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**THE PSM MAGAZINE**



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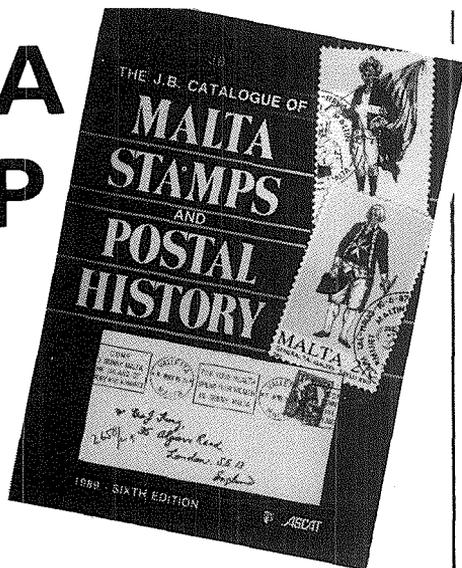
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# THE PSM MAGAZINE



Silver-Bronze ESPANA '84 & AUSIPEX '84  
Silver-Bronze ISRAPHIL '85 & PHILTEMA '85  
Silver STOCKHOLMIA '86  
Editor: Dr. A. Bonnici, Asst. Editor: Mr. J. Farrugia  
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Vol 17 No 3

December 1988

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The Editor and your Committee  
Wish you  
a Happy Christmas  
and a Prosperous New Year

# Finding a Treasure Trove of Information

Part 4 (continuation)

by Paul and Barbara Kayfetz

1 – 1/2d (Photo No. 62) – The numbered plate is as described for the 1/4d.

(Photo No. 63) – The lower pane for the numbered pair, however, contains significant traces of a reddish ink. Otherwise, this plate is similar to that described in the 1/4d.

(Photo No. 64) – The upper numbered pane similarly contains significant traces of reddish ink. Otherwise, it is similar to the 1/4d upper pane No. 1.

2d (Photo No. 65) – The unnumbered plate is generally the same as that described in the 1/4d. This plate does not contain the row of vertical pillar lines above the top row of stamps found in the other values of this issue.

However, there is a single numbered pane of 120 images laid out as the other panes of 10 rows of 12 stamps (Photo No 65A). The plate number “1” appears as a solid letter with a circular line around it in four positions. It is in the top margin and the bottom margin between the first and second stamps at each end of the top and bottom rows.

2 – 1/2d (Photo No. 66) – The unnumbered plate is as described for the 1/4d above.

(Photo No. 67) – The plate number “1” bottom pane is as described for the 1/4d. The image for row 1, No. 8 has been replaced.

(Photo No. 68) – The upper pane of the numbered plate is as described for the 1/4d. Row 1, No. 8 has been replaced.

3d (Photo No. 69) – The unnumbered pane is as described for the 1/4d.

(Photo No. 70) – The bottom pane is also as described for the 1/4d. The back of the plate contains a greenish form which has been glued on and mostly torn off. It appears to be an imprinted impression from an overprinting plate which contained the word: “Cancelled” at a 45-degree angle at normal stamp spacing for a smaller pane with larger stamps than that contained in this issue. The only printing on the paper is the pattern of the word “Cancelled”.

(Photo No. 71) – The upper pane is similar to that of the 1/4d value.

4d (Photo No. 72) – The unnumbered plate is similar to that of the 2d. As with the 2d, it does not contain a row of material pillar stripes above the top row of stamps. This plate, for a two-colour stamp, contains a blank recess in the area of each vignette portrait. These were added by the Key Plate. There has been extensive replacement of stamps on this plate. These involve:

Row 1, No. 6; and, Row 2, No. 7; and, Row 3, No. 8; and, Row 2, No. 2.

A block of three replaced at one time involves: Row 3, No. 11 and No. 12 along with Row 4, No. 12.

A similar large block includes the following: Row 5, No. 7; and Row 6, No. 6, No. 7, and No. 8; and Row 7, No. 6, No. 7, and No. 8; and Row 8, No. 6, and No. 7; and Row 9, No. 6, and No. 7.

Also replaced was: Row 10, N. 10. (See Photo No. 73 which shows the back of this plate).

Our retired De La Rue printer relates that the removal of defective cliches was sometimes done on a small routing machine with a fine cutting tool. Othertimes handcutting with a "fret type saw" was used after a small starting hold was drilled.

(Photo No. 74) – As with the 2d, the other printing plate for this issue is a single-pane with four plate numbers "1" in the positions described for the No. 2.

4 – 1/2d (Photo No. 75) – The unnumbered plate is as described above for the 4d and 2d. In it row 1, No. 2 has been replaced.

(Photo No. 76) – The other printing plate for this value is a single plate with four plate numbers as described above for the 2d and 4d. It, however, is mounted on a mahogany backing board. It is not possible to ascertain whether any of the stamps have been replaced due to the presence of the backing board.

6d (Photo No. 77) – The unnumbered plate is as described above for the 2d, 4d and 4 – 1/2d.

(Photo No. 78) – The numbered printing plate is as described above for the 2d, 4d and 4 – 1/2d. It contains the four plate numbers. It is also mounted on a mahogany board composed of three pieces assembled with splines. This plate is profusely covered with a bright-red, carmine, or magenta ink remnant.

## Shilling Values

### Artist's Engraved Dies

1/- (Photo No. 79) – This die is generally similar to that described for the pence values for this issue. The major difference is that the shilling values were printed by the recess process. Therefore, the dies contain recessed areas wherever colour is to appear on the stamp. It is of 5mm thick steel, and 114mm wide and 87mm high. It contains the die number: "12584" at the top. At the far left it contains the hole. For the single-colour one shilling value this die shows the entire stamp. The die has been defaced with two heavy lines scribed through the stamp image.

There are border duty dies for each of the remaining values. These are each on 5mm thick steel plates measuring 75mm × 102mm. The orientation varies according to whether the stamp is horizontal or vertical. All have been defaced as above. Details are as follows:

1/6 – Die No. 12587 at the top with the hole on the opposite side.

2/- – Die No. 12585 with the hole at the right-hand end.

2/6 – Die No. 12588 with the hole at the opposite end.

3/- – Die No. 12589 at the top with the hole at the opposite edge.

5/- – Die No. 12586 with the hole at the right-hand side.

10/- – Die No. 12590 (12690?) with the hole at the opposite edge.

The vignette dies are on similar 5mm plates 89mm × 97mm in size and are similarly defaced. Again, the orientation is a function of the orientation of the stamp design. These dies contain a neatly engraved die number rather than the roughly-punched, larger die number of the border dies. The various dies are as follows:

1/6 (Photo No. 80) – Die No. 10665 with the hole on the opposite edge.

2/6 – Die No. 10670 with the hole on the opposite edge.

2/- – Die No. 10667 with the hole on the opposite edge.

3/- – Die No. 10669 with the hole on the opposite edge.

5/- – Die No. 10668 with the hole on the opposite edge.

10/- – Die No 10665 also with the hole on the opposite edge.

Transfer rollers are present for each of the border and vignette dies described above. (Photo No. 81 shows examples.)

## Printing Plates

Plates exist for the complete 1/- stamp, and for the border duty and vignette images respectively for the other shilling values. Each is contained in a large brown folder with a notation such as that for the 1/-: “Malta Postage & Revenue Stamp – 1/- complete 80 on – no 37371”. These plates are surface printing copper plates 3mm in thickness. The printing face is highly polished. The actual printing face is 400mm wide and 370mm high. At the bottom there is a flange bent at a 90-degree angle toward the back of the printing plate. It is 10mm high and has eight gaps cut into it. At the top there is a flange which is bent toward the back of the plate at about a 5-degree angle. It is 20mm high and contains 4 gaps. At the two right-hand edges of the printing surface within 5mm of the side and 8mm of the end margins are holes 7mm in diameter. There are similar holes in the corners of the slightly-bent flange. The plate contains 10 rows of 8 stamps each.

1/- (Photo No. 82) – Above the upper left-hand corner of the stamp in row 1, No. 5, is the number “37371” in neatly engraved letters 2 to 3mm high. A space of 16mm separates these letters from the top of the nearest stamp. Immediately below these letters there is a faint hairline which surrounds the entire block at a distance of 15mm from the image. At the corners these lines develop and extend 20mm beyond the rectangle thus formed. At each corner there is a heavier inscribed registration mark consisting of lines approximately 10mm long meeting at the corner with each line some 10mm from the edge of the block of stamps. These lines in some corners overlap slightly where they meet. Similar heavily inscribed registration lines exist as single lines perpendicular to the center of each side of the block of stamps beginning some 15mm from the edge of the stamped images with a dot and extending some 10mm out toward the edges. There is a registration cross some 4mm × 4mm in size on the center of the pane and a registration line some 4mm long just within the block of stamped images in the border mid-way along each of the four sides of the block. The “Waterlow Son’s Printing, London...” imprint appears below the center of the pane.

1/6 (Photo No. 83) – The border duty plate is numbered “37377”. Otherwise, it is identical to the description provided above.

(Photo No. 84) – The vignette plate for this value contains the plate number 35630 both roughly punched on the flange and engraved in smaller letters some 28mm above the top of the vignette image for the stamp at row 1, position 6. This plate contains a registration line that is slightly stronger than a hairline midway along each of the four edges of the pane beginning approximately 30mm from the image of the vignette. A hairline extension of this

registration line appears adjacent to the scepter on the left side of the stamp at row 1, No. 6.

2/- (Photo No. 85) – The border plate number is 37375. Otherwise, it is similar to the description above.

(Photo No. 86) – Vignette place No. 35631 appears roughly stamped on the flange, and also 25mm above the top of the vignette image of the stamp at row 1, No. 6. Opposite the center of each side of the image beginning at 20mm from the top of the vignettes in bottom and top rows and some 25mm to the sides of the vignettes at the side are registration lines perpendicular to the edge of the pane of stamps.

2/6 (Photo No. 87) – The border plate number is 37374. Other, it is similar to those preceding. In this plate rather than a cross in the center of the block of stamp images there is a slightly disconnected “T” with the stem of the T toward the bottom of the plate.

(Photo No. 88) – This vignette plate is numbered 35632 on the flange only. There is no number on the face of the plate. There is a very fine line beginning approximately 25mm from the edge of the image mid-way on the previous vignette plate (the 2/-).

3/- (Photo No. 89) – This envelope is labeled “3/- Casement”, as are those, with appropriate respective values, for the other duty plate borders.

As with the 2/6, the center cross within the plate is a “T”. There is also a short line below the T alongside row 5, No. 6 adjacent to the word “Postage”.

(Photo No. 90) – The vignette plate number is 35633. The plate is identical to that described above. It contains no edge marks or registration marks of any sort. The plate number appears only in the angled flange in rough hand stamping. It does not appear, as on the other plats, immediately adjacent to the image in engraved form.

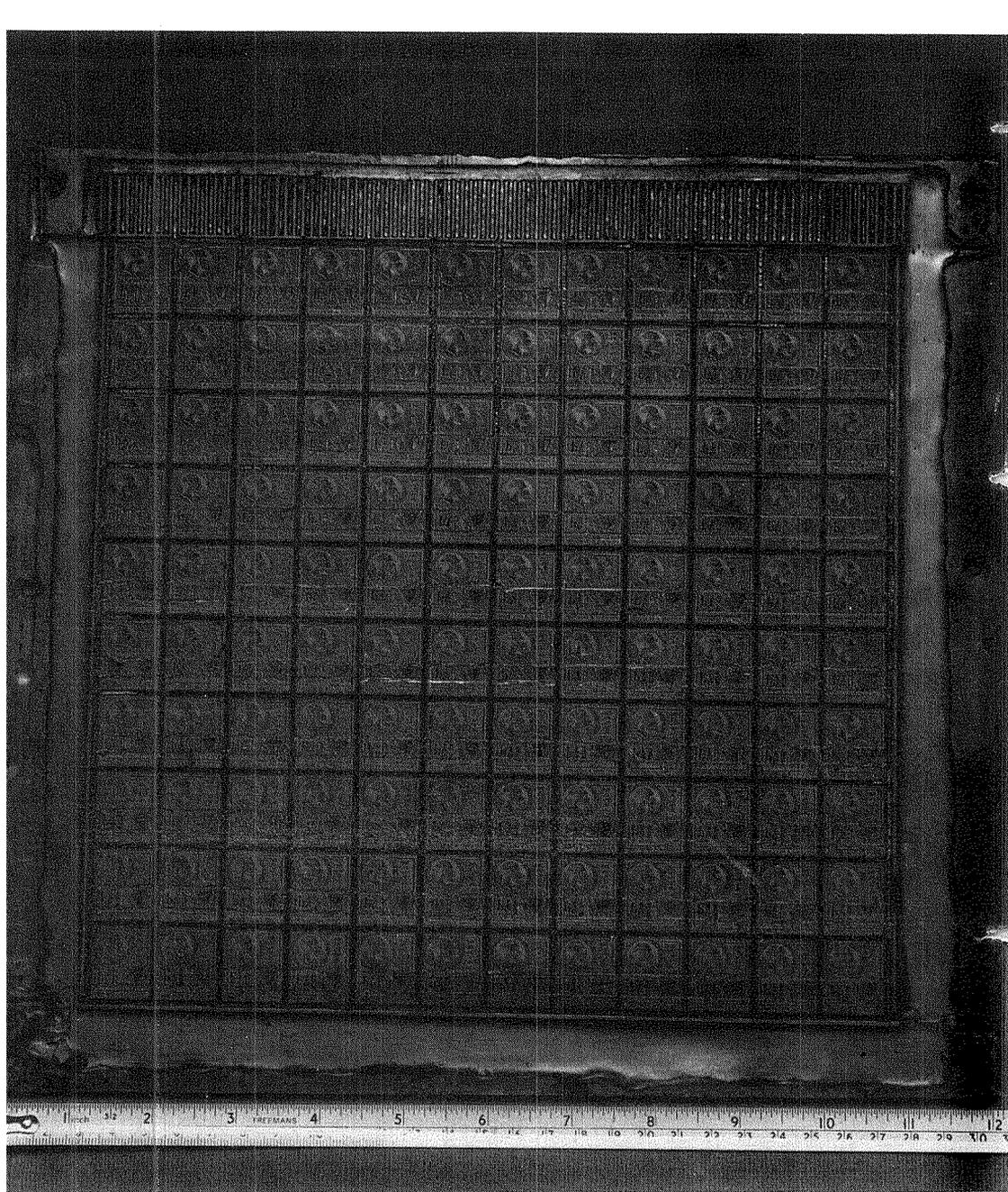
5/- (Photo No. 91) – This border plate number is 37376. This plate contains the “T” at the center of the block of images rather than the cross.

(Photo No. 92) – The vignette plate is numbered 35634 in rough hand-punched numerals on the flange only. Inscribed by hand in a heavy scratching is the notation “5/- Vig. Malta Stamp/Top” at the very top of the printed portion of the plate. The plate number is not inscribed on the printing surface. There are hairline registration lines beginning approximately 30mm from the image perpendicular to each edge. At the top, as on some of the other plates, there is an irregular area approximately 3mm high of engraved marks some 1mm wide at the end of the registration line closest to the image. In row 3, immediately below the vignette at position 4, there is a vertical line in the plate. Adjacent to that line some 2mm from it is a 1mm-long horizontal mark.

