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# Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System 1977

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## Advance Report

The 1977 survey of public expenditure and employment for criminal justice activities in the United States showed that expenditure in fiscal year 1977 amounted to \$21,506 million; an increase of \$1,825 million (9.3 percent) over fiscal year 1976. Increases in direct expenditure occurred at all levels of government with State governments showing an 11.7 percent increase over 1976, followed by the Federal Government (up 10.8 percent) and local governments (up 7.9 percent). For local governments, this represented a marked decline from the 15.1 percent increase recorded in 1976.

All six criminal justice functions included in the survey showed increases: Public defense expenditure led with a 22.0 percent increase, followed by prosecution/legal services (up 16.9 percent), corrections (up 12.4 percent), other criminal justice (up 10.1 percent), police protection (up 7.6 percent), and judicial (up 6.2 percent).

As shown in table A, criminal justice expenditure at all levels of government in the United States increased by 104.5 percent from 1971 through 1977, continuing the trend established in the previous 5 years. However, the rate of increase from 1976 to

1977 (9.3 percent) was the lowest in the 7-year period. During that 7-year period, the Federal Government increased its criminal justice direct expenditure by 123.5 percent, State governments by 116.8 percent, and local governments by 96.0 percent.

In October 1977, there were 1,127,517 criminal justice employees on a full-time equivalent basis. This was 47,625 more than in October 1976, an increase of 4.4 percent. The Federal government's criminal justice full-time equivalent employment remained about the same, while that of State governments rose 9.5 percent, and local governments, 3.1 percent. The overall rate of growth of 4.4 percent from 1976 to 1977 was the highest since October 1974, as seen in table B.

During the 7-year period 1971-77 there was a 30.8 percent increase in full-time equivalent criminal justice employment in the United States. This cumulative increase was shared by all levels of government, with the State governments experiencing an increase of 44.9 percent, the Federal Government an increase of 28.4 percent, and local governments an increase of 26.1 percent.

Table A. Total criminal justice direct expenditure and percent change by level of government, fiscal years 1971 to 1977

Year	Total	Federal	State	Local
Amount (millions of dollars)				
1971 .....	10,517	<sup>1</sup> 1,215	2,681	6,621
1972 .....	11,732	1,502	2,948	7,281
1973 .....	13,007	1,651	3,304	8,052
1974 .....	14,851	1,859	3,900	9,092
1975 .....	17,249	2,188	4,612	10,449
1976 .....	19,681	2,450	5,204	12,027
1977 .....	21,506	2,715	5,813	12,978
Percent increase or decrease (-)				
1971 to 1972 .....	11.6	<sup>1</sup> 23.6	10.0	10.0
1972 to 1973 .....	10.9	9.9	12.1	10.6
1973 to 1974 .....	14.2	12.6	18.0	12.9
1974 to 1975 .....	16.1	17.7	18.3	14.9
1975 to 1976 .....	14.1	12.0	12.8	15.1
1976 to 1977 .....	9.3	10.8	11.7	7.9
1971 to 1977 .....	104.5	123.5	116.8	96.0

Note: Because of rounding, detail may not add to total.

<sup>1</sup> The Federal expenditure amount shown for 1971 does not include data for the Office of Building Security Services of the Federal Reserve System; the Judicial, Prevention and Enforcement Services Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; or the Center for Studies of Crime and Delinquency at the National Institute of Mental Health, as these agencies were not included in the 1971 survey.

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Table B. Total full-time equivalent criminal justice employees and percent change, by level of government, October 1971 to October 1977

Payroll period	Total	Federal	State	Local
	Number of employees			
October 1971 . . . . .	861,776	<sup>1</sup> 77,523	205,859	578,394
October 1972 . . . . .	898,305	85,222	216,603	596,480
October 1973 . . . . .	945,309	87,139	232,299	625,871
October 1974 . . . . .	1,011,205	93,755	252,588	664,862
October 1975 . . . . .	1,050,503	96,136	263,208	691,159
October 1976 . . . . .	1,079,892	99,553	272,488	707,851
October 1977 . . . . .	1,127,517	99,513	298,360	729,644
	Percent increase or decrease (—)			
October 1971 to October 1972 . . . . .	4.2	<sup>1</sup> 9.9	5.2	3.1
October 1972 to October 1973 . . . . .	5.2	2.2	7.2	4.9
October 1973 to October 1974 . . . . .	7.0	7.6	8.7	6.2
October 1974 to October 1975 . . . . .	3.9	2.5	4.2	4.0
October 1975 to October 1976 . . . . .	2.8	3.6	3.5	2.4
October 1976 to October 1977 . . . . .	4.4	-0.04	9.5	3.1
October 1971 to October 1977 . . . . .	30.8	28.4	44.9	26.1

<sup>1</sup>The Federal employment figure shown for October 1971 does not include employees at the Office of Building Security Services of the Federal Reserve System; the Judicial, Prevention and Enforcement Services Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; or the Center for Studies of Crime and Delinquency at the National Institute of Mental Health, as these agencies were not canvassed in the 1971 survey.

