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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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July 21, 1971

National Security Decision Memorandum 121

TO: SECRETARY OF STATE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Nuclear Weapons Deployment Authorization for FY 1972

The President has approved the Nuclear Weapons Deployment Authorization Plan for FY 1972 contained in the Department of Defense memorandum dated May 24, 1971, subject to the changes indicated herein concerning deployments to [REDACTED]

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The President agrees that the number of weapons shown reflect year-end authorizations with specific conditional deployments treated on a separate basis and that actual deployments against these authorizations will be controlled by the Secretary of Defense.

Any significant changes contemplated in actual overseas deployments within these authorizations should be submitted to the President for approval. The Secretary of Defense is authorized reasonable flexibility to manage and alter overseas nuclear weapons stockpile quantities during the course of the year as may be required due to logistical factors.

The President authorizes the Secretary of Defense in FY 1972 to:

1. Deploy nuclear weapons in the United States without limitation.
2. Deploy nuclear weapons to areas outside the United States up to the limits indicated in Appendices A, B, and C, hereto, with the provisions that:
  - a. The end-FY 1972 total deployment authorization for each separate foreign country, within each region and afloat (Appendix A)

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Partially Declassified/Released on 9/9/93  
under provisions of E.O. 13526  
by [REDACTED], National Security Council

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or the total authorization by category of weapon for each region and afloat (Appendix B) may not be exceeded by more than 10% in the event of unforeseen contingencies unless approved by the President.

b. Weapons to be deployed under the specific conditions cited in Appendix C may be deployed as additive to country, regional and outside of U.S. authorizations unless specifically indicated otherwise in Appendix C or unless corresponding reductions in other deployments can be made. The Secretary of Defense will control deployments made under these authorizations.

c.

[REDACTED]

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Appendices A, B, and C should be adjusted accordingly to reflect this decision and any effects upon conditional deployments.

3. Support non-U.S. forces in accordance with the units and numbers of weapons indicated in Appendix D hereto, subject to the following conditions:

a. The provisions of NSAM 197 and NSAM 143 as amended by NSAM 370, concerning additional support for non-U.S. forces, continue to apply.

b. Programs of Cooperation remain essentially the same as those pertaining when each NSAM 197 action was approved.

c. Custodial arrangements and facilities requirements of NSAM 370 continue to apply.

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The deployment authorization request for FY 1973 and projections for FY 1974 should be submitted for the President's approval in February, 1972, together with the stockpile approval request. In addition to the type of information presented in Appendix A through E of the Secretary of Defense's FY 1972 deployment request, the following information should be provided:

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-- Regional threats in terms of numbers and general type of targets, the numbers and types of nuclear weapons requested for deployment to counter these threats, delivery forces available and objectives planned to be achieved by the use of these nuclear weapons against the identified threat target systems should be presented in appropriate tables or discussion.


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-- Rationale for significant changes in overseas deployments requested for FY 1973 or projected for FY 1974. The rationale should include a discussion of military objectives and capabilities affected by any such changes in proposed deployments. For new weapons requested to be deployed overseas during FY 1973, the total deployment program and schedule should be shown.