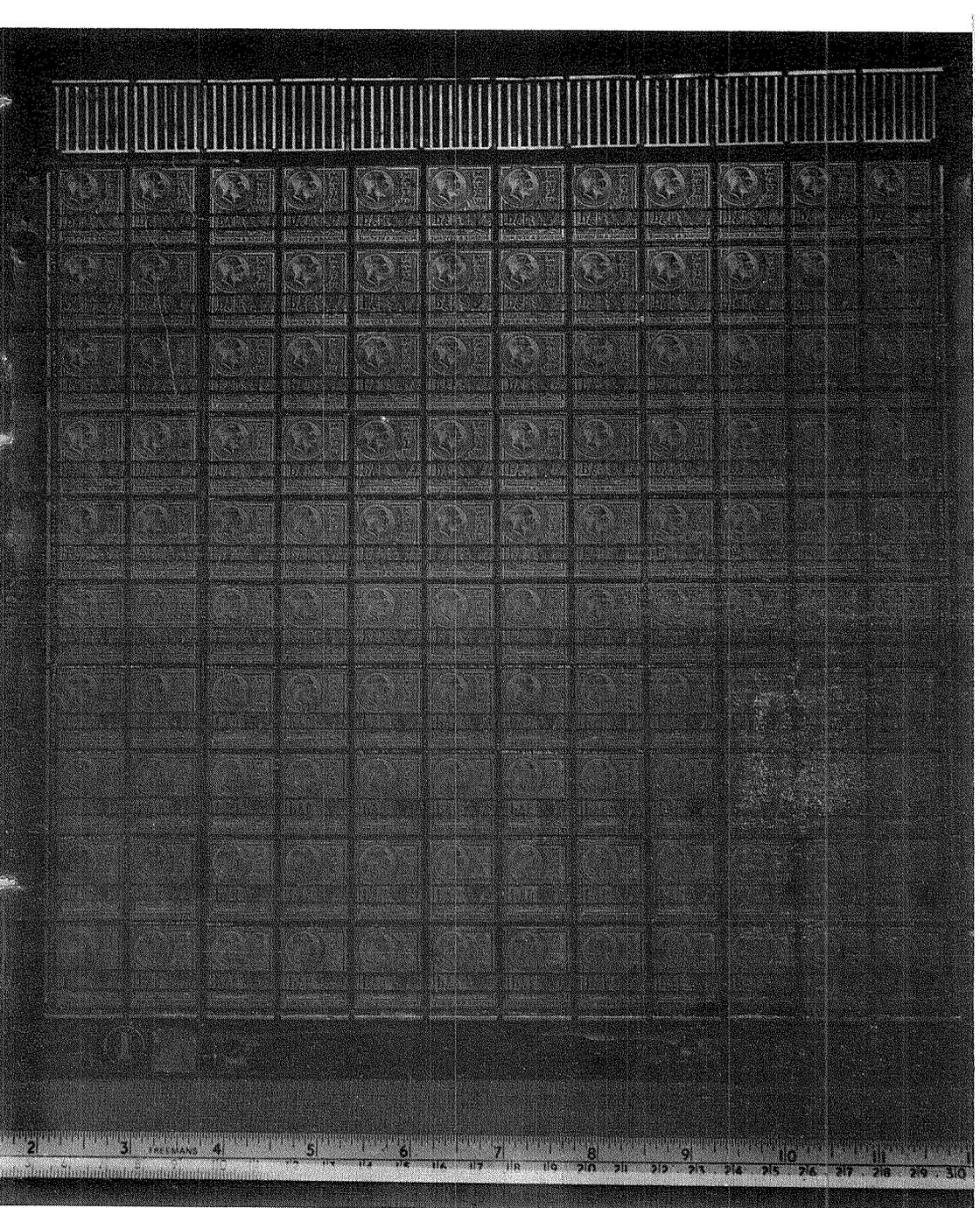
10/- (Photo No. 93) – This border plate is numbered 37373. It contains the cross at the center of the block of images rather than the “T”.

(Photo No. 94) – This vignette plate is numbered 35635, both roughly on the flange and in engraved numerals above the 6th stamp in row 1. There is a faint registration line mid-way along each edge perpendicular to the center. The mark at the bottom extends completely into the image of the vignette crossing the letter “S” at the beginning of the inscription.

