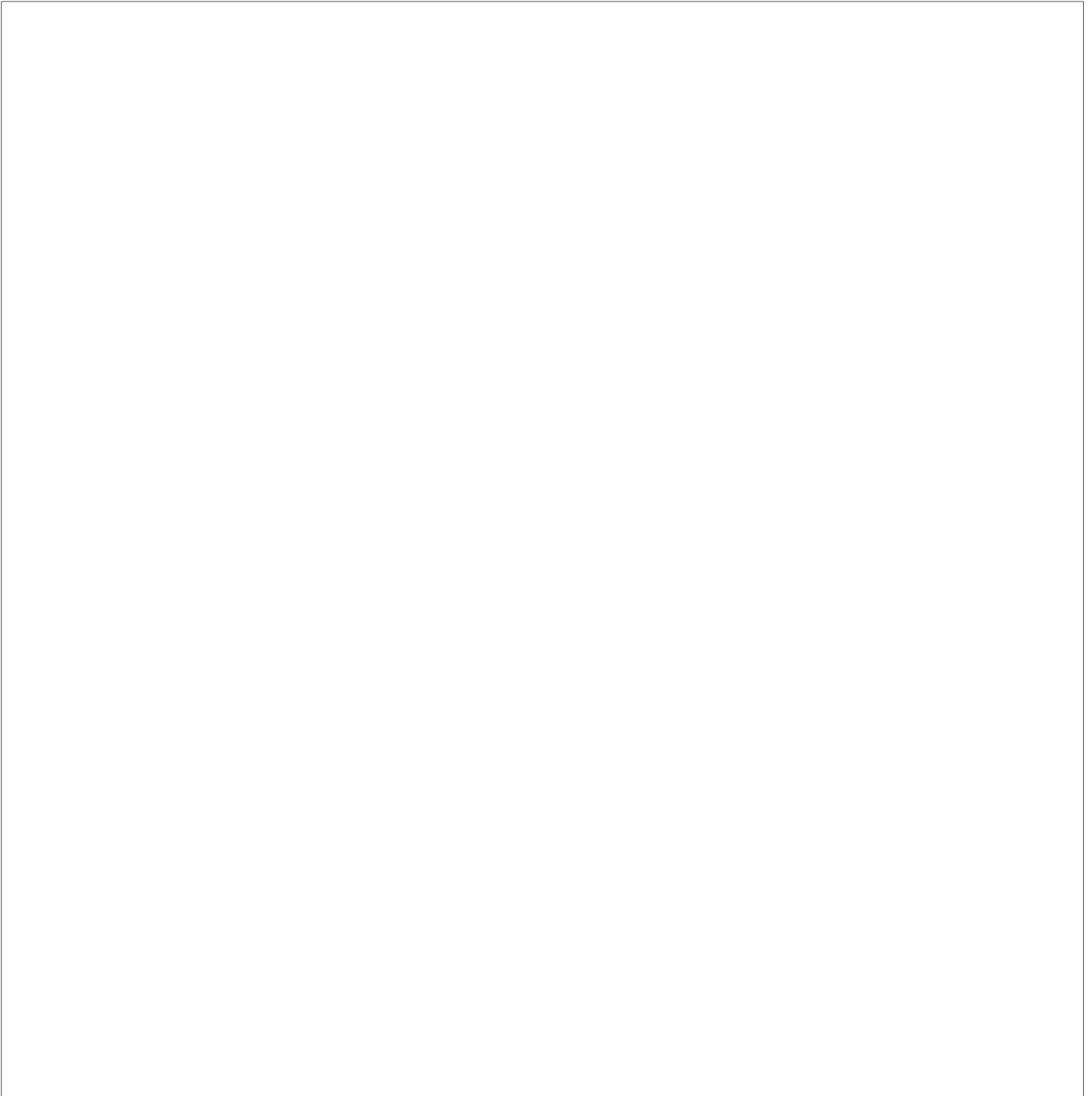
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