Appendices A-D

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Henry A. Kissinger

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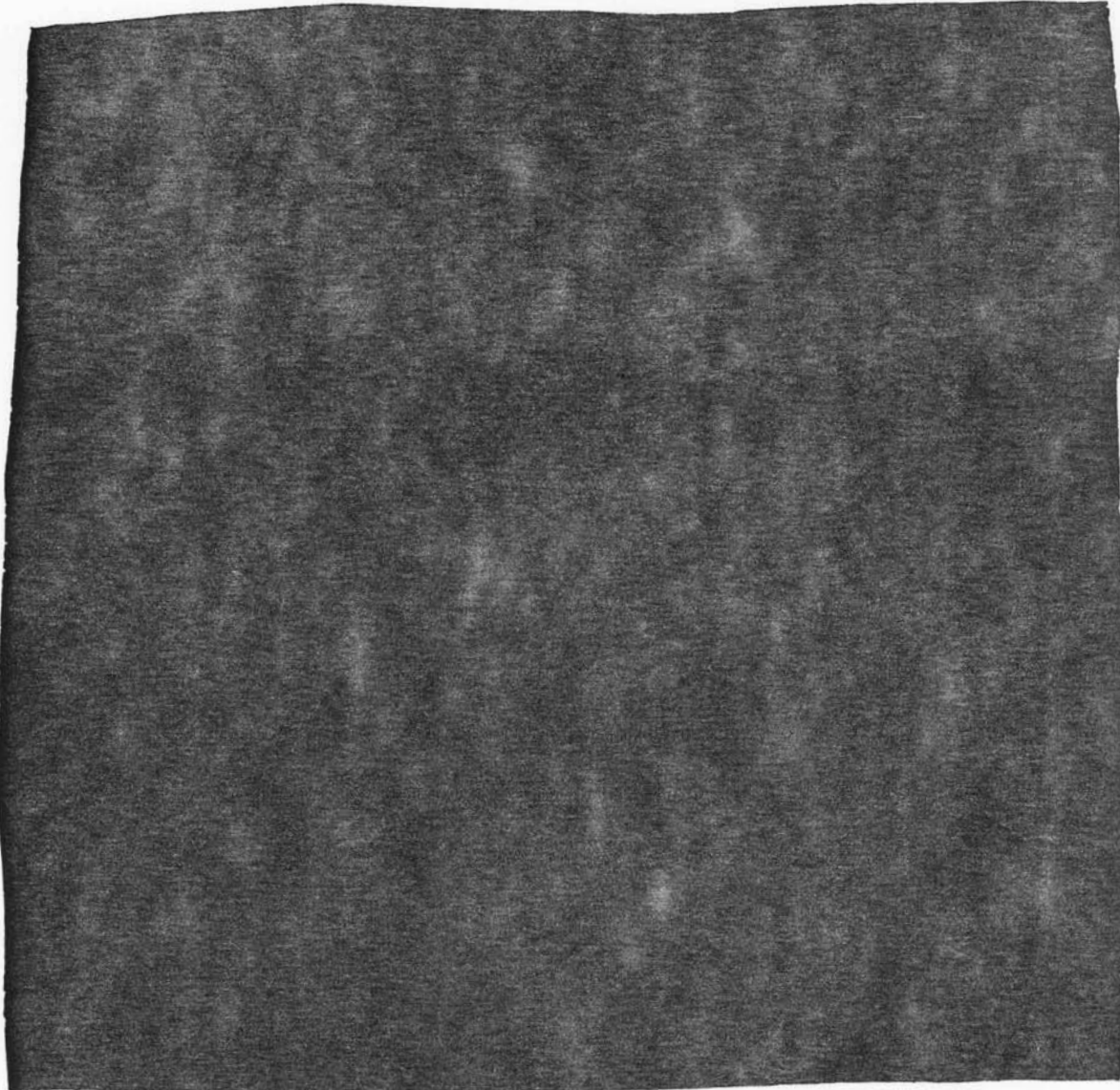
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APPENDIX A

NUCLEAR WEAPON DEPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

(Country, Region, and Afloat Totals)

FY 1972



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~~Section 1.1(b) Atomic Energy Act, 1954~~