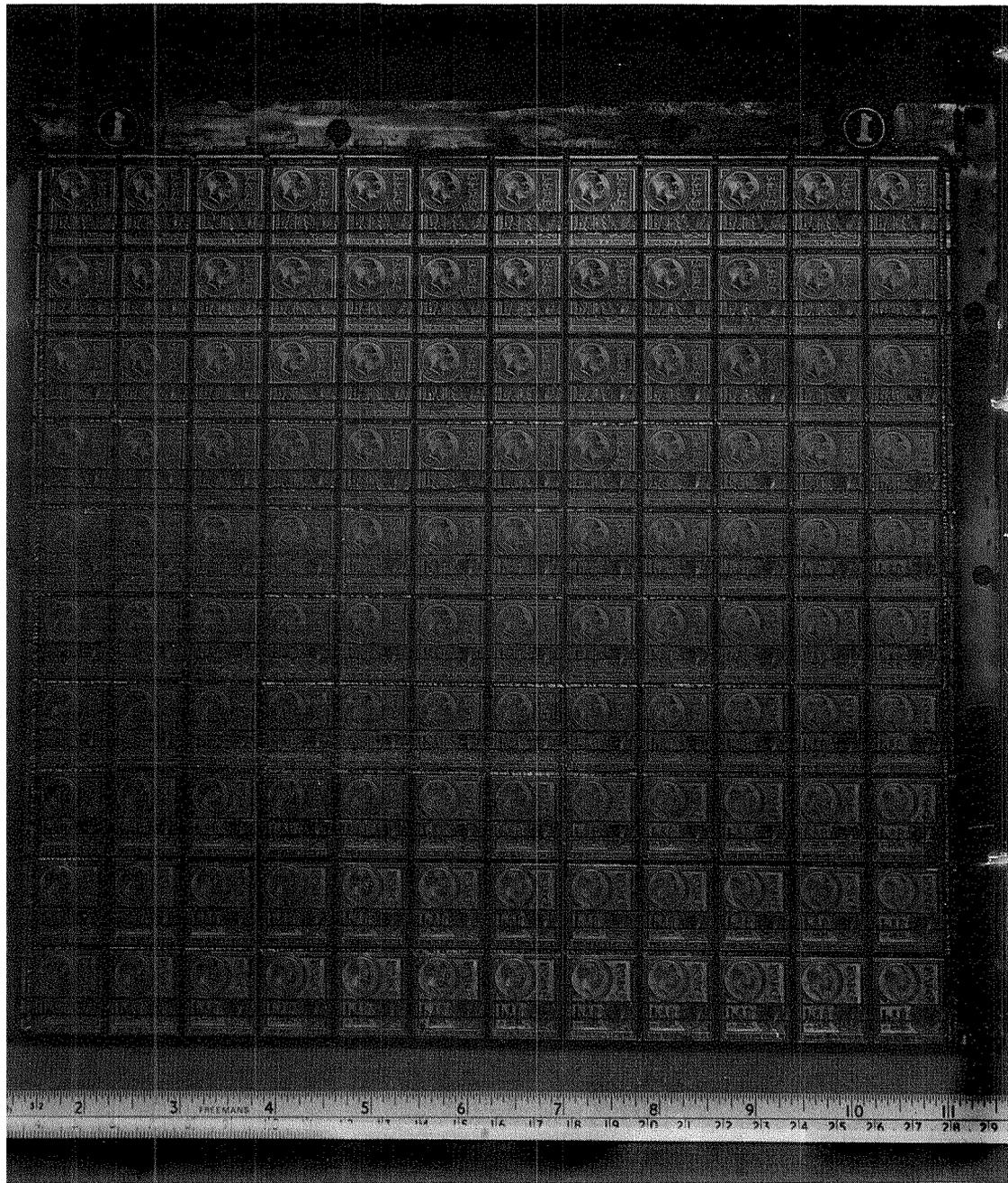
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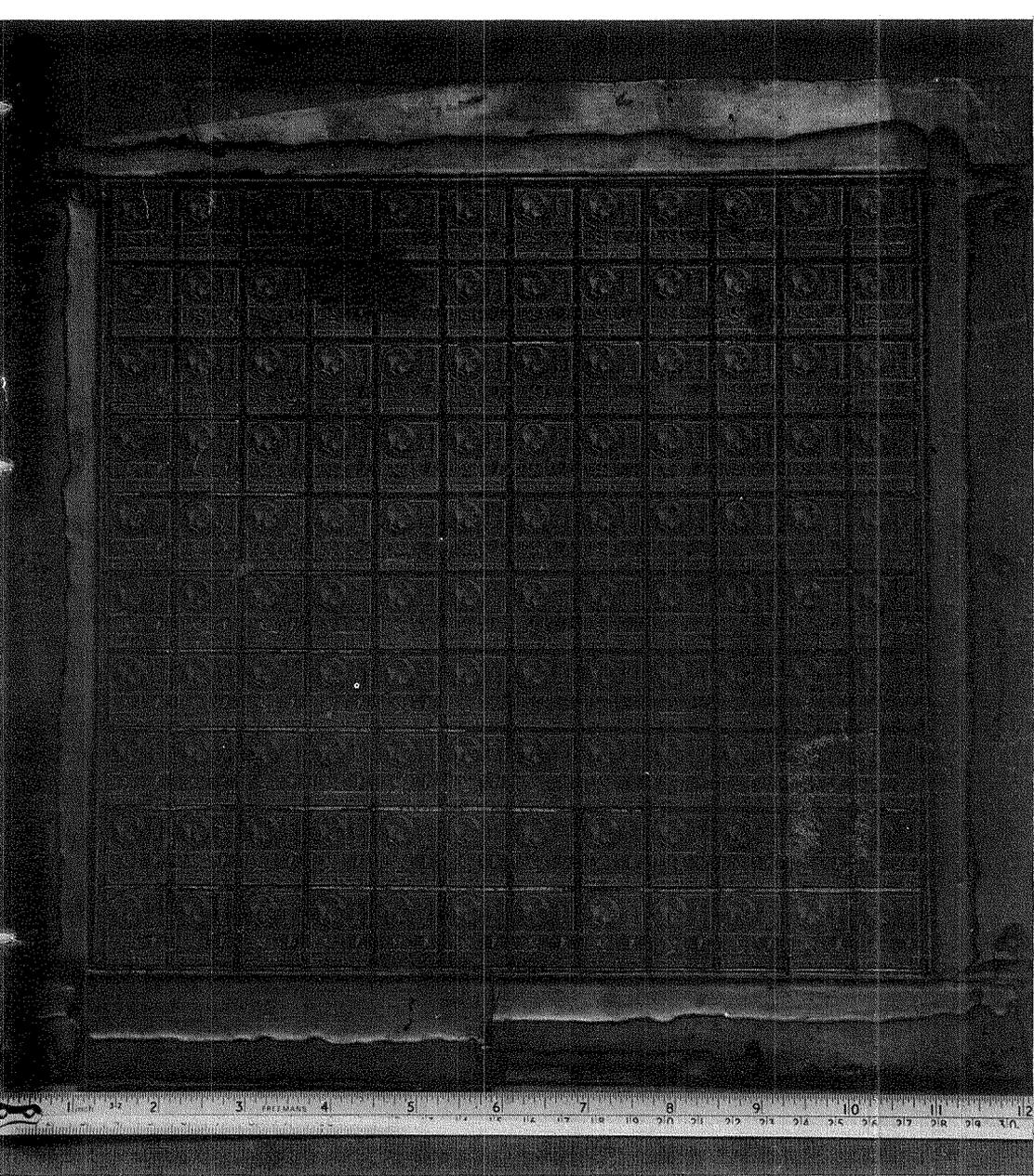
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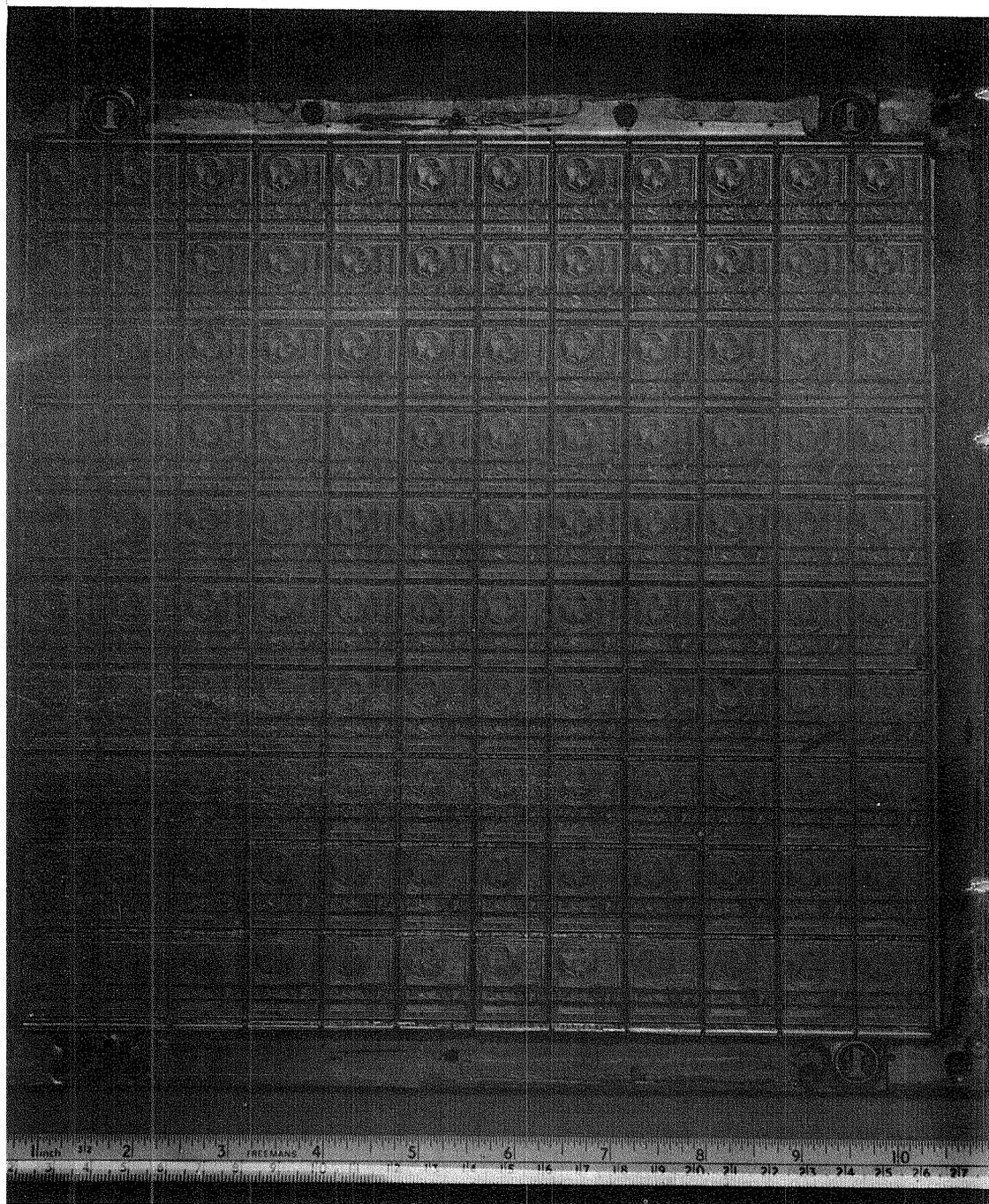
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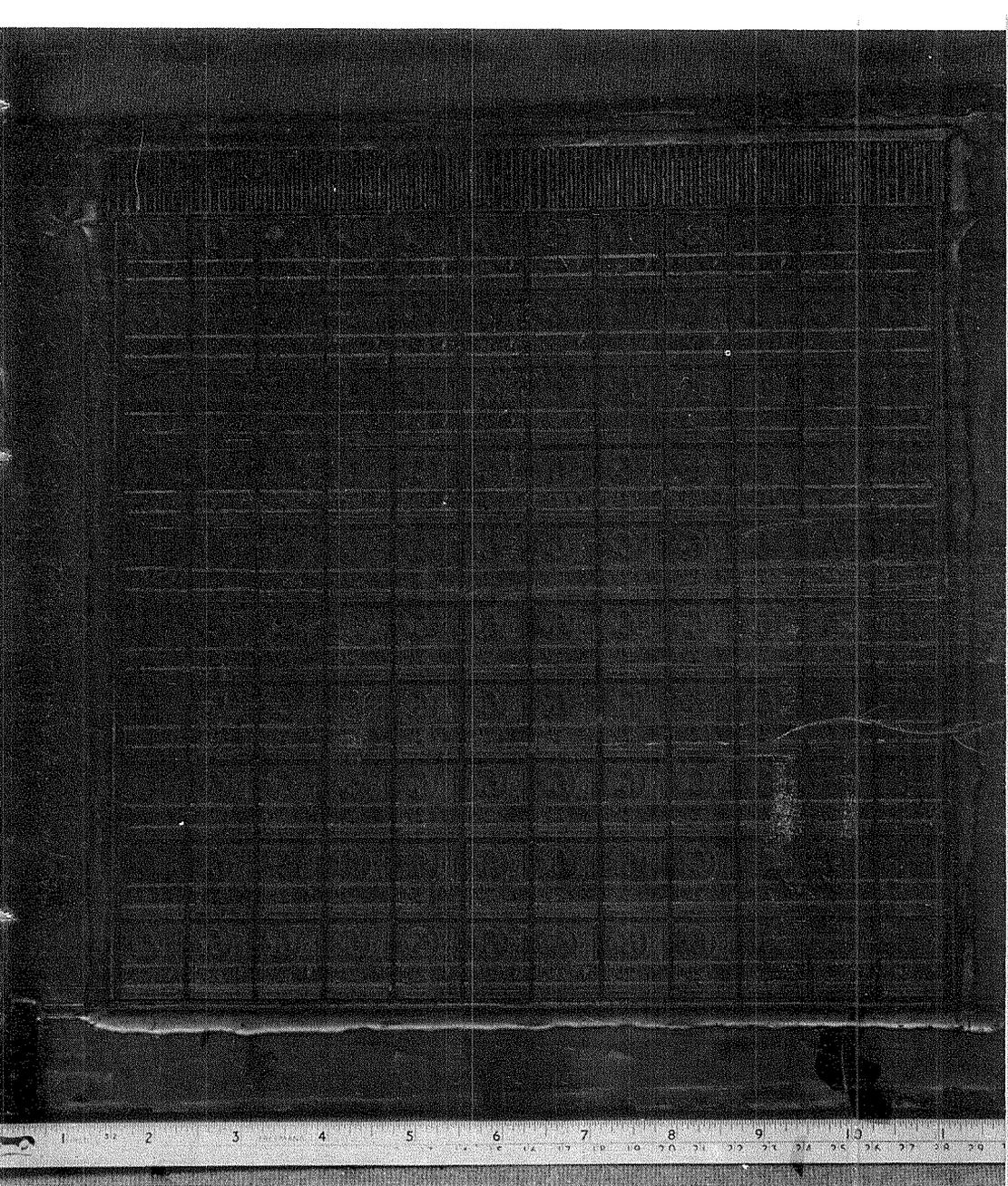
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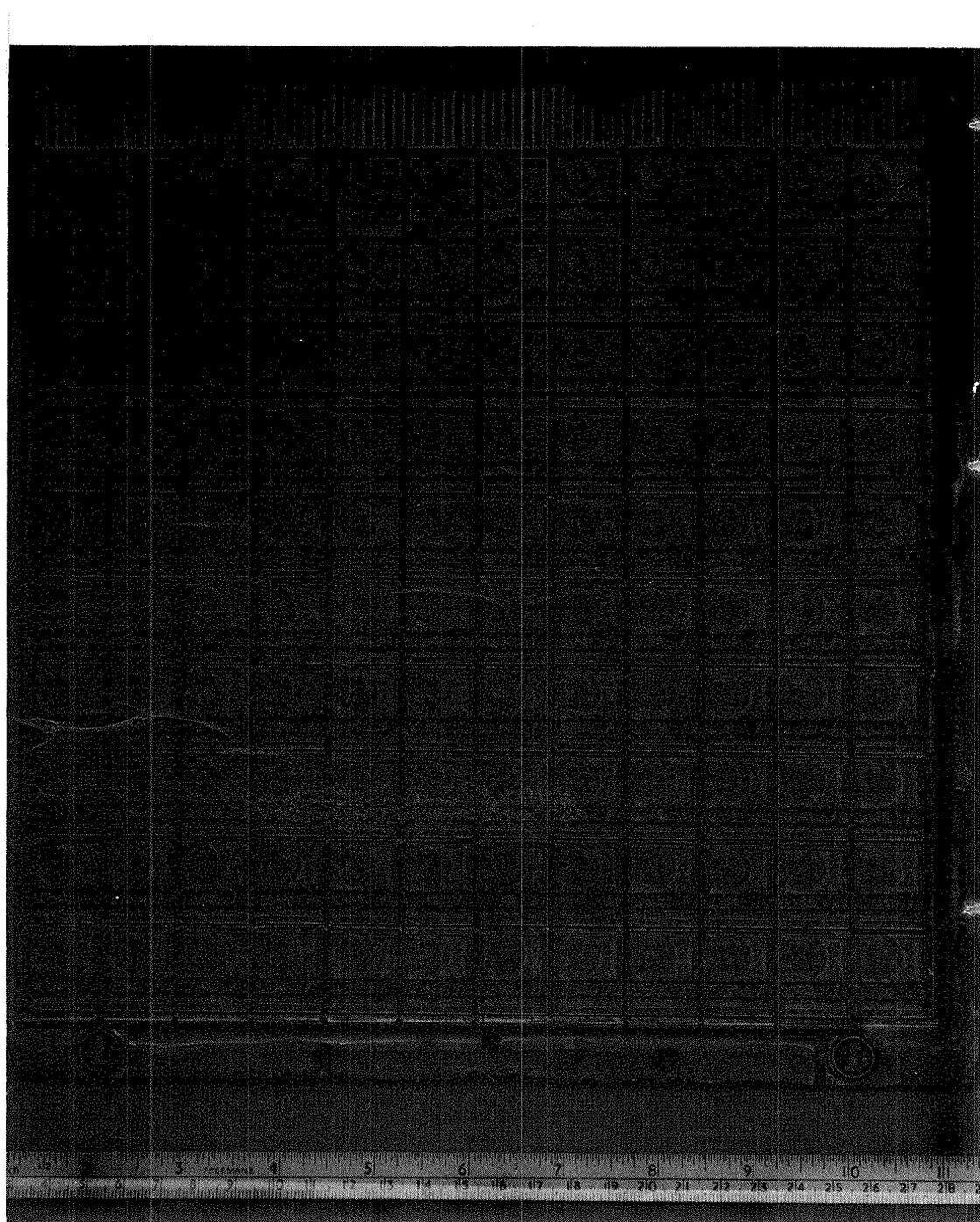
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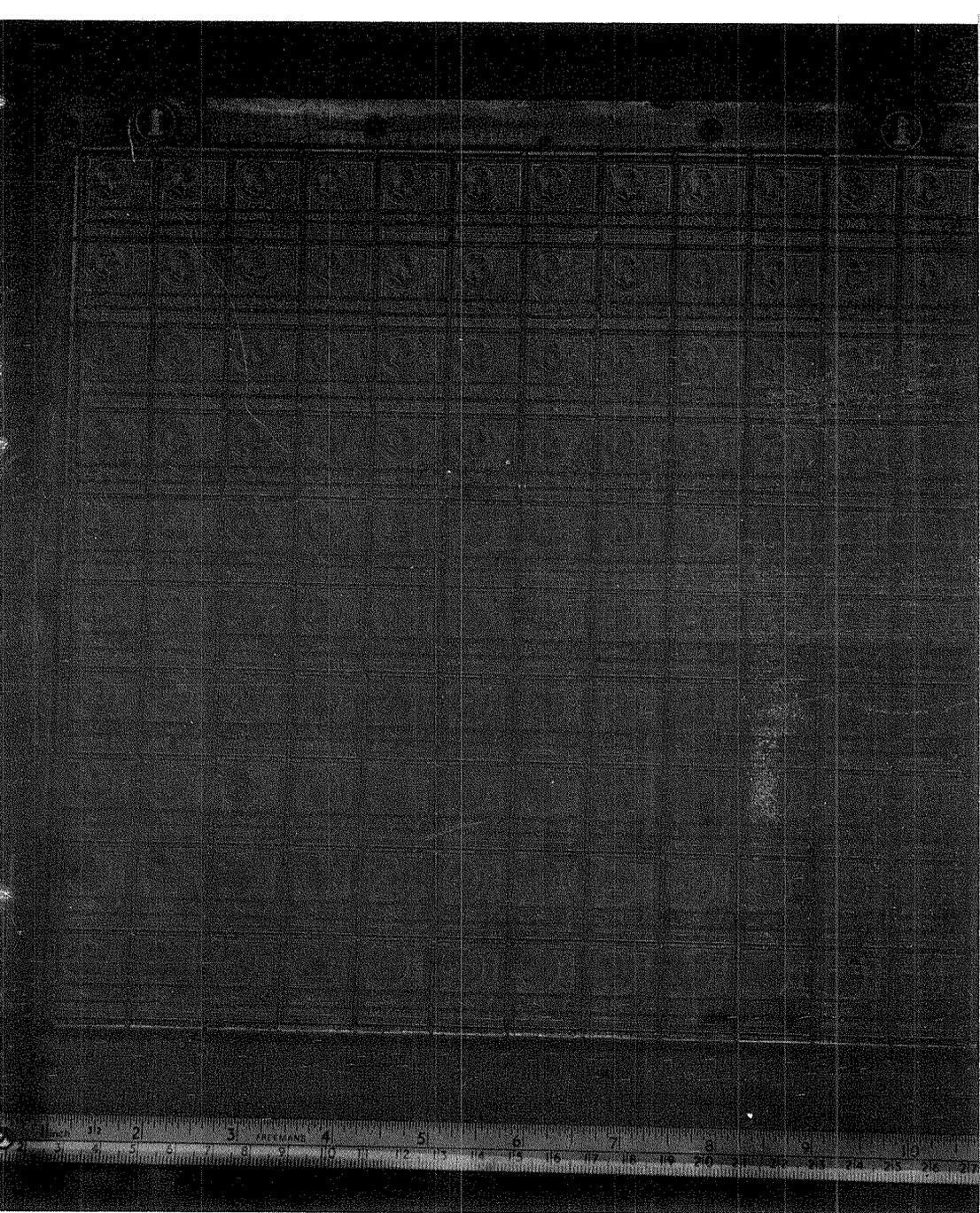
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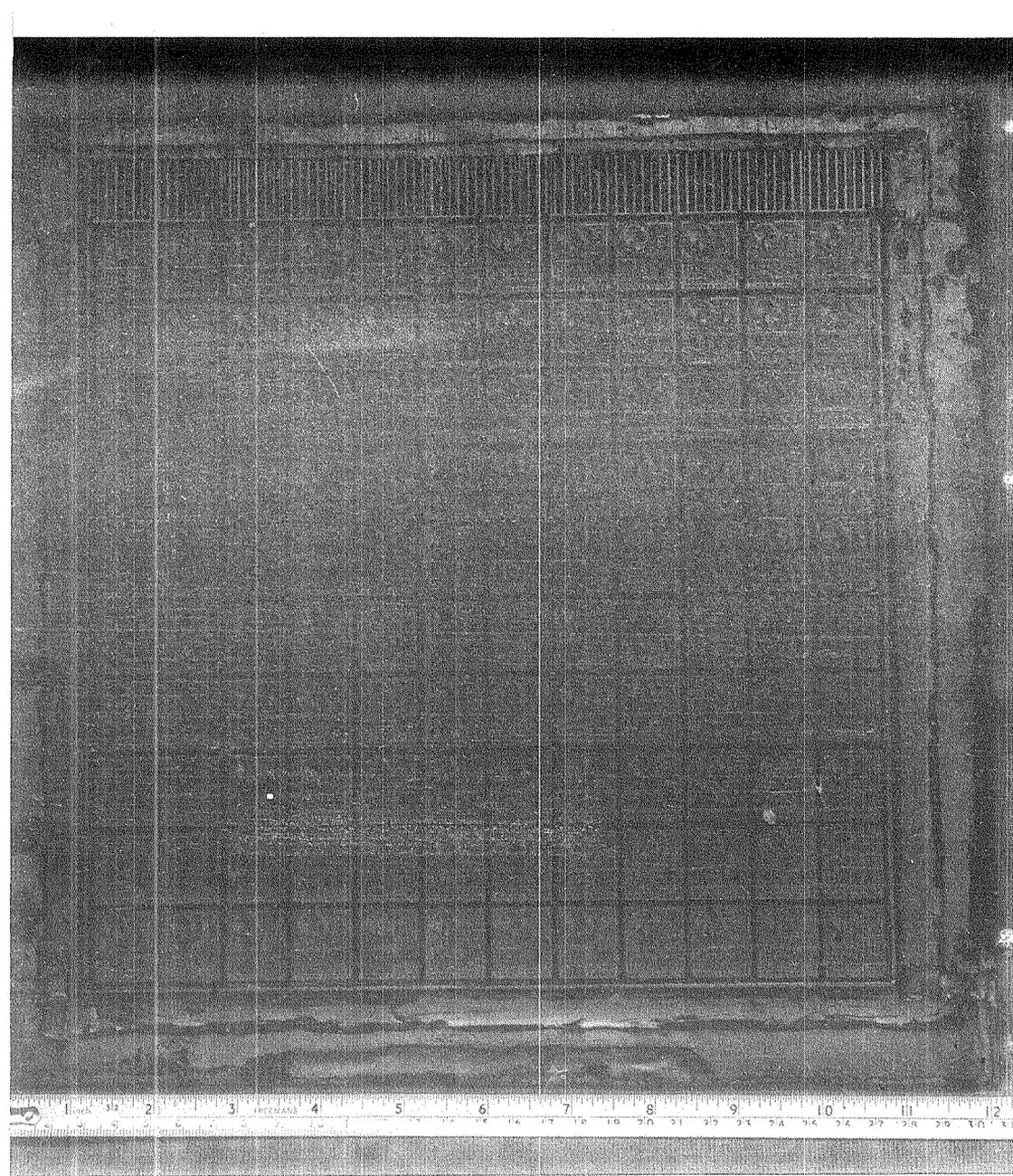
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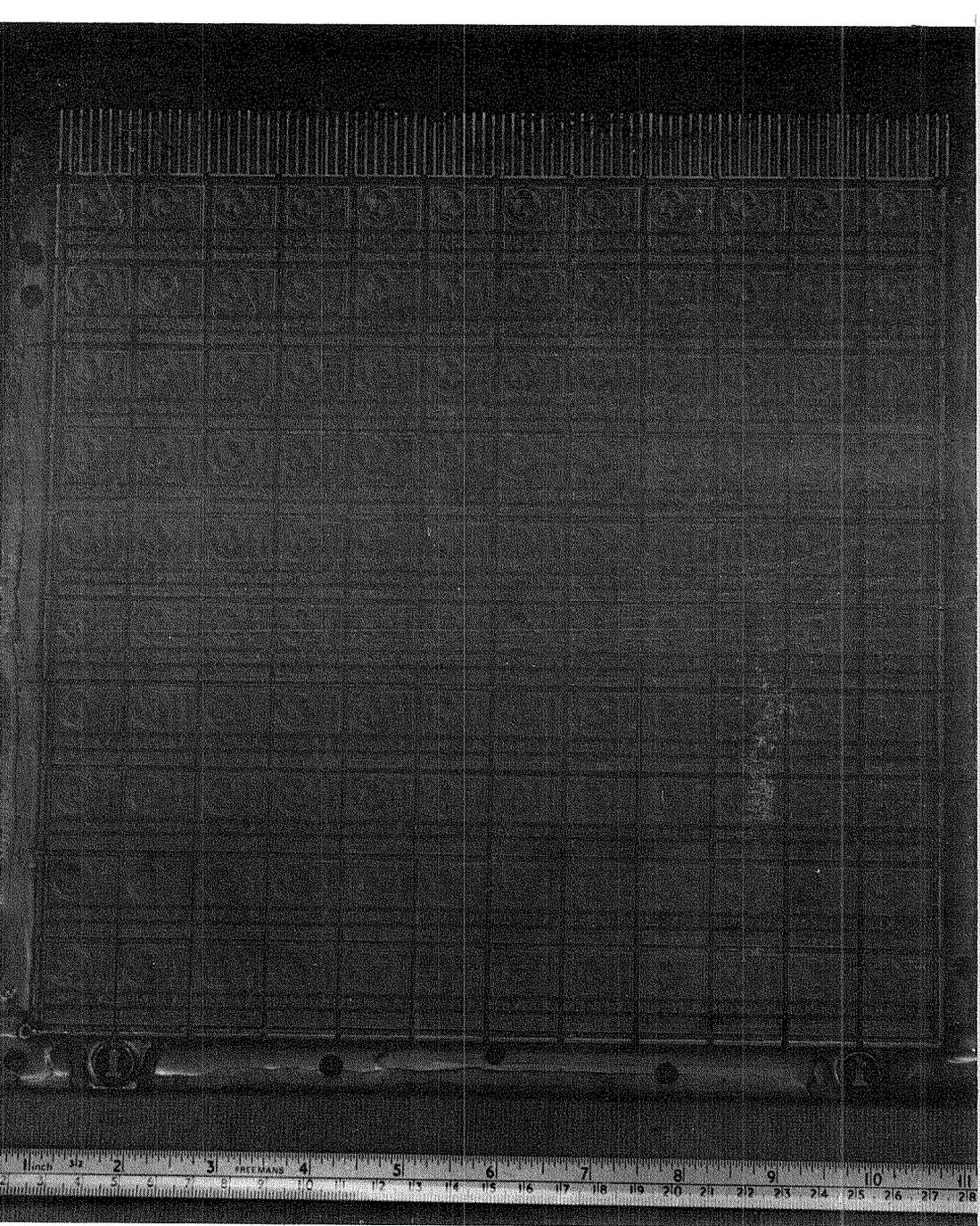
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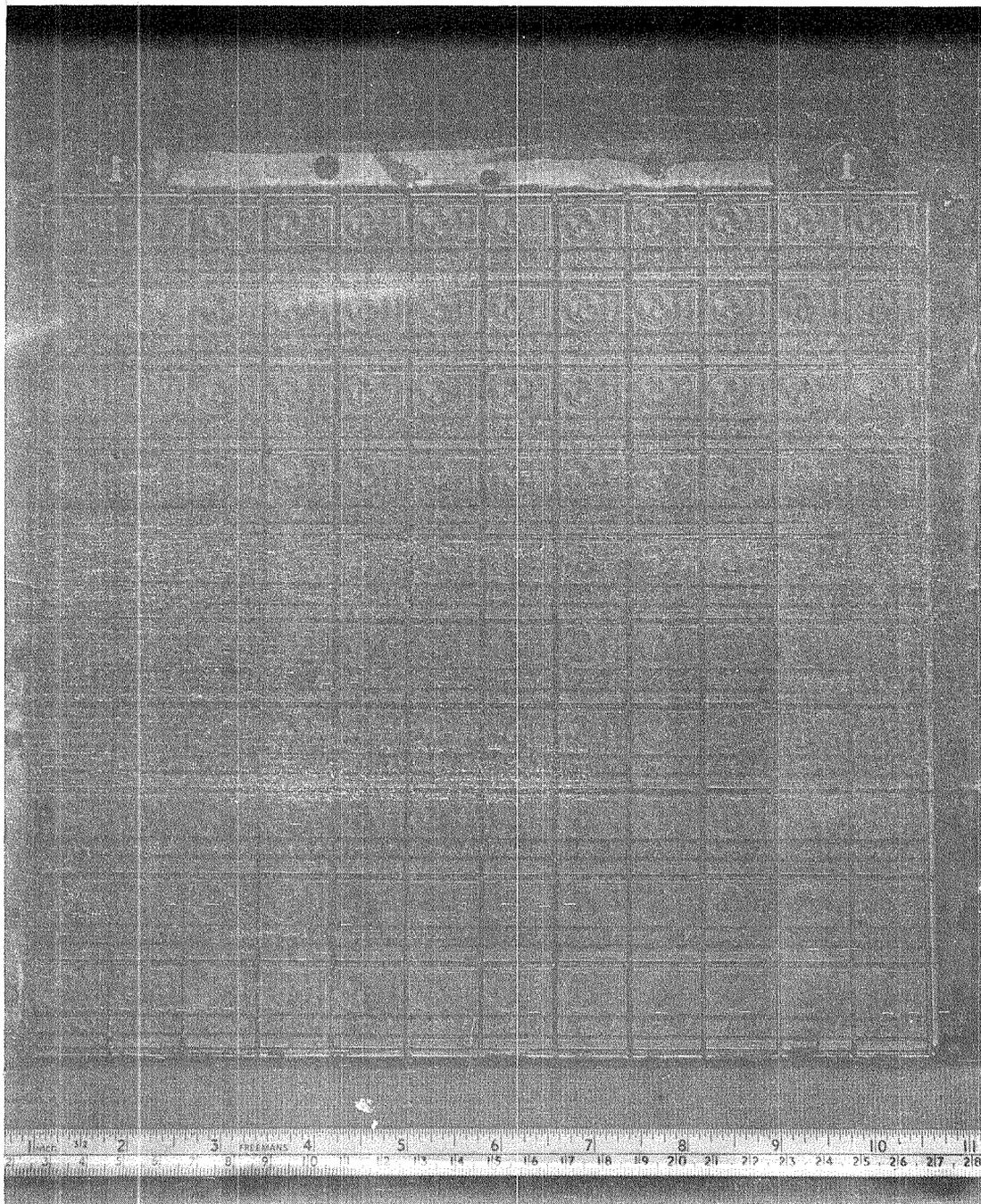
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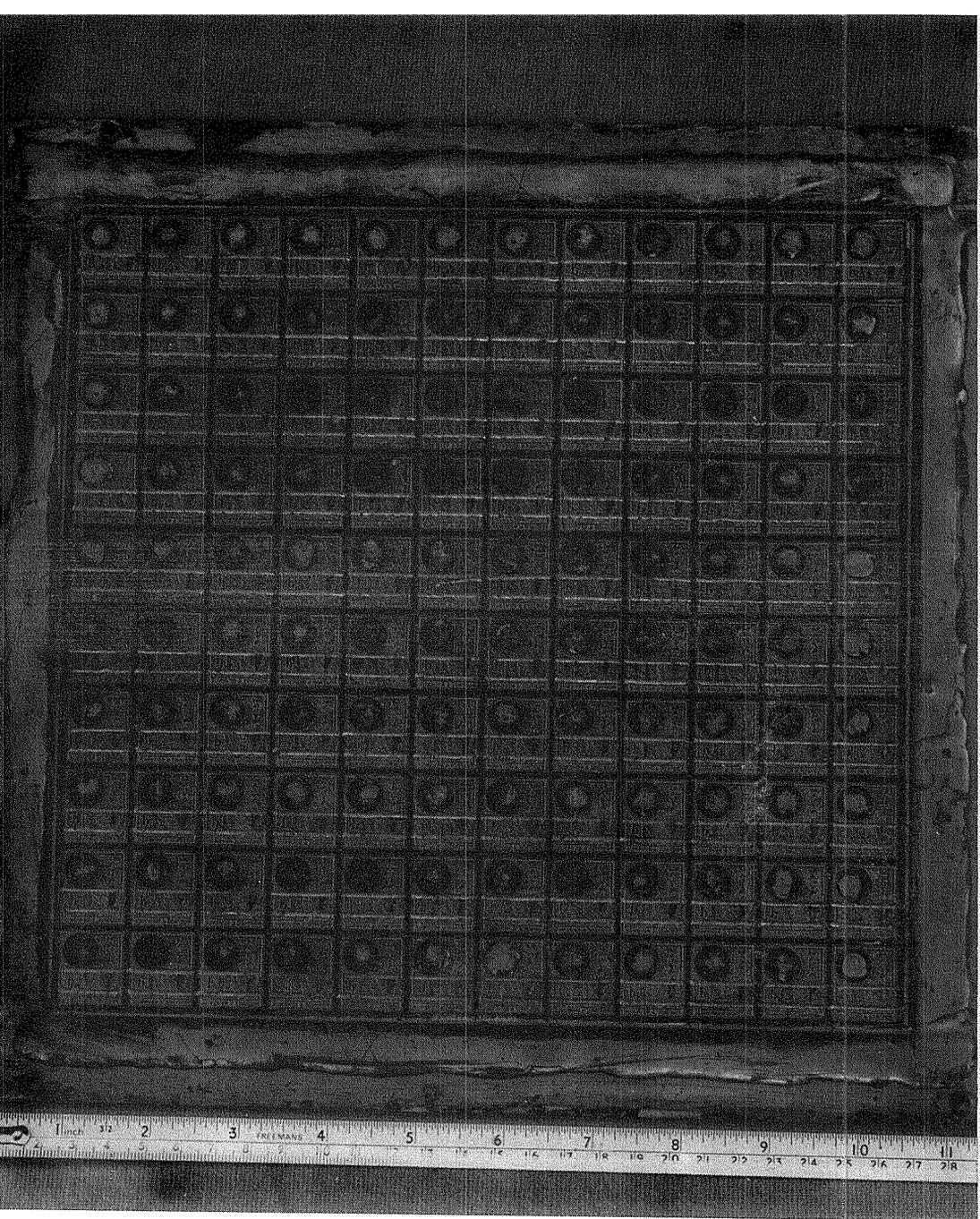
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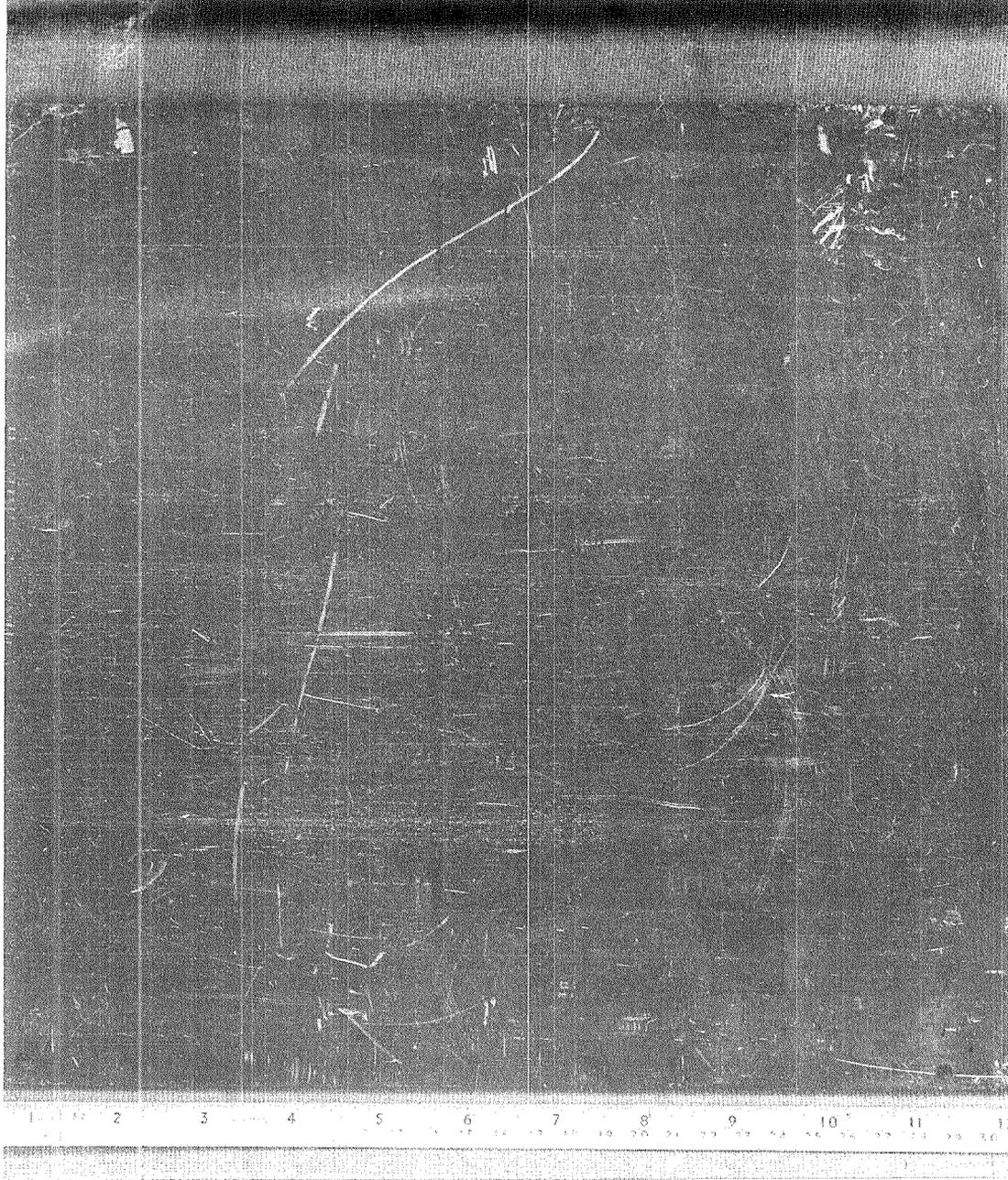
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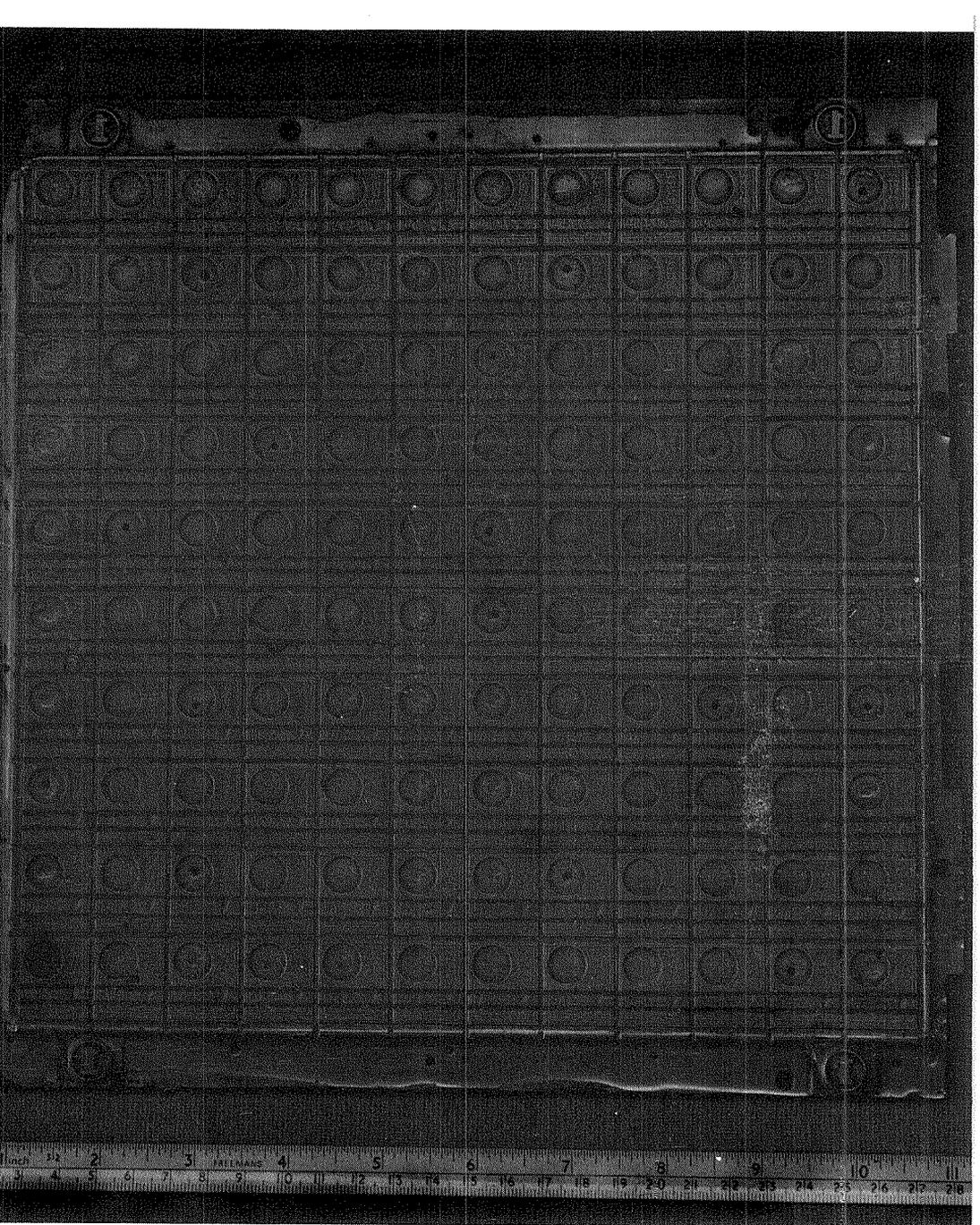
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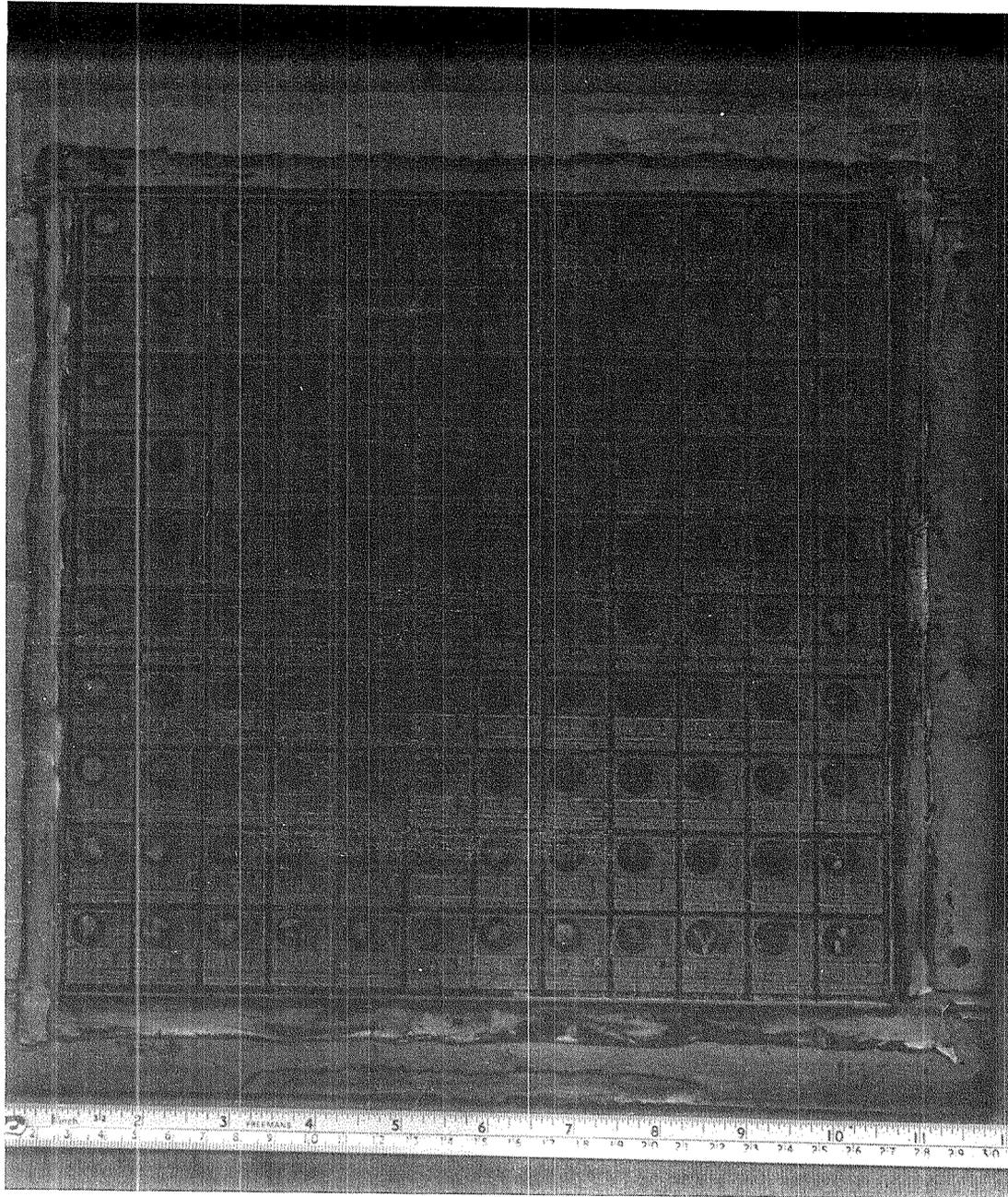
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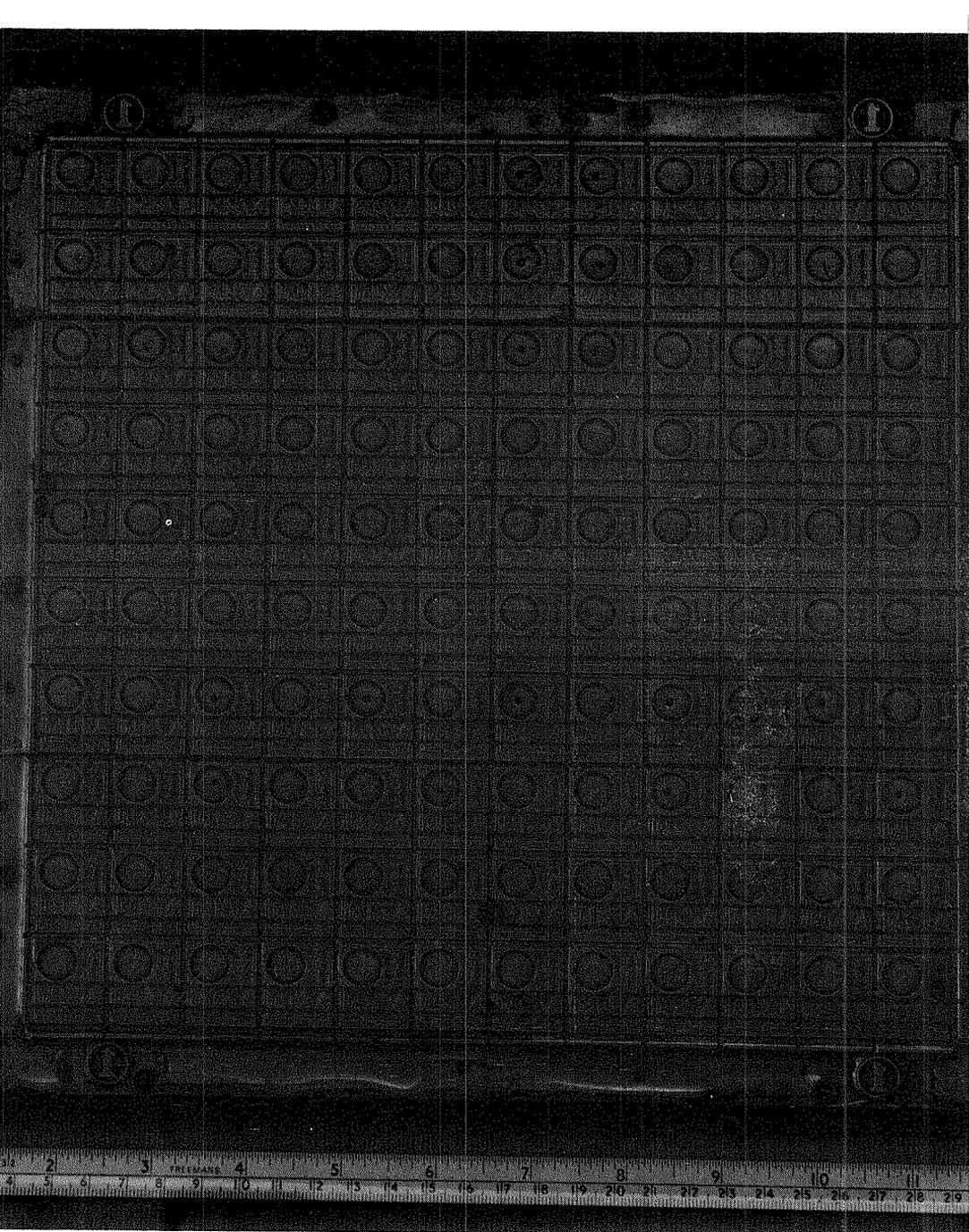
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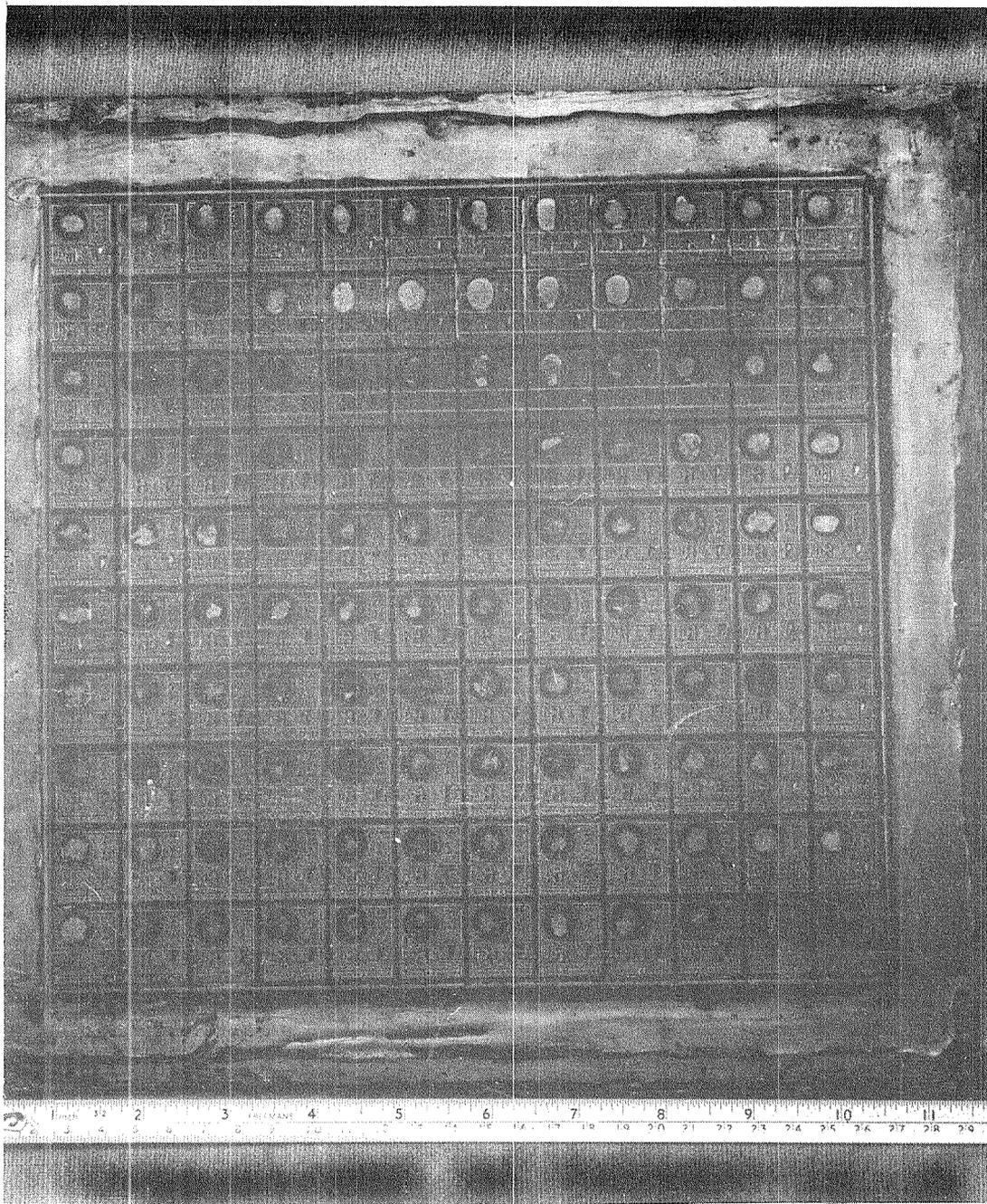
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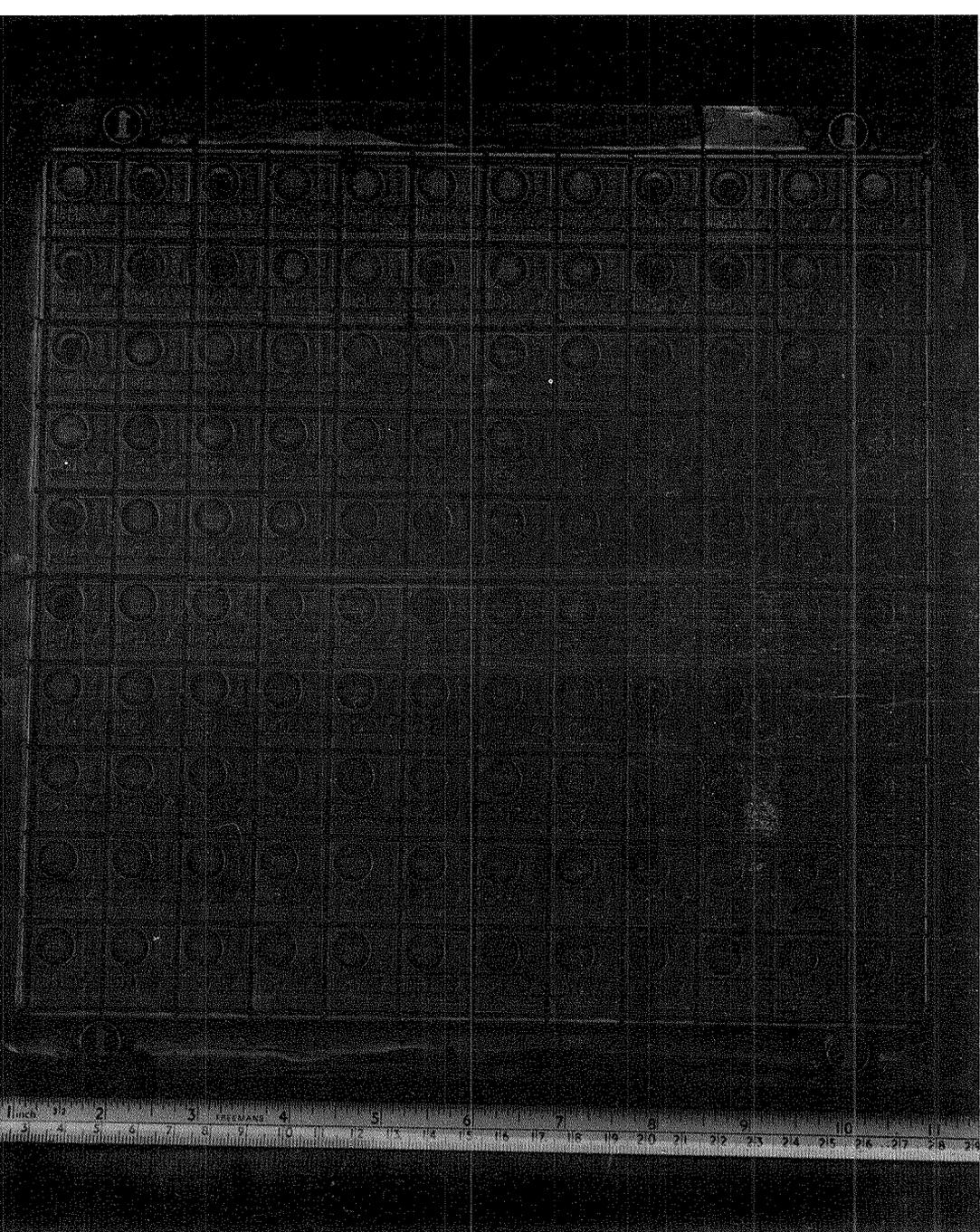
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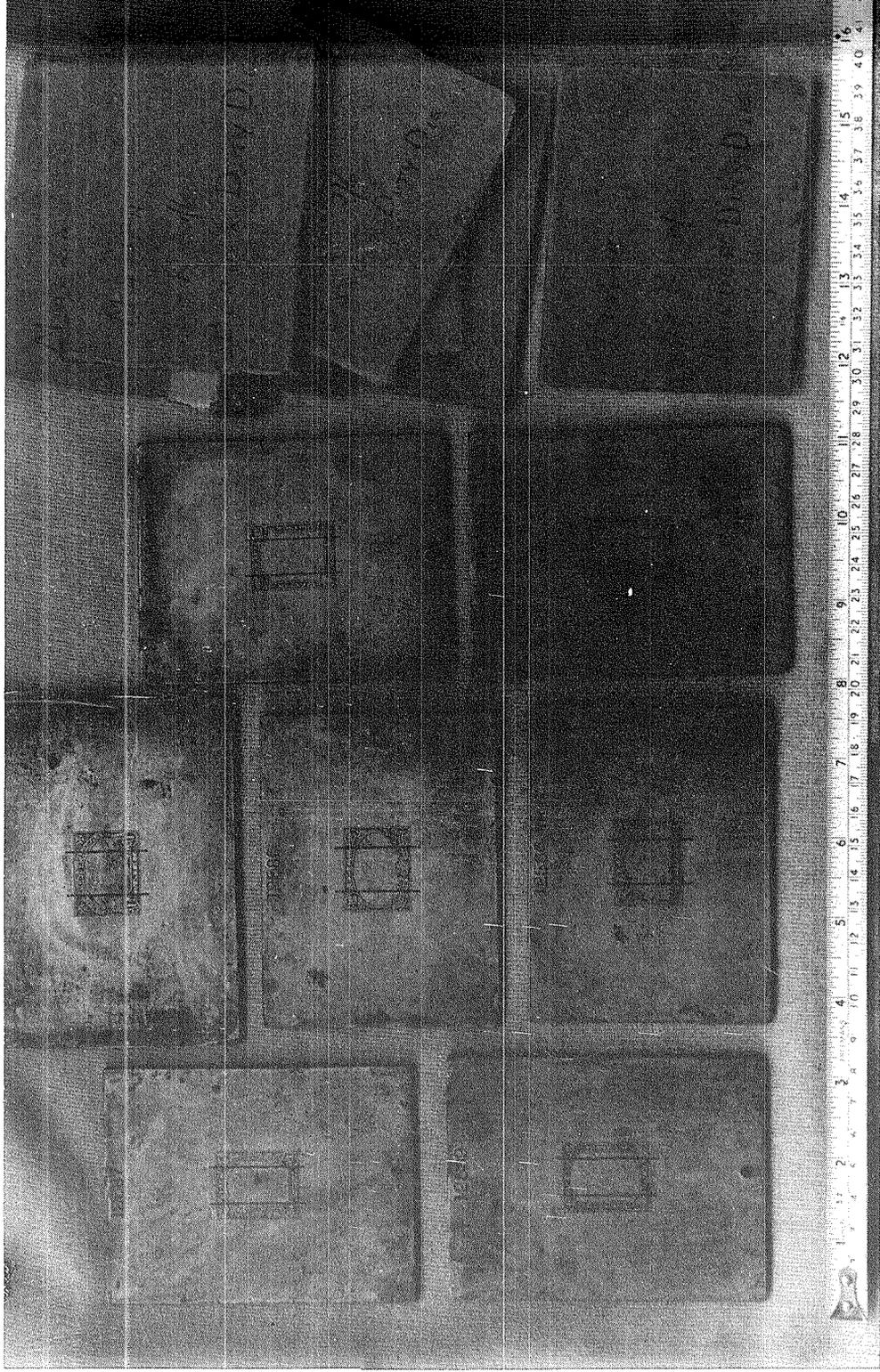
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(Photo No 77)