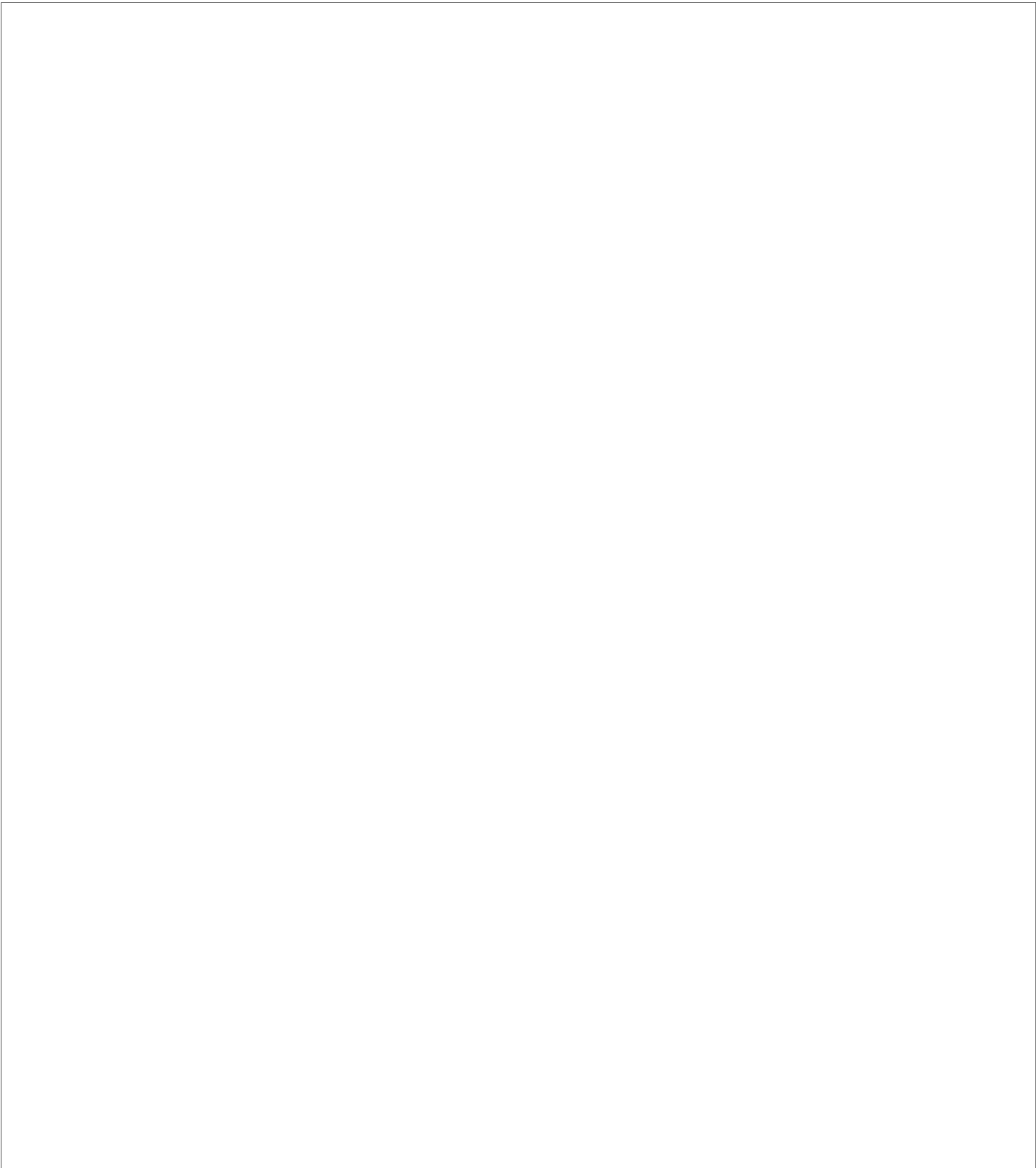
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Highlights