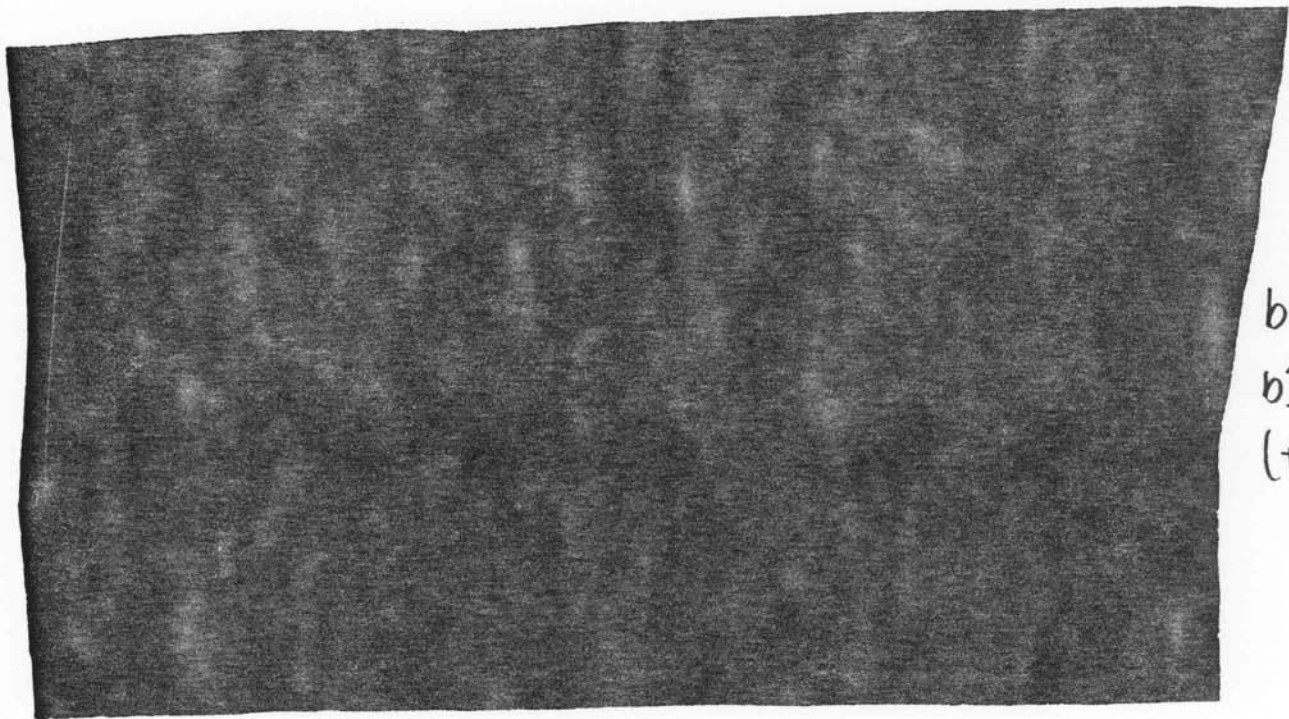
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APPENDIX B

NUCLEAR WEAPON DEPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS  
BY CATEGORY OF WEAPON - FY 1972



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Section 147b, Atomic Energy Act, 1954~~