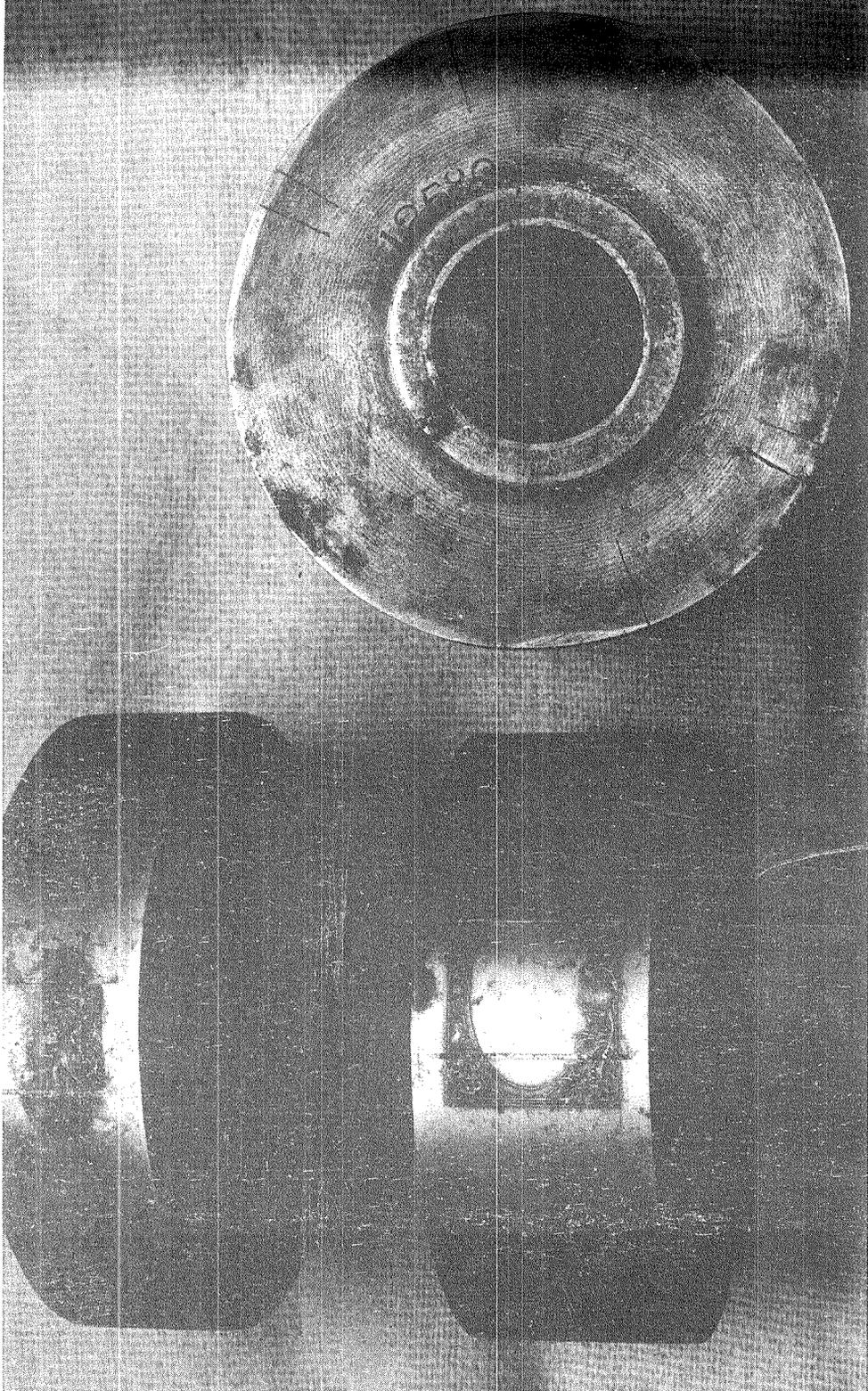
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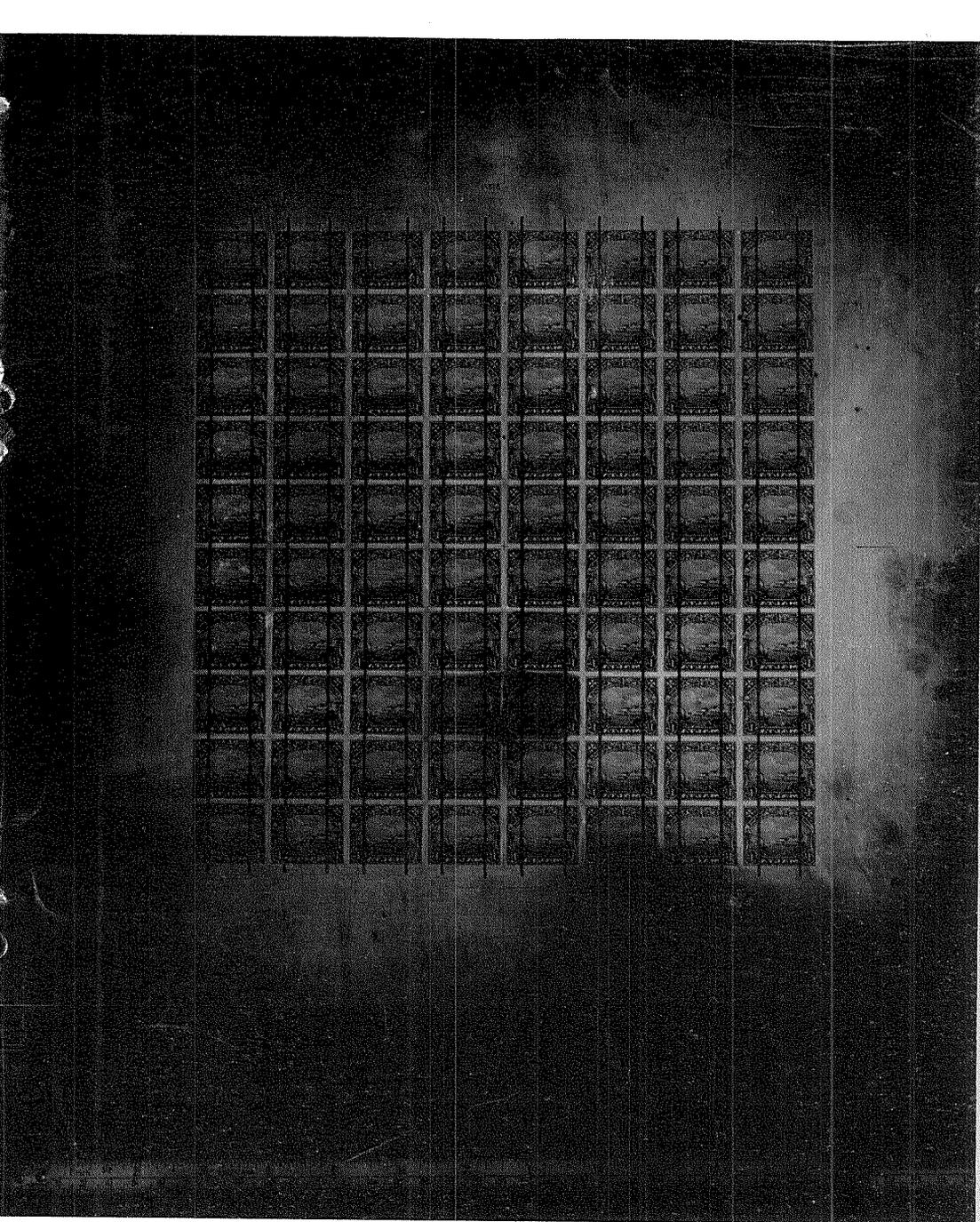
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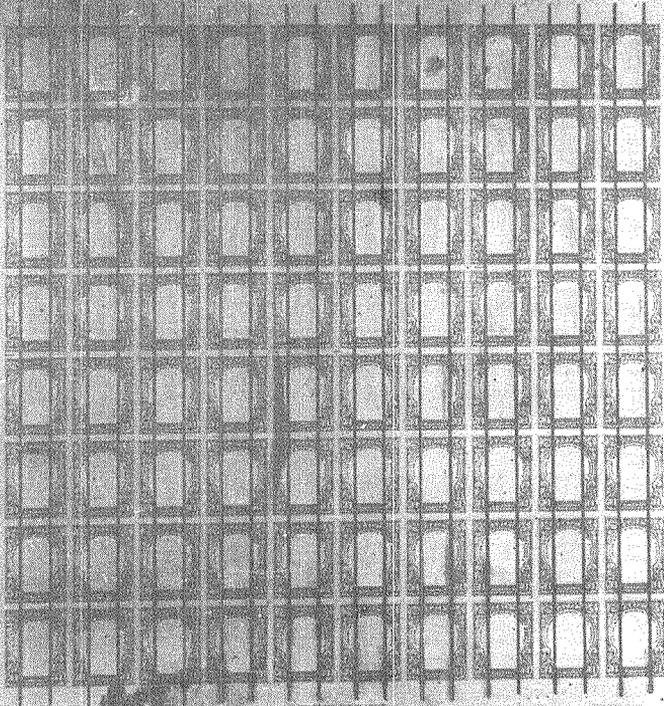
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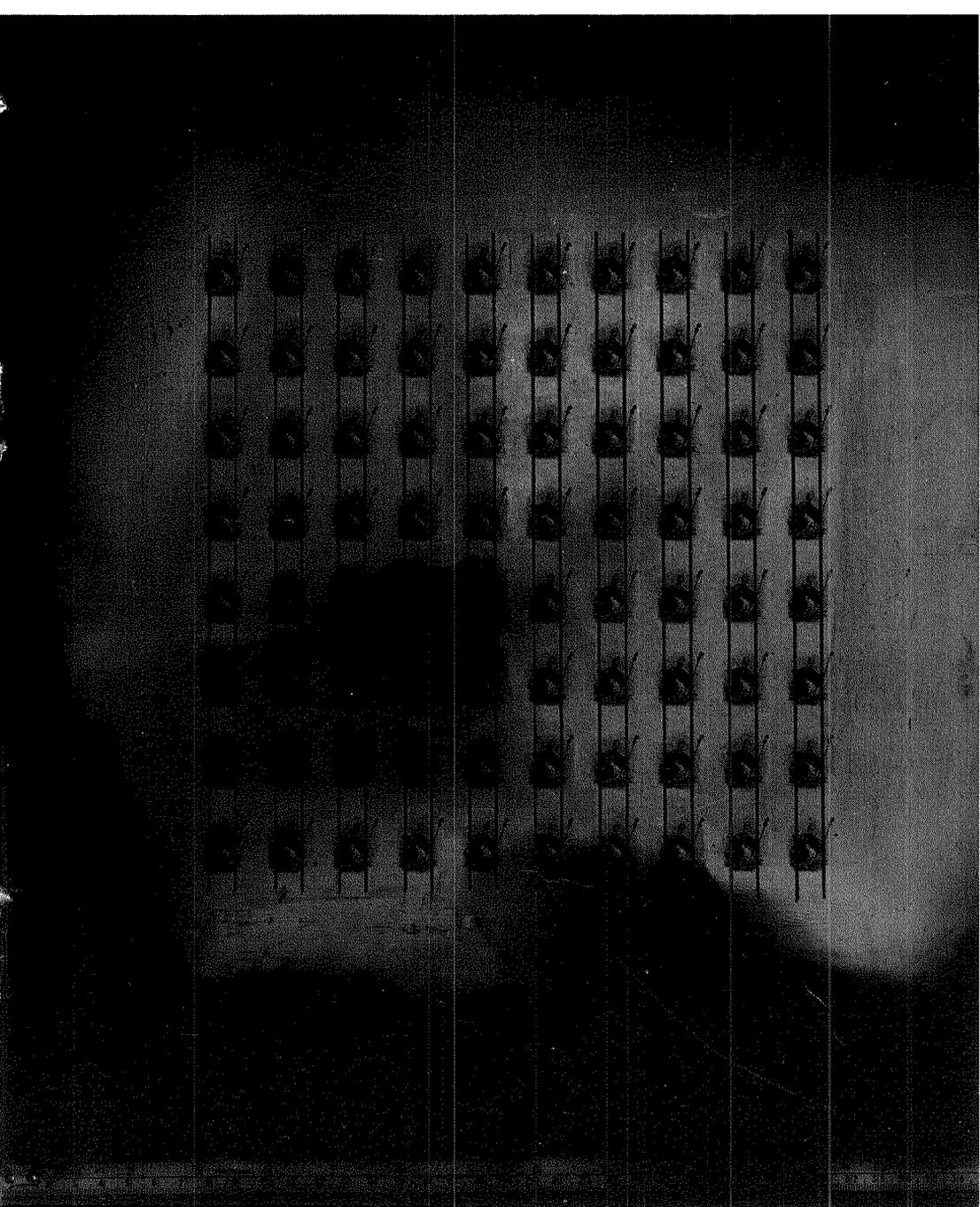
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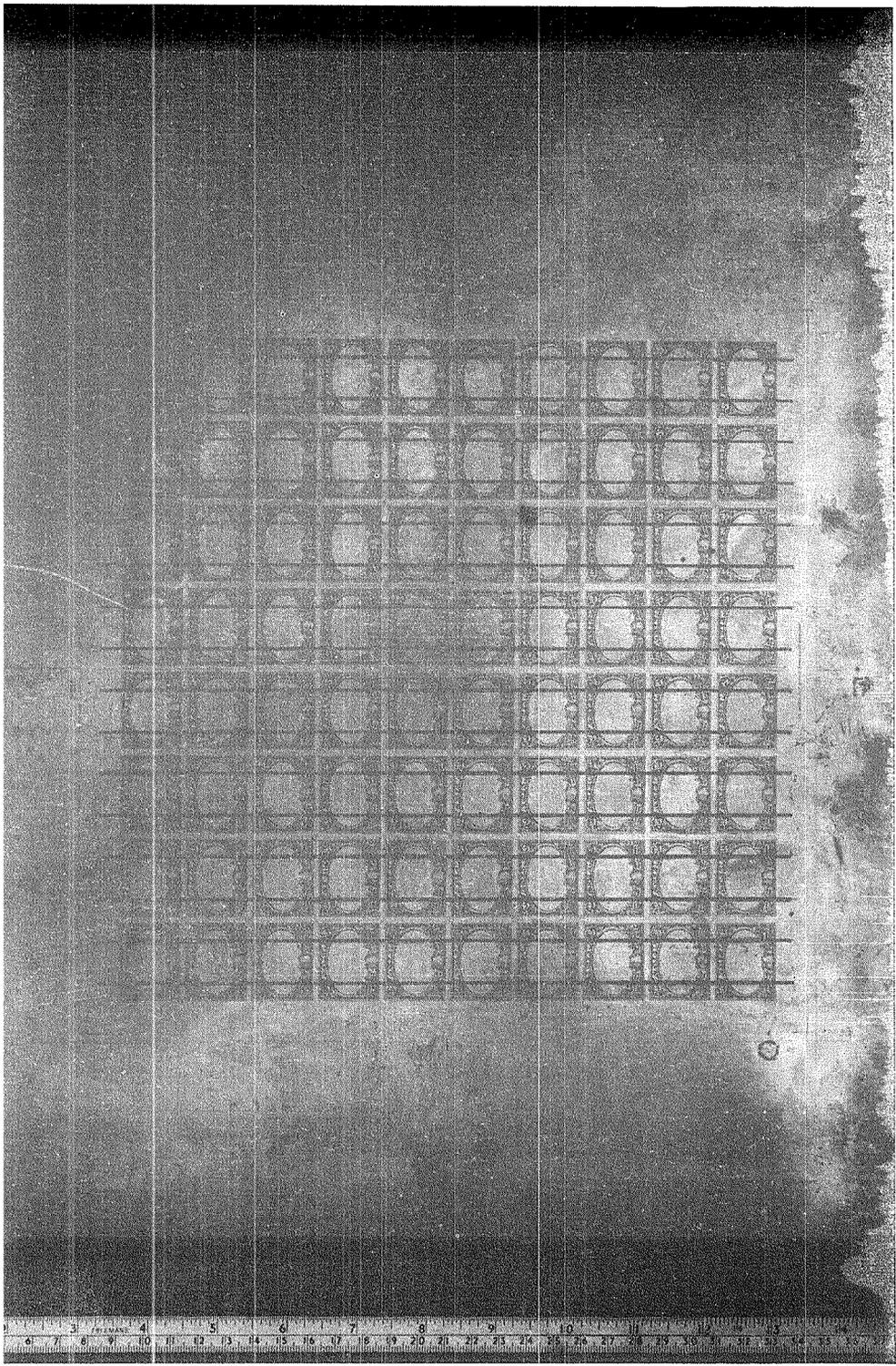
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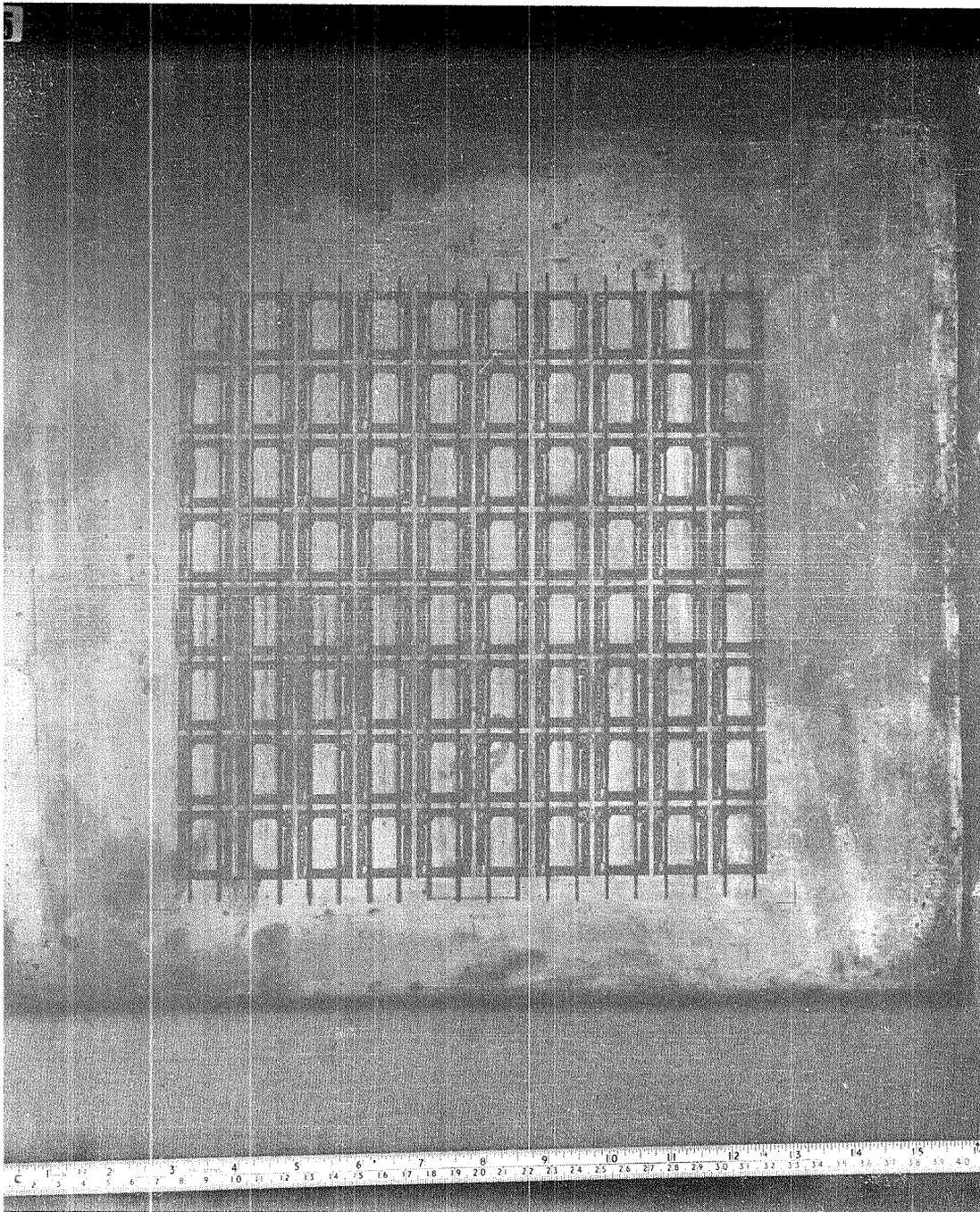
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(Photo No 85)