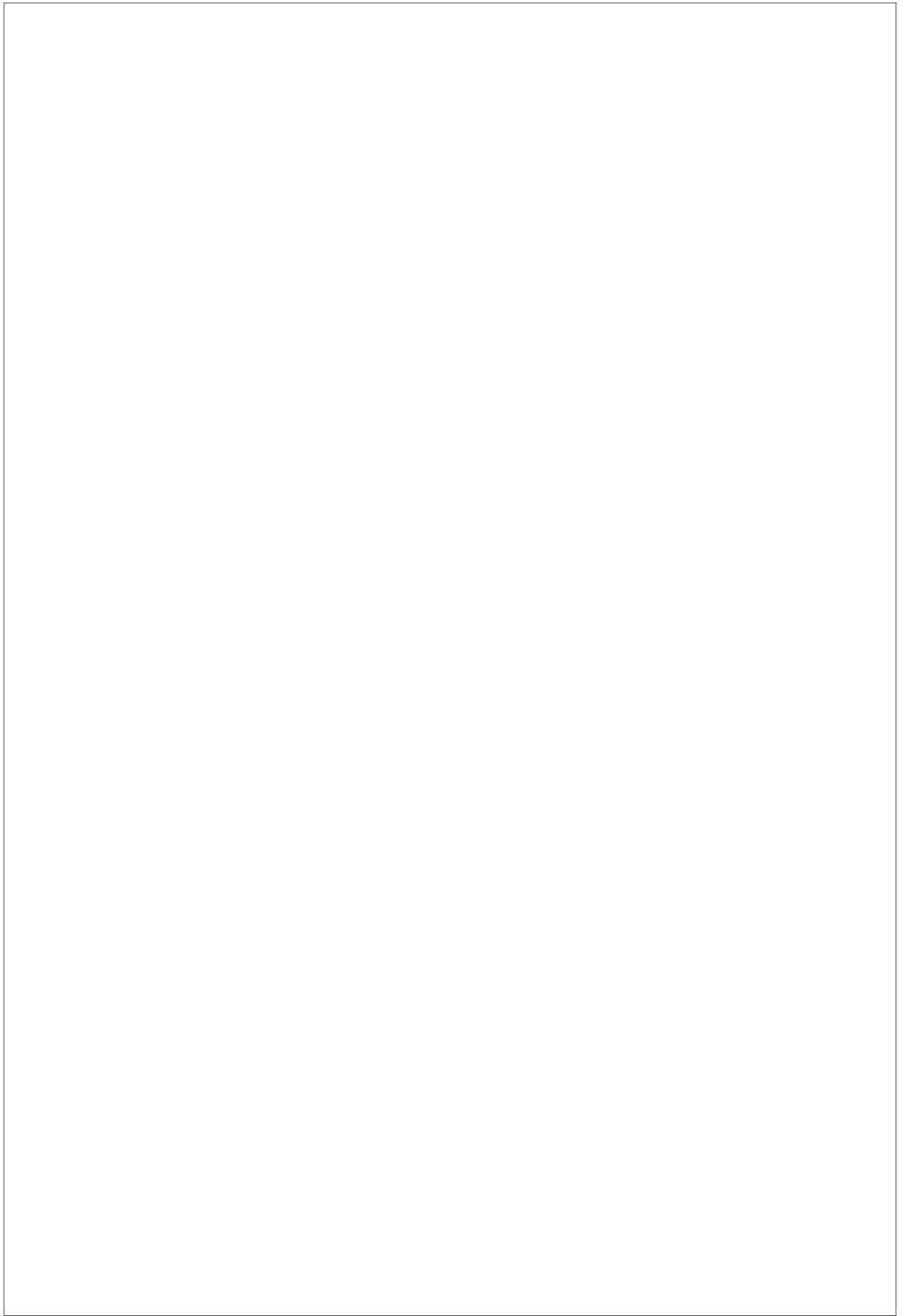


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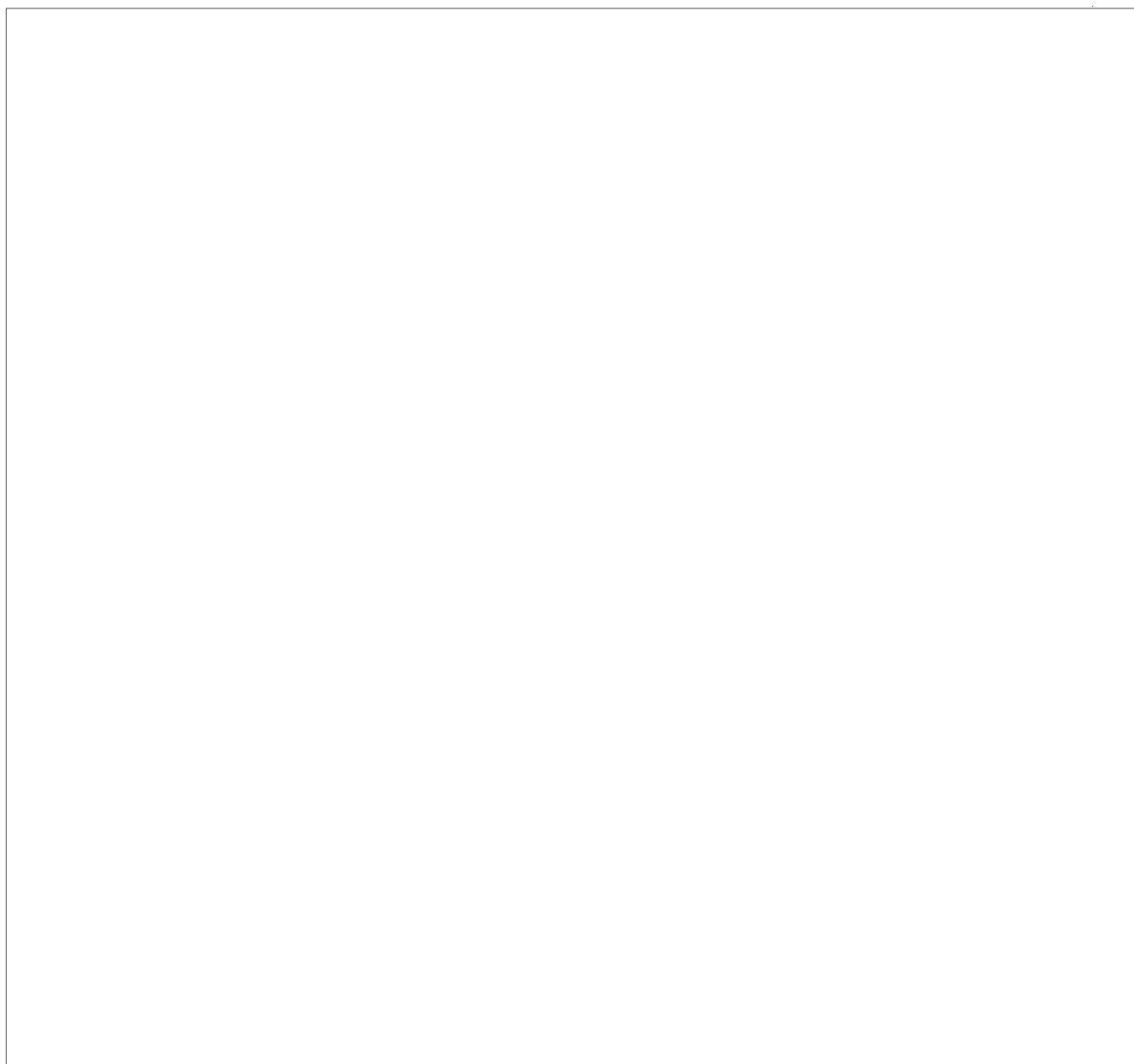
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The Terrorism Diary for May and June

Below is a compendium of May and June 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 May** *Socialist World.* May Day (commemorates labor violence in Chicago).
- 1 May 1980** *Peru.* Destruction of electoral material in Chuschi, Ayacucho Department, beginning of armed struggle by Sendero Luminoso; commemorated by acts of violence throughout May.
- 2 May 1953** *Jordan.* King Husayn assumed constitutional power.
- 6 May 1900** *Iran.* Birthday of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.
- 14 May 1948** *Middle East.* Beginning of first Arab-Israeli war.
- 15 May 1948** *Palestinians.* Palestine Day (end of UN mandate); 15 May Organization, founded in 1979 by remnant of Special Operations Group of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), takes its name from this event.
- 17 May 1983** *Lebanon, Israel.* Signing of troop withdrawal accord (17 May agreement).
- 1 June 1976** *Palestinians.* During this month, Syria entered the civil conflict in Lebanon on the side of the Christian Phalange and against the Palestinians and their Muslim allies. In response, Palestinian renegade Abu Nidal renamed his terrorist group (then based in Iraq) the Black June Organization and began attacking Syrian targets.
- 3 June 1989** *Iran.* Death of Ayatollah Khomeini.
- 4 June 1982** *Israel, Lebanon.* First Israeli bombing of Beirut.
- 5 June 1963** *Iran.* National Day of Mourning; Revolution Day; Day of Uprising (commemorates the arrest of Ayatollah Khomeini by police under the Shah).
- 5 June 1967** *Middle East.* Beginning of the Six-Day War.
- 6 June 1982** *Israel, Lebanon.* Israeli forces invade Lebanon.
- 6 June 1984** *India.* Army storms the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar.
- 18 June 1953** *Egypt.* Evacuation Day (anniversary of the proclamation of the republic).
- 25 June 1964** *Mozambique.* Founding of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique.
- 25 June 1995** *Ethiopia.* Attempted assassination of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.
- Italy.* Arrest of 13 Gama'at members in Milan.
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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.