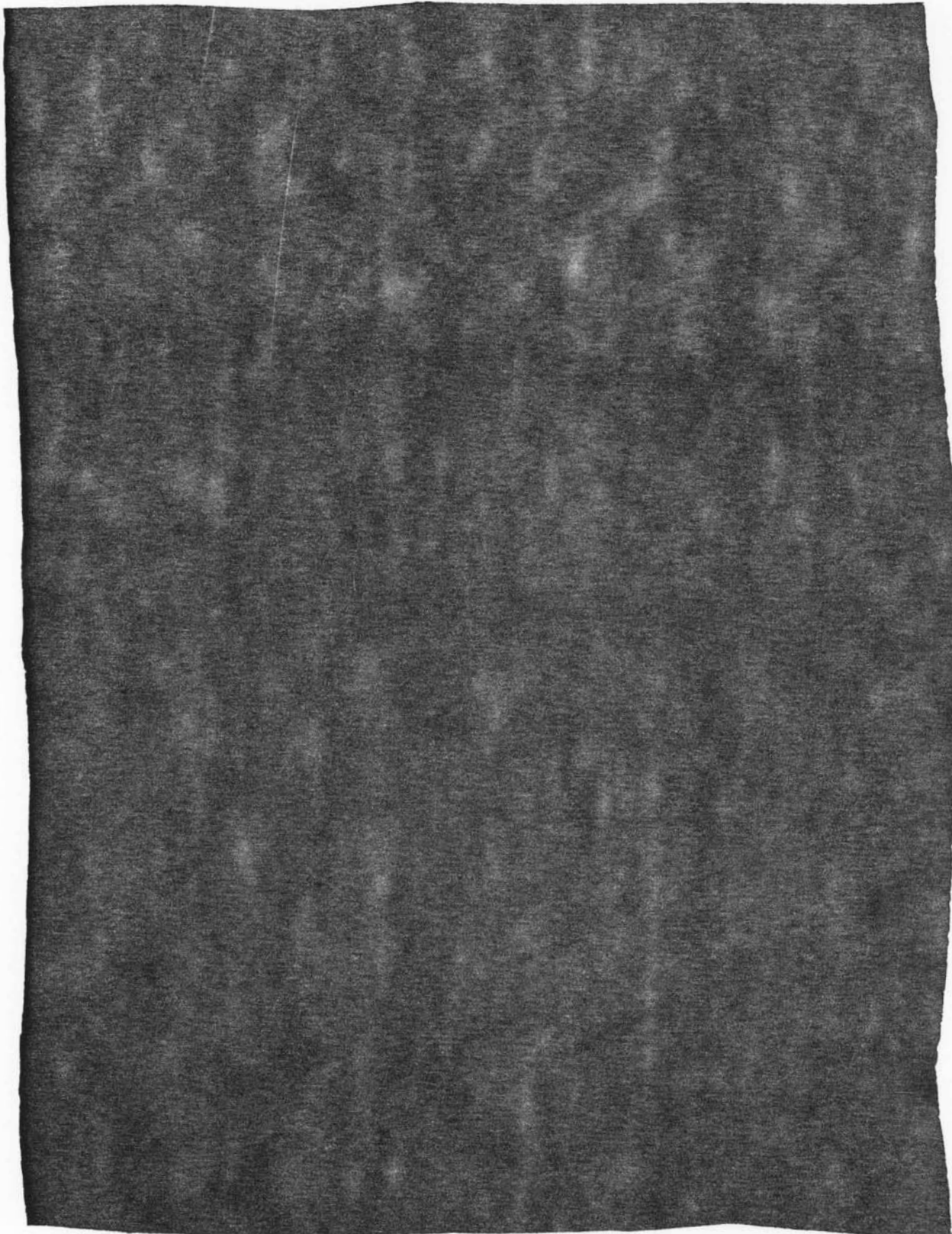
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APPENDIX C

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CONDITIONAL DEPLOYMENTS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1972