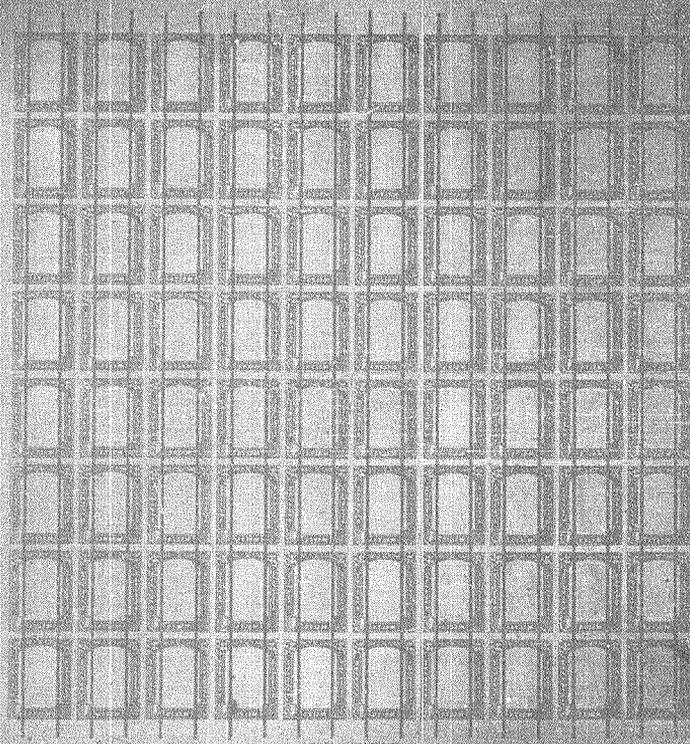
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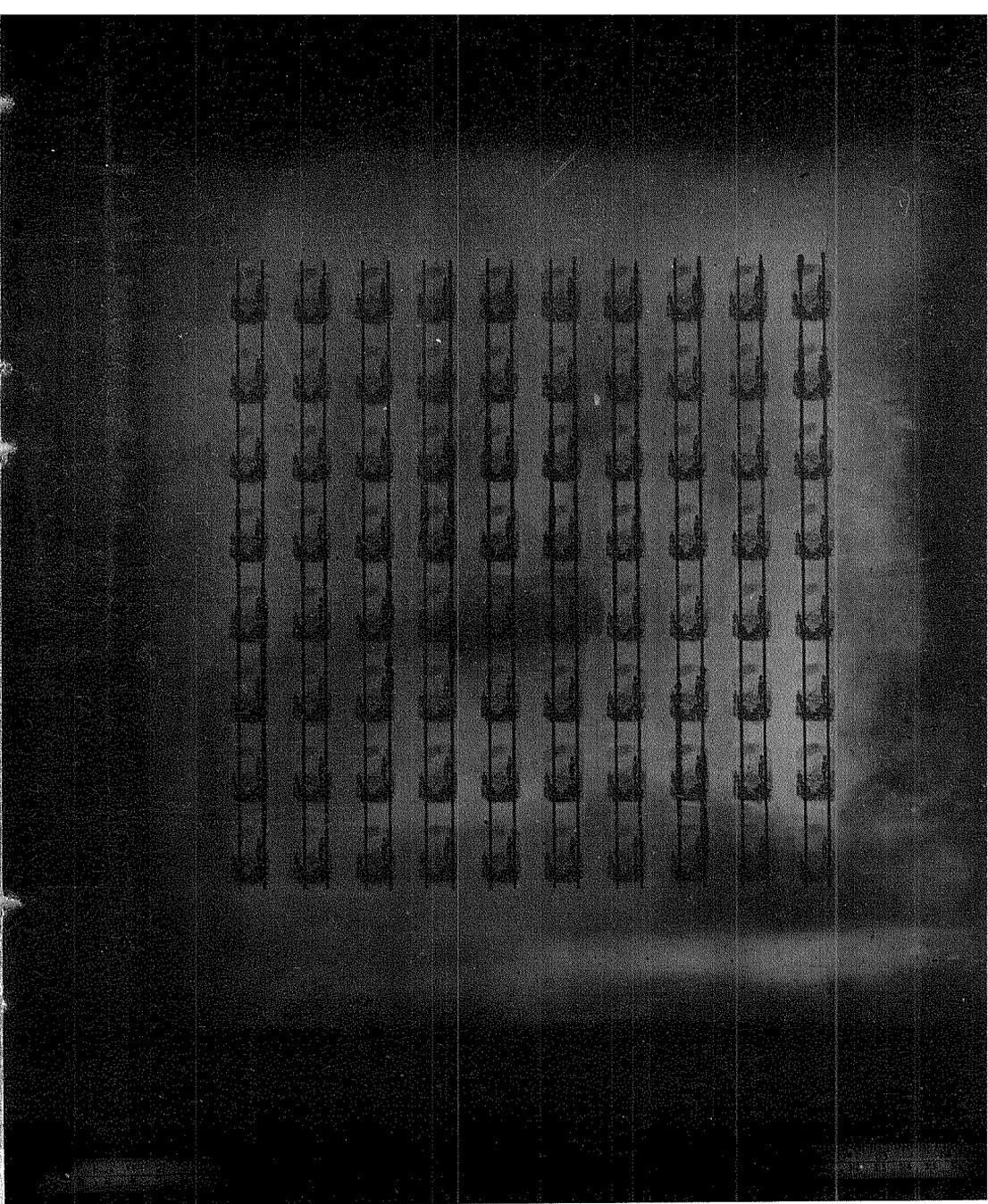
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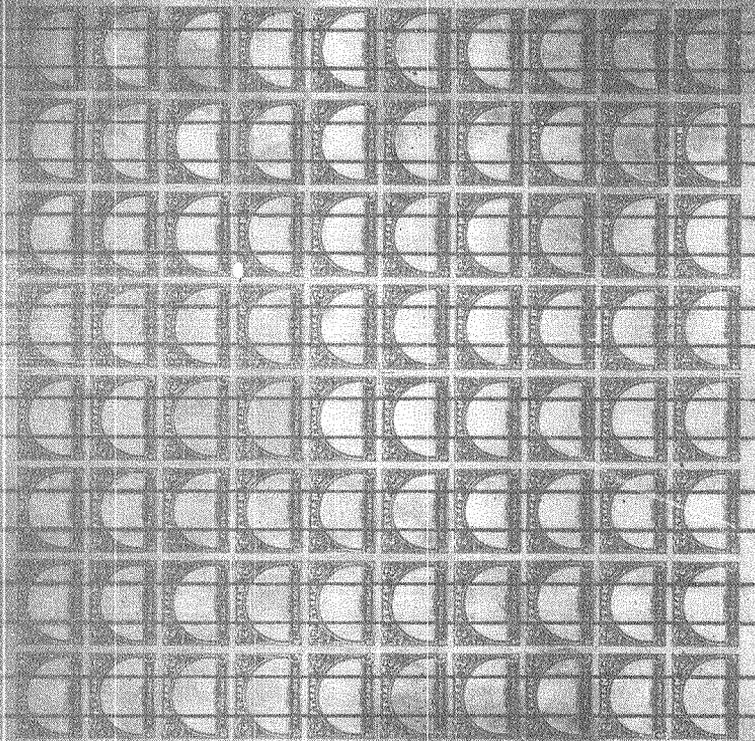
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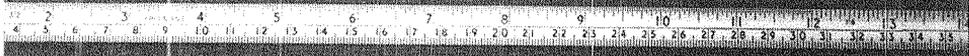
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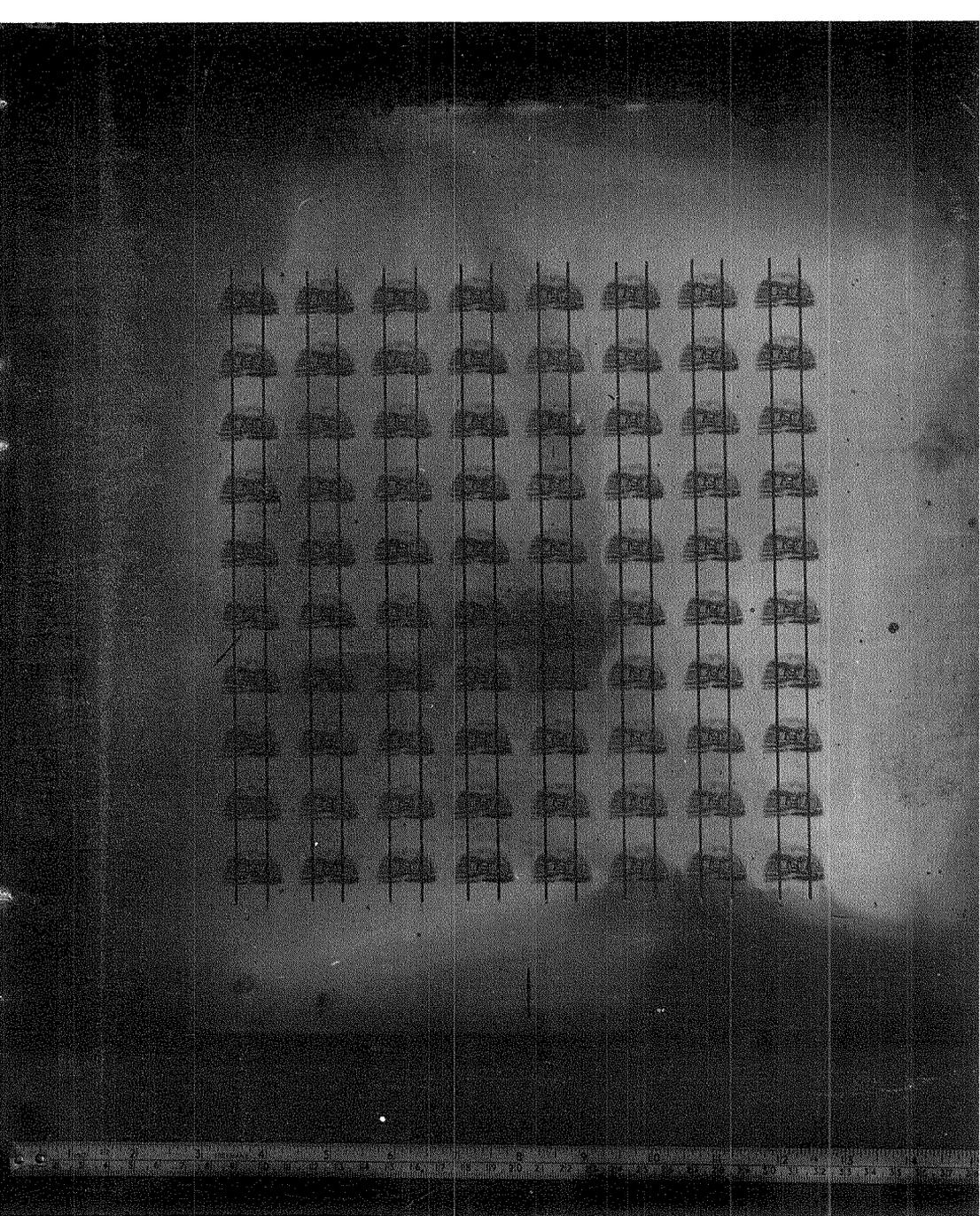