As in the past, local governments accounted for more expenditure and employment in the criminal justice field than the Federal and State governments combined. Of the nation's \$21,506 million expenditure for criminal justice purposes in 1977, \$12,978 million (60.4 percent) was expended by local governments. In addition, 729,644 full-time equivalent employees (64.7 percent) were working in local criminal justice activities. Reflecting the fact that law enforcement is essentially a responsibility of local governments, \$8,299 million (63.9 percent) of their direct expenditure and 477,470 (65.4 percent) of their full-time equivalent employment were for police protection activities.

State governments spent 49.0 percent of their \$5,813 million direct expenditure in the corrections field. In addition, close to half (48.8 percent) of the 298,360 full-time equivalent criminal justice employees of State governments were engaged in correctional activities.

### Survey Methodology

The data presented in this report were gathered in connection with the 1977 criminal justice expenditure and employment survey using two collection methods: field compilation and mail canvass. Data collection was performed between July 1977 and June 1978 in accordance with definitions noted below. Response for field-compiled units was 100 percent; for mail canvass units: 93.0 percent.

Data were collected for the Federal Government, all State governments, all county governments, all municipal governments (and townships in the New England and Middle Atlantic States) having a 1970 population of 10,000 or more, and for a sample of the remaining municipalities and townships with a 1970 population of less than 10,000. Local government totals are therefore subject to sampling error.

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to change. A more complete discussion of data findings and survey methodology will be contained in the forthcoming issue of *Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System, 1977*, to be released in early 1979. Data in that report will be presented in greater geographical, functional, and financial detail for all six categories of criminal justice activity: Police protection, judicial, legal services and prosecution, public defense, corrections, and other criminal justice activities.

### Definitions of Terms

Expenditure is all amounts of money paid out (net of any correcting transactions) other than for retirement of debt (including interest), investment in securities, extensions of loans, or agency transactions. It includes only external cash payments and excludes any intragovernmental transfers and noncash transactions, such as the provision of meals or housing of employees. It also includes any payments financed from borrowing, fund balances, intergovernmental revenue, and other current revenue.

Expenditure is divided into two major categories by character:

1. **Direct expenditure** is all expenditure except that classed as intergovernmental.
2. **Intergovernmental expenditure** is payments from one government to another, including grants-in-aid, shared revenues, payments in lieu of taxes, and amounts for services performed by one government for another on a reimbursable or cost-sharing basis (for example, payments by one government to another for boarding prisoners).

**Full-time equivalent employment** is the total number of employees discounted by applying average full-time earning rates. This is calculated by dividing the total payroll (full-time plus part-time) by the full-time payroll and multiplying the

result by the number of full-time employees.

**Police protection** is the function of enforcing the law, preserving order, and apprehending those who violate the law.

**Judicial activities** encompass all civil and criminal courts and activities associated with courts.

**Legal services and prosecution** includes the civil and criminal justice activities of the attorneys general, district attorneys, State's attorneys, and their variously named equivalents; corporation counsels, solicitors, and legal departments with various names.

**Public defense** includes legal counsel and representation in either criminal or civil proceedings as provided by public defenders and other government programs that pay the fees

of court-appointed counsel.

**Corrections** is that function of government involving the confinement and rehabilitation of adults and juveniles convicted of offenses against the law and the confinement of persons suspected of a crime and awaiting adjudication. Data for institutions with authority to hold prisoners 48 hours or more are included in this sector. Data for lockups or "tanks" holding prisoners less than 48 hours are included in "Police Protection."

**Other criminal justice activities** include expenditure or employment data that are not elsewhere classified, that cut across more than one category, or that are not allocable to separate categories, e.g., the operation of State criminal justice planning agencies, crime commissions, etc.