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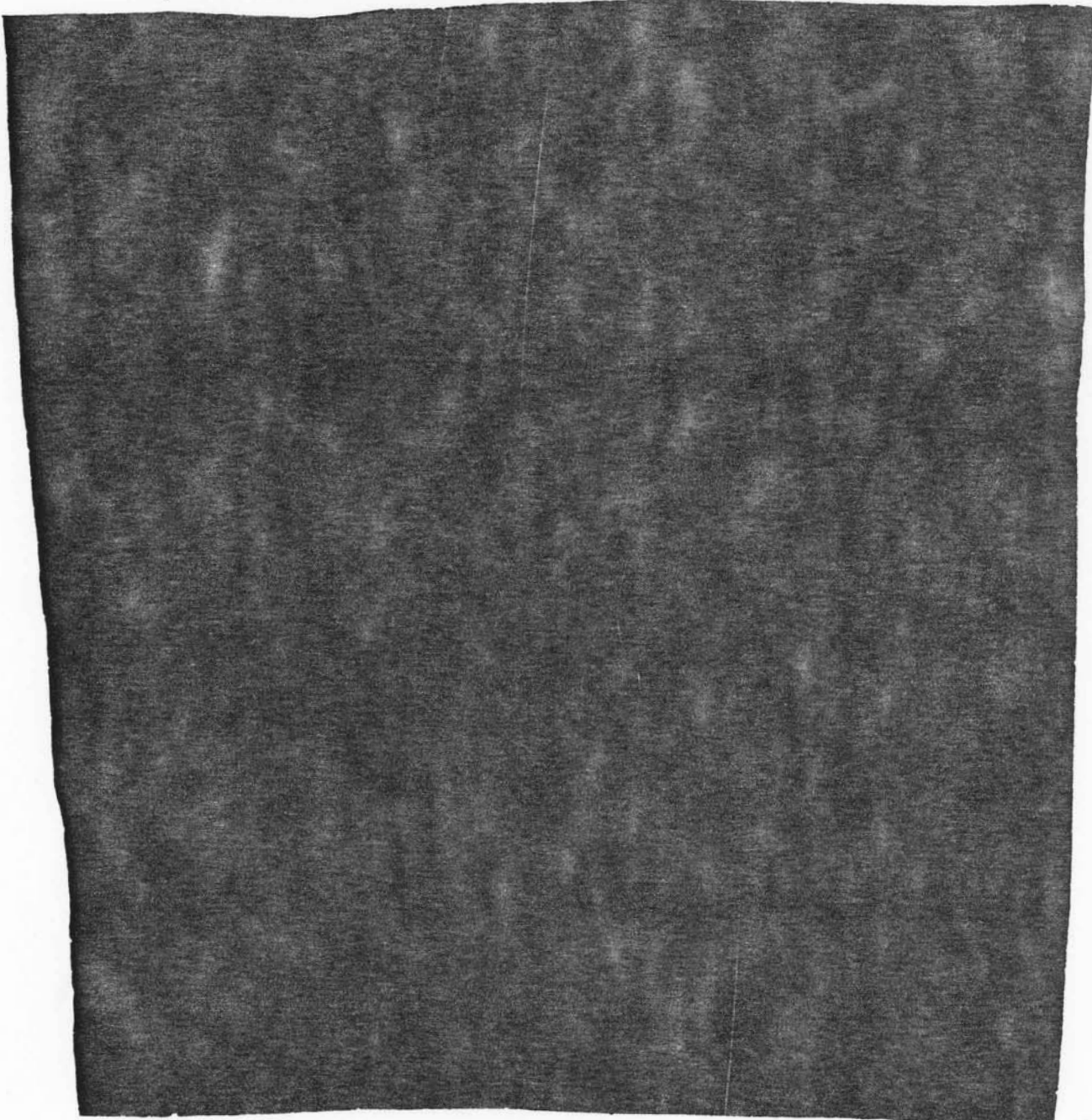
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CONDITIONAL DEPLOYMENTS, Cont'd