Asia

31 January

Sri Lanka: *Suspected Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) members rammed an explosives-laden truck into the Central Bank in the heart of downtown Colombo, killing 90 civilians and injuring more than 1,400 others. Among the wounded were two US citizens, six Japanese, and one Dutch national. The explosion caused major damage to the Central Bank building, an American Express office, a KLM Airlines office, and the Intercontinental Hotel, among other buildings.*

Europe

9 February

United Kingdom: *A bomb detonated in a parking garage in the Docklands area of London, killing two persons and wounding more than 100 others, including two US citizens. The Provisional Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for the attack.*

12 February

Belgium: *Unknown assailants threw Molotov cocktails at the offices of a Spanish opposition party in Brussels, causing minor damage. The political organization reportedly is tied to the Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA).*

29 February

Germany: *Assailants hurled a gasoline bomb at a Turkish mosque in Wiesloch, causing extensive damage. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.*

1 March

Germany: *Assailants threw a Molotov cocktail through the window of a Turkish travel agency in Hamburg, causing minor damage.* No one claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

Latin America

1 January

Costa Rica: *Armed gunmen stormed a hotel and abducted two European women—a Swiss tour guide and a German tourist—in Alajuela province.* The kidnappers claimed to be members of a group called *Viviana Gallardo Command*. They demanded \$1 million, the release of a *Gallardo* commando in prison for a 1993 kidnapping, and social benefits for government workers. The two hostages were released unharmed on 12 March. [redacted]

6 February

Colombia: *National Liberation Army (ELN) rebels kidnapped three cement industry engineers, including a Briton, a Dane, a German, and their Colombian companion in San Luis.* The hostages were abducted from their vehicle at a make-shift roadblock. The Colombian driver of the vehicle, who was not held, said the rebels made off with the four once they had been identified as engineers. No ransom demands have been made. [redacted]

8 February

Venezuela: *Colombian National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrillas attacked the Venezuelan naval base in Cararabo.* The guerrillas were repelled by Venezuelan army troops guarding the base. [redacted]

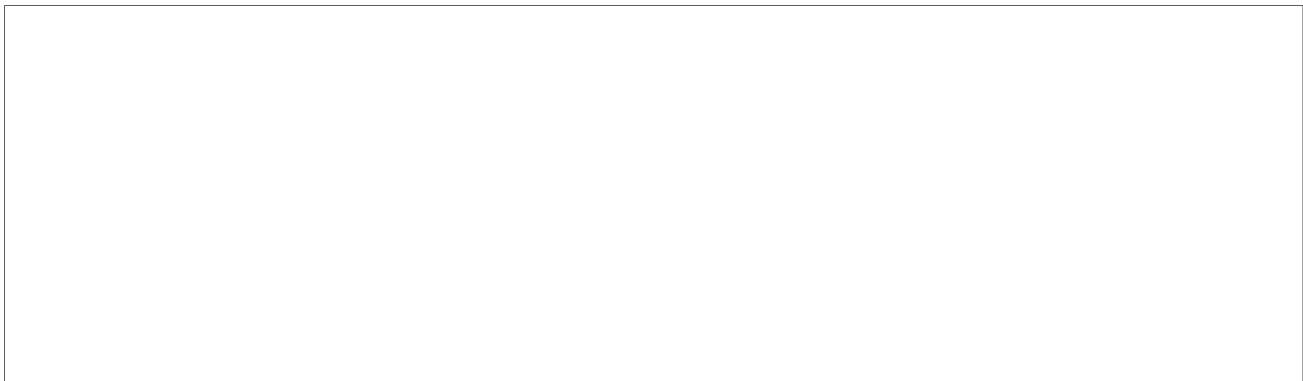
16 February

Colombia: *Six alleged ELN guerrillas kidnapped a US citizen employed as a contractor at a mining company in the municipality of Hatonuevo, La Guajira Department.* No ransom demand has been made. [redacted]

17 February

Venezuela: *Two alleged Colombian ELN guerrillas killed two Venezuelan guards at a gasoline station near the Colombian-Venezuelan border in La Victoria.* The two men stole the guards' rifles and fled in a small boat down the international waters of the Rio Arauca. [redacted]

Middle East



25 February

Israel: A suicide bomber blew up a bus in Jerusalem, killing 24 persons, including two US citizens, and injuring at least 50 others, including four US citizens. The Izz Al-Din Al-Qassem Battalion, a military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS), claimed responsibility for the bombing as retaliation for the Hebron massacre two years ago. HAMAS also issued a leaflet assuming responsibility for the bombing signed by the Squads of the New Disciples of Martyr Yahya Ayyash, the Engineer, claiming the bombing was in retaliation for Ayyash's death.