Table 1. Distribution of expenditure for the criminal justice system, by level of government, fiscal year 1977

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity <sup>1</sup>	Amount				Percent distribution		
	All governments <sup>1</sup>	Federal Government <sup>2</sup>	State governments	Local governments <sup>1</sup>	Federal Government <sup>2</sup>	State governments	Local governments <sup>1</sup>
Total criminal justice system <sup>3</sup> .....	21,506,236	3,498,090	6,670,923	13,022,315	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	21,506,236	2,715,034	5,813,490	12,977,712	12.6	27.0	60.4
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	783,056	869,956	155,598	(X)	(X)	(X)
Police protection <sup>3</sup> .....	11,864,390	1,771,922	1,961,717	8,303,882	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	11,864,390	1,765,420	1,799,725	8,299,245	14.9	15.2	69.9
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	6,502	164,250	78,188	(X)	(X)	(X)
Judicial <sup>3</sup> .....	2,578,149	233,040	735,829	1,704,242	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	2,578,149	233,040	650,559	1,694,550	9.0	25.3	65.7
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	90,647	17,189	(X)	(X)	(X)
Legal services and prosecution <sup>3</sup> .....	1,225,320	185,604	314,446	745,587	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	1,225,320	185,604	296,732	742,984	15.2	24.2	60.6
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	17,714	3,354	(X)	(X)	(X)
Public defense <sup>3</sup> .....	404,024	140,633	90,393	285,240	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	404,024	140,633	78,365	185,026	34.8	19.4	45.8
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	12,028	1,244	(X)	(X)	(X)
Corrections <sup>3</sup> .....	4,927,586	292,290	2,974,895	1,813,391	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	4,927,586	292,290	2,860,183	1,787,113	5.9	57.8	36.3
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	127,870	52,318	(X)	(X)	(X)
Other criminal justice <sup>3</sup> .....	506,767	874,601	593,643	269,973	(X)	(X)	(X)
Direct expenditure.....	506,767	98,047	139,926	268,794	19.4	27.6	53.0
Intergovernmental expenditure.....	( <sup>3</sup> )	776,554	457,447	3,305	(X)	(X)	(X)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Local governments data are estimates subject to sampling variation; see text for data limitations.

<sup>2</sup>Federal Government data are for the fiscal period beginning October 1, 1976 and ending September 30, 1977.

<sup>3</sup>The total line for each sector, and for the total Criminal Justice System, excludes duplicative intergovernmental expenditure amounts. This was done to avoid the artificial inflation which would result if an intergovernmental expenditure amount for one government is tabulated and then counted again when the recipient government(s) ultimately expend(s) that amount. The intergovernmental expenditure lines are not totaled for the same reason.

Table 2. Distribution of employment and payrolls for the criminal justice system, by level of government, October 1977

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity	All governments <sup>1</sup>	Federal Government	State governments	Local governments <sup>1</sup>	Percent distribution		
					Federal Government	State governments	Local governments <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total criminal justice system:</b>							
Total employees.....	1,209,593	100,972	310,485	798,136	8.3	25.7	66.0
Full-time employees.....	1,099,623	98,904	292,899	707,820	9.0	26.6	64.4
Full-time equivalent employees.....	1,127,517	99,513	298,360	729,644	8.8	26.5	64.7
October payroll.....	1,427,944	171,084	370,447	886,413	12.0	25.9	62.1
<b>Police protection:</b>							
Total employees.....	698,312	72,455	101,203	524,654	10.4	14.5	75.1
Full-time employees.....	633,027	71,130	92,200	469,697	11.2	14.6	74.2
Full-time equivalent employees.....	642,712	71,433	93,809	477,470	11.1	14.6	74.3
October payroll.....	846,253	122,380	116,433	607,440	14.5	13.8	71.8
<b>Judicial:</b>							
Total employees.....	162,353	7,699	38,910	115,744	4.7	24.0	71.3
Full-time employees.....	140,229	7,614	34,937	97,678	5.4	24.9	69.7
Full-time equivalent employees.....	149,234	7,648	37,000	104,586	5.1	24.8	70.1
October payroll.....	177,567	13,997	58,566	105,004	7.9	33.0	59.1
<b>Legal services and prosecution:</b>							
Total employees.....	68,322	7,147	15,581	45,594	10.5	22.8	66.7
Full-time employees.....	59,297	6,864	14,627	37,806	11.6	21.7	63.8
Full-time equivalent employees.....	63,734	6,930	15,065	41,739	10.9	23.6	65.5
October payroll.....	89,736	12,954	23,147	53,635	14.4	25.8	59.8
<b>Public defense:</b>							
Total employees.....	8,452	219	3,245	4,988	2.6	38.1	59.0
Full-time employees.....	7,400	219	3,005	4,176	3.0	40.6	56.4
Full-time equivalent employees.....	8,069	219	3,175	4,675	2.7	39.3	57.9
October payroll.....	12,159	407	4,376	7,376	3.3	36.0	60.7
<b>Corrections:</b>							
Total employees.....	262,600	11,828	147,755	103,017	4.5	56.3	39.2
Full-time employees.....	250,750	11,579	141,480	94,691	4.6	57.6	37.8
Full-time equivalent employees.....	254,638	11,713	145,613	97,312	4.6	57.2	38.2
October payroll.....	290,450	18,786	163,079	108,591	6.5	56.1	37.4
<b>Other criminal justice:</b>							
Total employees.....	9,554	1,624	3,788	4,142	17.0	39.6	43.4
Full-time employees.....	8,920	1,498	3,650	3,772	16.8	40.9	42.3
Full-time equivalent employees.....	9,130	1,570	3,698	3,862	17.2	40.5	42.3
October payroll.....	11,771	2,560	4,845	4,366	21.7	41.2	37.1