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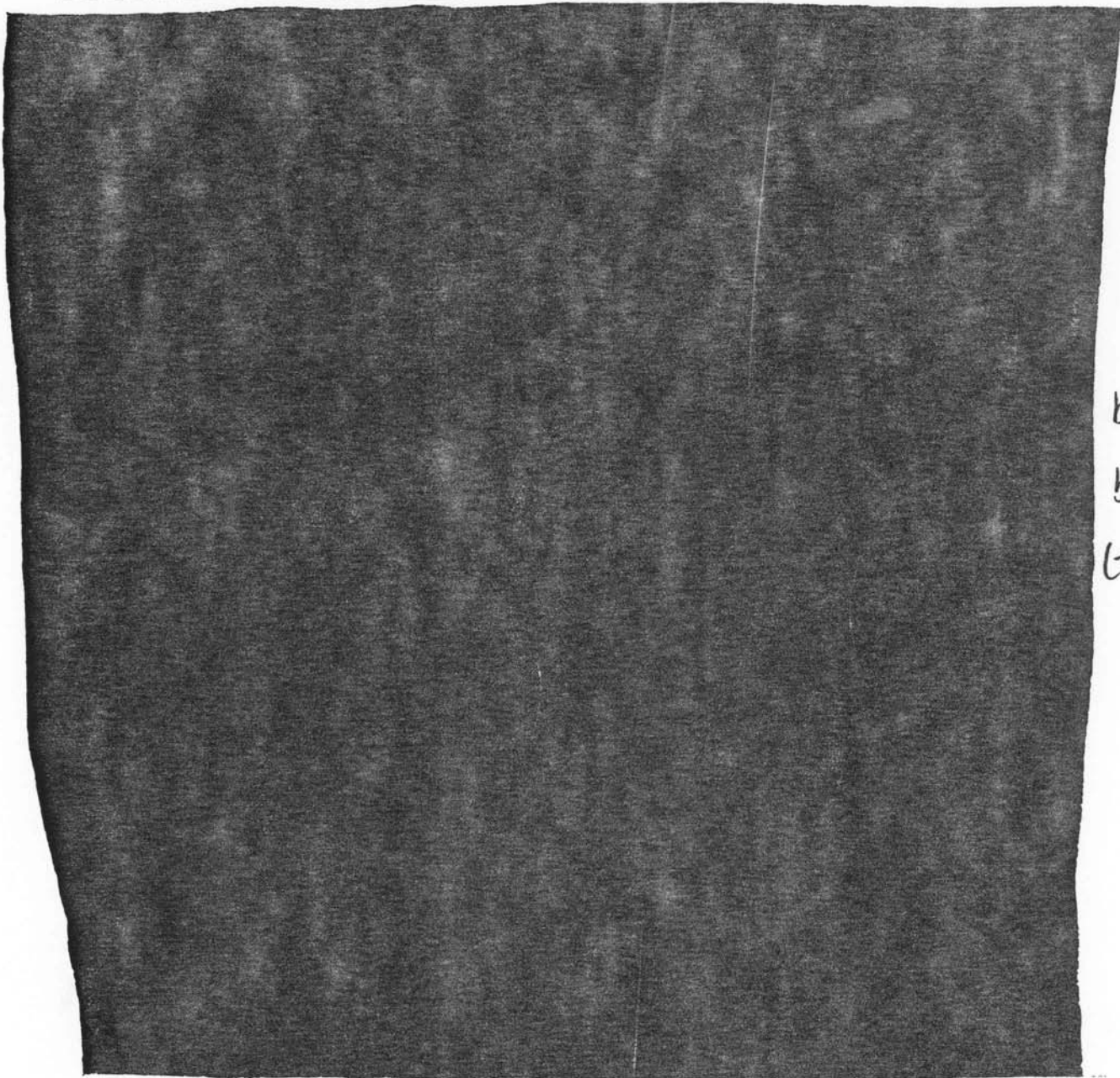
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CONDITIONAL DEPLOYMENTS, Cont'd