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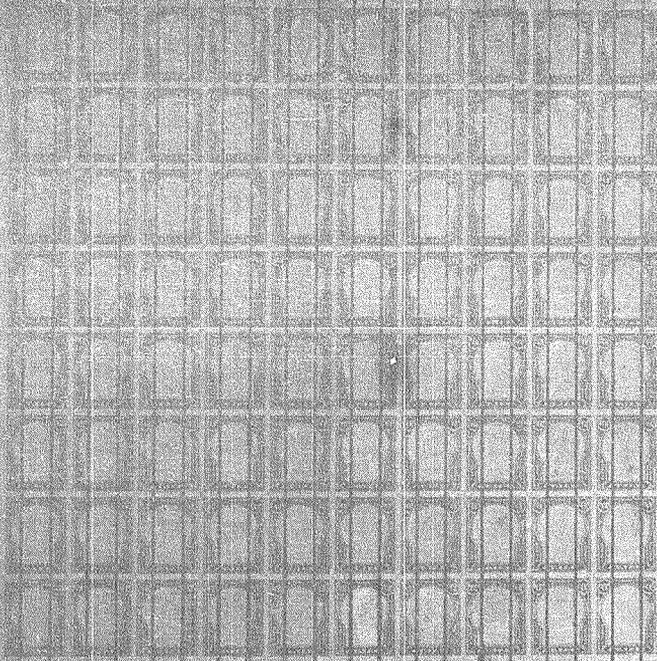