<sup>1</sup>Local governments data are estimates subject to sampling variation; see text.

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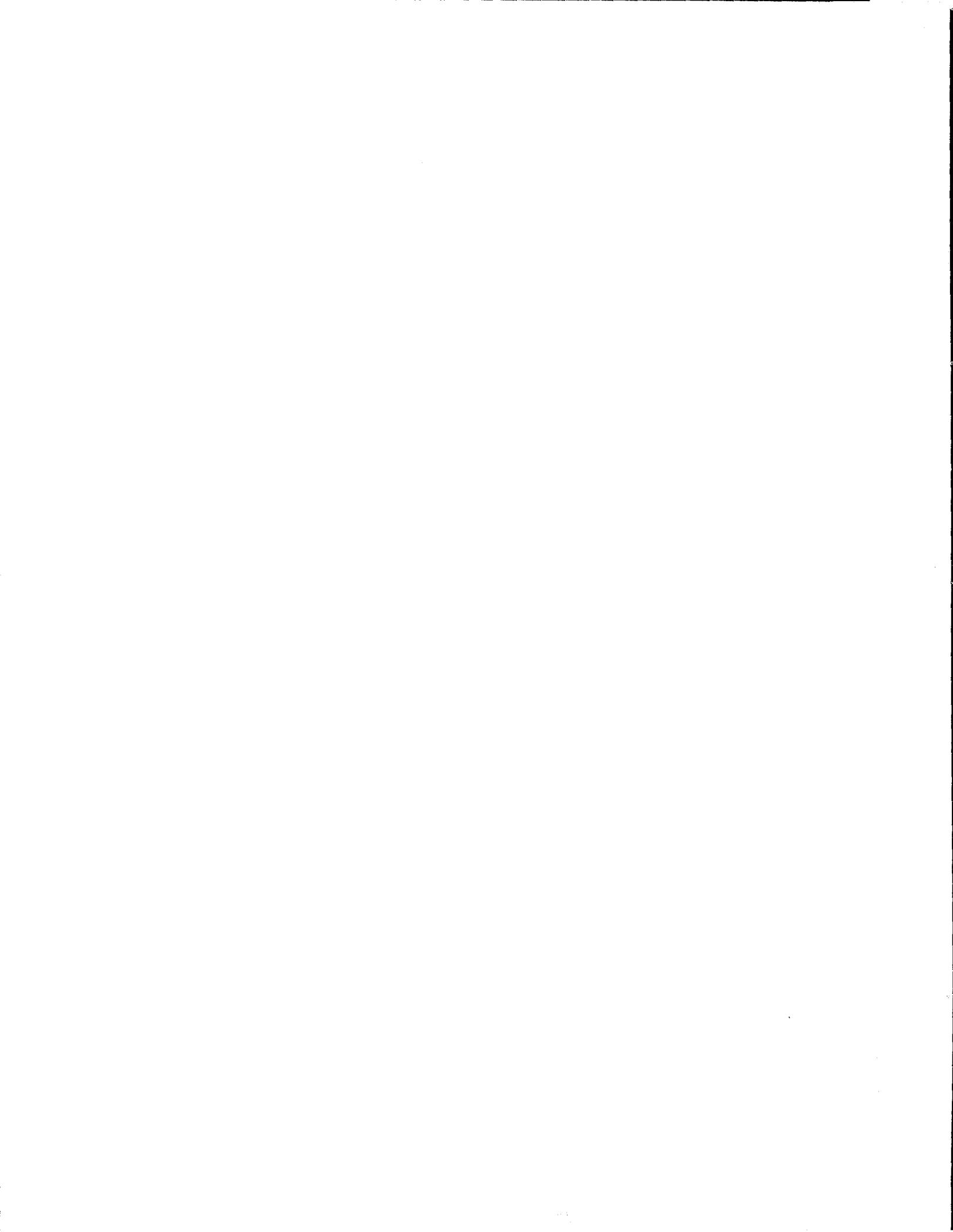
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