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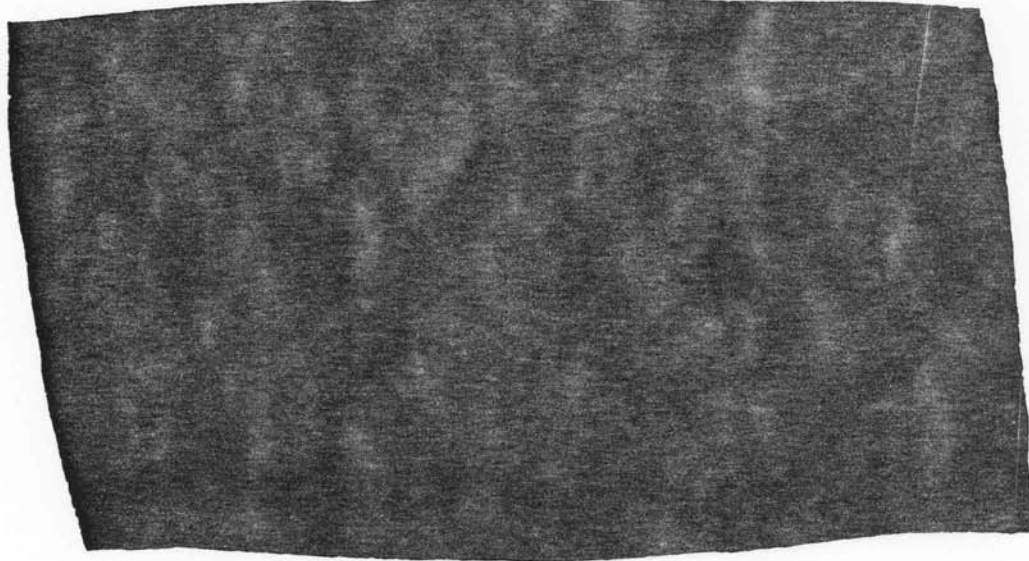
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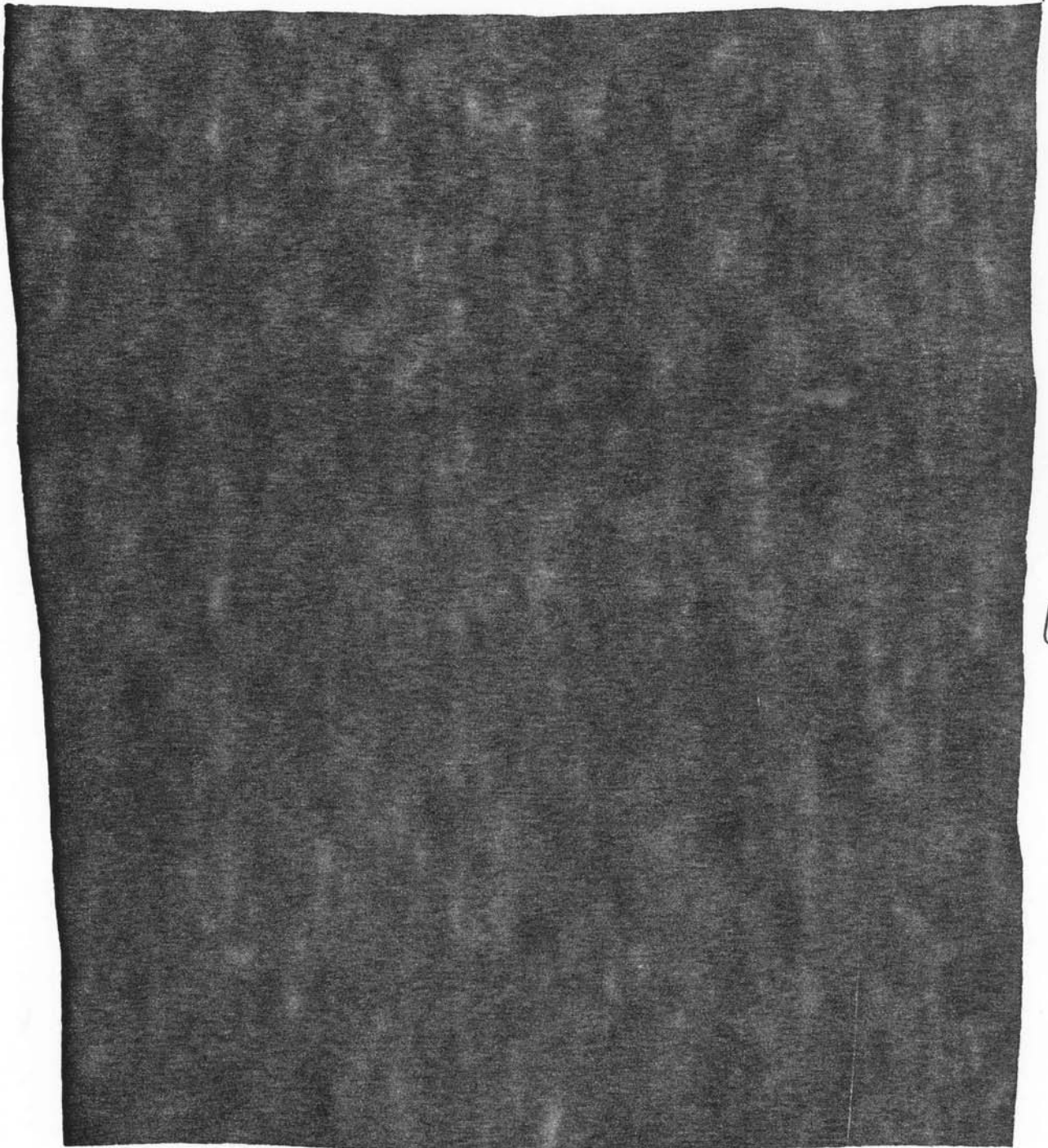
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APPENDIX D