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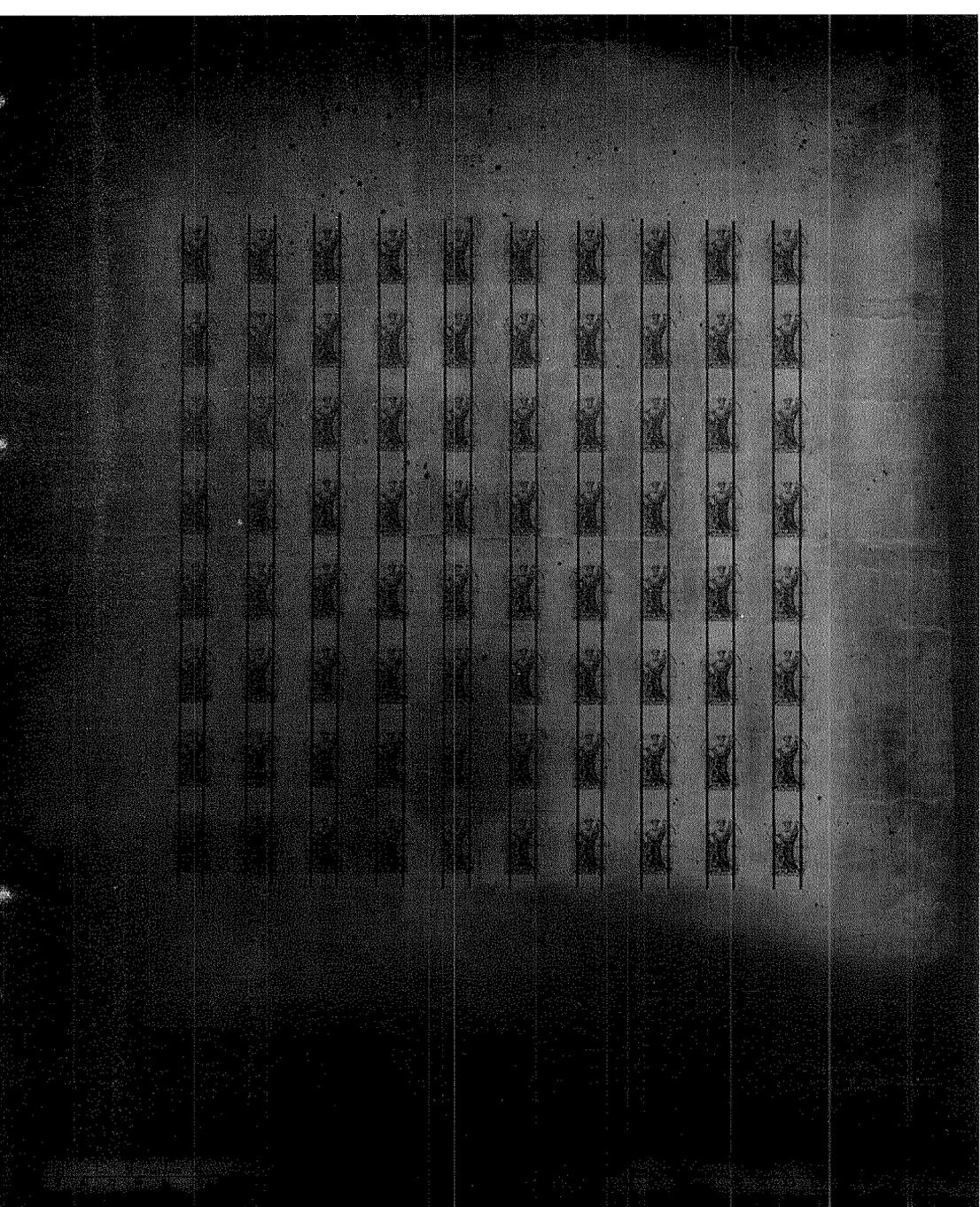