[redacted]

[redacted]

4 March

Israel: A suicide bomber detonated an explosive device outside Tel Aviv-Yafo's largest shopping mall, Dizengoff Center, killing 20 persons and injuring 75 others, including two US citizens. An unidentified caller claimed HAMAS was responsible

[redacted]

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Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—March 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. []

Africa

Uganda

Four rebels from the *Lord's Resistance Army* attacked and burned a Catholic Relief Services truck in Loyoboo on 20 March. The driver and passenger escaped unhurt. []

Asia

Cambodia

Three homemade bombs exploded in the main market area of Batdambang on 6 March, injuring six persons. Authorities suspect the *Khmer Rouge* []

India

Members of the *Naxalite People's War Group (PWG)* threw bombs into a crowd in Andhra Pradesh State on 2 March, killing one individual and injuring several others. []

On 3 March also in Andhra Pradesh, *PWG* guerrillas threw sticks of dynamite at a police station, killing one police officer and wounding three others. []

Philippines

Suspected *Moro Islamic Liberation Front* gunmen opened fire on a group of government workers in Languyan village, in the province of Basilan, on 6 March. Three persons died in the attack. []

Suspected members of the *Abu Sayyaf Group* threw grenades at two Catholic churches in Zamboanga on 10 March, injuring three persons. []

Europe

Spain

Spanish police located and defused a car bomb outside a Madrid supermarket on 20 March, after receiving a warning from a person claiming to speak for the *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* []

ETA militants threw molotov cocktails into a Pamplona bus on 23 March, causing minor fire damage to the vehicle. The assailants evacuated the bus before carrying out the attack. []

ETA forces threw four improvised grenades at an Arkaute police headquarters building on 26 March, causing minor damage but no injuries. Authorities suspect the attack was in retaliation for the arrest of *ETA* leader Valentin Lasarte Oñden the previous day []

Turkey

Four assailants abducted and killed a construction worker from Igdir on 9 March. *The Kurdistan Workers' Party* is suspected. [redacted]



A bomb exploded on 16 March in Istanbul's Gungoren district at a branch of the Association for the Encouragement of Contemporary Living, causing some damage. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack. [redacted]

In a drive-by shooting, unidentified assailants caused minor damage to the Nationalist Action Party's office building in Istanbul on 21 March. A short time later, authorities discovered and defused a bomb placed at the scene [redacted]

Gunmen in a vehicle fired shots at a local Istanbul television station on 25 March, causing minor damage. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack [redacted]

United Kingdom

A bomb exploded on a deserted street near an underground train station in London on 9 March, causing minor damage to nearby property. Three days later, the *Provisional Irish Republican Army* claimed responsibility in a call to the Belfast office of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). [redacted]

On 16 March members of an *Irish National Liberation Army (INLA)* splinter group strafed the Belfast home of a suspected rival *INLA* member, killing a nine-year-old girl who lived there and wounding a visitor. A caller to the local BBC office identified the assailants as members of the *Gallagher Gang*, a group that has vowed revenge for the January 1996 murder of *INLA* member Gino Gallagher. [redacted]

Latin America

Colombia

Some 80 *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)* guerrillas raided the town of Iscuande on 6 March, kidnapping the mayor, a doctor, and two policemen. Three other policemen were wounded in the attack [redacted]

Using a remote-control device to detonate explosives strapped to a donkey, *FARC* guerrillas attacked the Chalan police station on 12 March, killing 11 policemen and destroying the station, the mayor's office, and several other buildings [redacted]

A mortar round exploded in the air near the Presidential Palace in Bogota on 16 March, causing no damage. *National Liberation Army* leaflets were found near the mortars [redacted]

Peru

Three gunmen shot and killed a local community leader as she left her home in Lima on 6 March. Leaflets left at the scene were signed by the *Communist Party of Peru*, the former name of *Sendero Luminoso*. [redacted]

Middle East

Algeria

A car bomb exploded in Tizi Ouzou on 18 March, killing six persons and wounding 21 others. The *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)* is suspected.

Egypt

On 15 March suspected *al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya* militants fired on a police car near Markaz Mallawi, Al Minya Governorte, wounding two police officers