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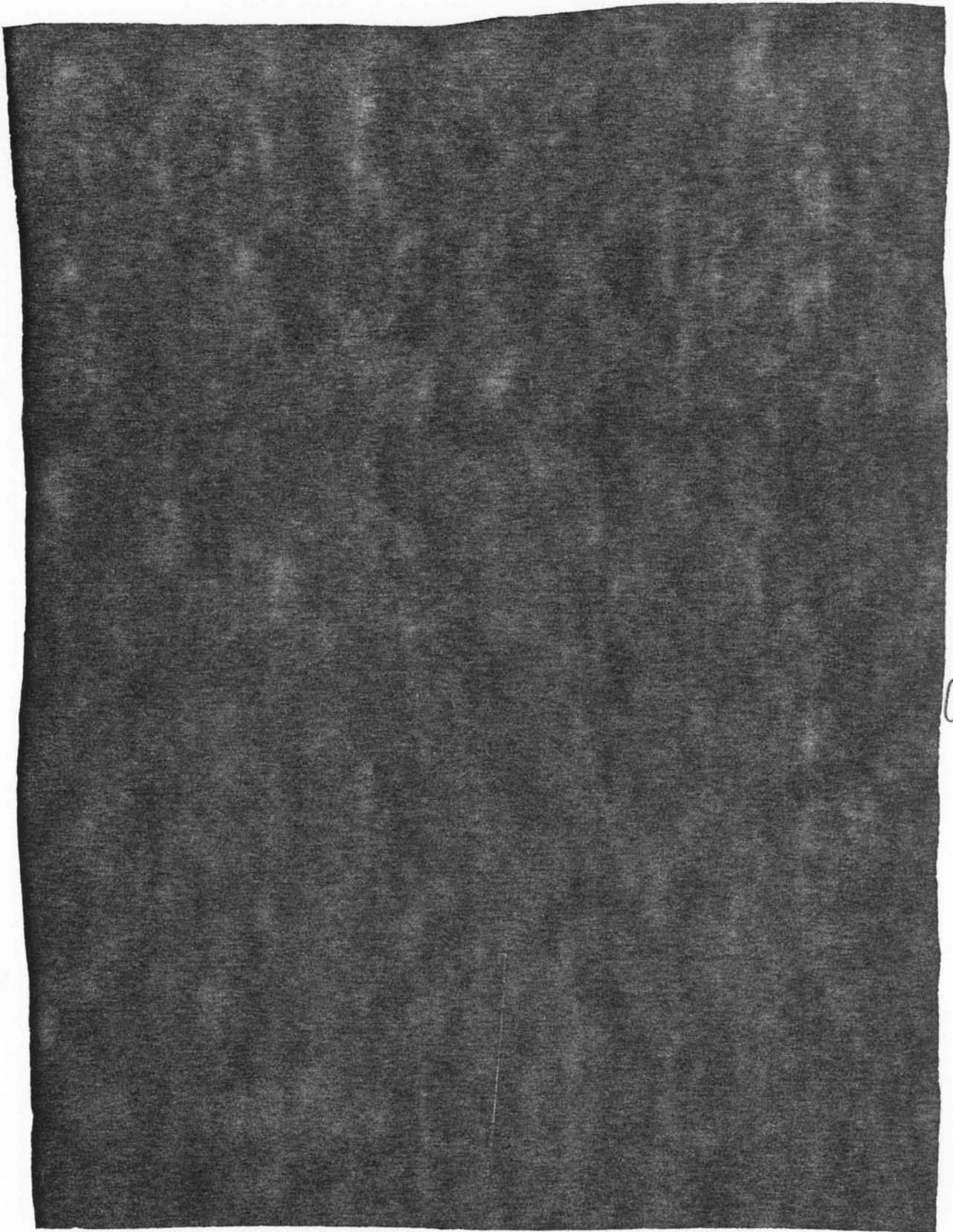
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Section 141b, Atomic Energy Act, 1954~~



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