(Photo No 92)



(Photo No 93)



(Photo No 94)

**2-5-88**

EMS Datapost – an expedited mail service – was introduced by the Malta Post Office on 2nd. May, 1988. It provides a speedy and efficient means for the transmission of postal articles between Malta and the U.K. Its main features are the following:

- (a) Delivery times are guaranteed to all addresses in the U.K. The fees paid are refunded to the sender if the delivery times are not met.
- (b) All outgoing EMS Datapost items are insured against theft, loss or damage up to a maximum of Lm1,000.
- (c) All types of business papers and merchandise can be sent by EMS Datapost, the maximum size being 1.5m longest dimension and 3m length and girth combined while the maximum weight is 20Kg.

Incoming EMS Datapost items are delivered against receipt to all addresses in Malta in the late afternoon on the same day of receipt from abroad and the following morning to all addresses in Gozo, if they do not contain goods which are subject to Customs duty. Items containing goods which may be subject to Customs duty can be cleared the morning following their receipt in Malta from the GPO Counters, Valletta and the Victoria Branch Post Office in Gozo.

Further information may be obtained from all Branch Post Offices or by phoning 220345 in the morning and 224421 in the afternoon.

**4-5-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Tliet Mitt Sena – Mit-Twaqqif tal-Parroċċa – ‘Santa Marija Tal-Qala’ – 1688 – 1988” was used from the 4th. to the 7th. May, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

The slogan means: “Three Hundred Years – Since The Inauguration Of The Parish – Santa Marija Tal-Qala – 1688 – 1988”.

**5-5-88**

The PMG notified that new postage paid hand-stamps were to be used at the GPO and all BPOs in Malta and Gozo as from Thursday, 5th. May, 1988. The postage paid hand-stamps which will be exclusively used on EMS Datapost items, are inscribed “Postage Paid – Malta” and with the name of the respective locality.

**10-5-88**

In to-day’s Govt. Gazette the PMG notified that the set of three designs submitted by Mr. Ray Gauci under the nome-de-plume Rambee had been placed first. The two sets of designs submitted by Mr. Tony Bugeja under the noms-de-plume Arrow and Spokes had been placed second and third respectively. A prize of Lm375 was awarded for the set of designs placed first. The three designs of this set were to be produced on the XXIV Olympiad commemorative postage set. Prizes of Lm100 and Lm60 were awarded for the sets placed second and third respectively.

The ninety-one designs which participated in the competition were exhibited at the GPO from 8.00am to 1.00pm on the 13th. and 14th. May, 1988.

**13-5-88**

The PMG notified that new hand date-stamps were to be put in use on Friday, 13th. May, 1988, at the Mosta, Sliema and Victoria, Gozo, Branch Post Offices. Their respective inscriptions are “Mosta – Malta”, “Sliema – Malta” and “Victoria – Gozo” (Fig. 1, 2, 3).

The old hand date-stamps which were replaced were withdrawn from use at the close of business on Thursday, 12th. May, 1988.

**27-5-88**

A special hand postmark marking the centenary of the British Medical Association (Malta Branch) was used on the 27th. and 28th. May, 1988, from 8.00am to 1.00pm at the Philatelic Counter of the GPO and from 8.00am to 6.00pm at the Central Mail Room (Fig. 4).

The postmark is inscribed, “British Medical Association (Malta Branch) 1888 – 1988 – Valetta Malta”. The postmark also incorporates the logo of the British Medical Association (Malta Branch).

**27-5-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “15th. Anniversary – International Trade Trophy – Phoenicia – Malta”, was used on the 27th. and 28th. May, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

**28-5-88**

The "International Commemorations" set, issued to-day. A special hand postmark was used on the first day of issue (Fig. 5).

**1-6-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan marking World Environment Day, was used during the period 1st. to 4th. June, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

The slogan reads: "Jum Dinji Ta' L-Ambjent - 5 ta' Ġunju - L-Ambjent Tiegħek U Tiegħi".

The slogan means: "World Environment Day - 5th. June - The Environment Is Yours And Mine".

**9-6-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "Comm. Of Med. Universities - Third General Assembly - 10-11 June 1988 - Malta", was used on the 9th., 10th. and 11th. June, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

**10-6-88**

The PMG notified that a machine postage paid stamp was to be used at the Mosta Branch Post Office as from Friday, 10th. June, 1988. The stamp has inscribed thereon "Mosta Malta - Paid" and will be used for the 2c, 3c and 4c denominations. With effect from the same date, the machine postage paid stamps at Birkirkara, Hamrun, Paola and Sliema Branch Post Offices, which were being used for the 2c and 3c denominations, were also to be used for the 4c denomination.

**10-6-88**

In to-day's Govt. Gazette a call for applications was issued, for the post of Sub-Postmaster at Tarxien. Applications were to be received up to noon of Monday, 11th. July, 1988.

**20-6-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "9th. Seminar Of - European National - Olympic Committees - Malta 22-24 June 1988" was used from the 20th. to the 24th. June, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

**24-6-88**

On the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Sunday 26th. June, 1988, a machine stamp cancelling slogan was used at the Central Mail Room, on the 24th., 25th. and 27th. June, 1988. The slogan reads as follows: "Together In Strength - Without Drugs".

**28-6-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "World Day - Of Architecture - 1 July 1988" was used on the 28th. and 30th. June and 1st. July, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

**1-7-88**

The PMG notified that a Temporary Branch Post Office was to be opened at the International Fair Of Malta, Naxxar, from Friday, 1st. July to Friday, 15th. July, 1988, from 6.00pm to 9.30pm for the transaction of the following businesses:

- (a) sale of stamps and postal stationery.
- (b) registration of postal articles.
- (c) issue and encashment of postal orders and money orders.
- (d) encashment of postcheques.
- (e) posting of letters and printed matters.

Postal articles posted at this Temporary Branch Post Office were to be postmarked by a date-stamp inscribed as follows: "XXXI Fiera Internazzjonali Ta' Malta - Naxxar".

The slogan means, "XXXI International Fair Of Malta - Naxxar". (Fig. 6)

**9-7-88**

On the occasion of the Foundation Day of the Malta Police Corps and the opening of the Police Academy, a machine stamp cancelling slogan was used on the 9th., 11th. and 12th. July, 1988, at the Central Mail Room. The slogan reads as follows: "Jum Il-Fondazzjoni - Tal-Korp Tal-Pulizija U - L-Ftuh Ta' L'Akkademja - 12 Ta' Lulju 1988".

The slogan means: "Foundation Day - Of The Police Corps And - The Opening Of The Academy - 12 July 1988".

**14-7-88**

A machine stamp cancelling slogan worded: "Albert Einstein - Congress On Peace - III - Malta - 14-21 July 1988", was used, on and off, during the period 14th. to 21st. July, 1988, at the Central Mail Room.

22-7-88

To mark the European Cinema and Television Year, a machine stamp cancelling slogan was used, on and off, during the period 22nd. July – 21st. October, 1988, at the Central Mail Room. The slogan reads: “European Cinema and TV Year 1988” and also incorporates the logo of the European Cinema and Television Year.

23-7-88

The “Maltese Uniforms” set, issued to-day. A special hand postmark was used on the first day of issue (Fig. 7)

4-8-88

A machine stamp cancelling slogan worded: “300 Sena Mill-Bini – Tal-Knisja Parrokkjali – Santa Venera – 1688 – 1988”, was used on the 4th. and 5th. August, 1988, at the Central Mail Room. The slogan means: “300 Years Since The Building – Of The Parish Church – Santa Venera – 1688 – 1988”.

26-8-88

A machine stamp cancelling slogan was used on the occasion of the Social Cultural Evening for Emigrants which was held at Mdina on the 30th. August, 1988. The slogan reading: “Niltagħhu Ma’ Hutna L-Emigranti – Mdina 30 Ta’ Awissu 1988” and which incorporates a special designed logo, was used on the 26th. to the 30th. August, 1988, at the Central Mail Room. The slogan means: “Meeting Our Brethren, The Emigrants – Mdina 30 August 1988”.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 5



Fig. 4



Fig. 7



Fig. 6

Date of Issue .....	9th. April 1988
Values .....	10c and 35c
Stamp Size .....	26.5mm × 35mm
Art Designer .....	Freddie Fenech
Printers .....	Printex Limited
Process .....	Lithography
Perforation .....	13.45 × 13.5
Watermark .....	Maltese Crosses Sideways
Paper .....	Chalk Surfaced
Gum .....	P.V.A.

**Colours:**

This set was produced in multicolours using four different colours for each value.

**Designs:**

The theme chosen by CEPT this year is “Means of Transport and Communication”. This eighteenth set of the Europa series, is being issued in the usual form of small Panes of ten stamps.

The 10c stamp features land, sea and air transport.

The 35c stamp depicts modern means of communication.

Both stamps are of the vertical format and each Pane of ten stamps is divided into twelve spaces, three rows of four.

In the first space of the top row, of both values, can be seen the word “Europa”, the CEPT emblem and 1988. In the second space of the top row, of the 10c value, can be seen a close up view of part of the same stamp and the word “Trasport”, meaning “Transport”. In the same space, of the 35c value, can be seen a satellite antenna and the word “Komunikazzjoni” meaning “Communication”.

The value of a whole Pane of stamps is seen in the middle of the top margin, printed in blue in the 10c value and printed in black in the 35c value.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin of each Pane, next to the last stamp of the bottom row. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right, in all Panes, of both values.

The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of twelve Panes, A to L.

**Plate/Pane numbers:**

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane of both values.

10c 1A × 4 up to and including 1L × 4.

35c 1A × 4 up to and including 1L × 4.

**Perforation of Margins**

The top margins of Panes A, B, C and D are imperforate in both values. The left hand, right hand and bottom margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated. All margins of Panes E to L, are also fully perforated.

Registration marks in the form of a circle in an ellipse, crossed by two lines at right angles, was seen in the top right hand margin of Pane D of both values.

PANE "A" → WMK.	PANE "B" → WMK.	PANE "C" → WMK.	PANE "D" → WMK.
PANE "E" → WMK.	PANE "F" → WMK.	PANE "G" → WMK.	PANE "H" → WMK.
PANE "I" → WMK.	PANE "J" → WMK.	PANE "K" → WMK.	PANE "L" → WMK.

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value before cutting into Panes, would have looked as shown on left, the perforator running from top to bottom.

Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown stamps of both values, would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps is sideways.

### Imprint Blocks:

The Imprint "Printex Limited Malta" is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. Letters are 1mm high and printed in blue in the 10c value and printed in black in the 35c value. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks.

A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of issue. It is inscribed "Europa '88 - L-Ewwel Jum Tal-Hrug - 9-4-88 - Malta" and the name of the respective locality. A line drawing of a bus and a satellite antenna is also incorporated in the postmark. This set will remain on sale up to Wednesday , 7th. December, 1988, unless stocks are previously exhausted.

By 12.45pm on the first day of issue sales amounted to Lm77,950.

A postal card, incorporating the 10c and 35c, Europa 1988 stamps, also designed by Freddie Fenech, commemorating the participation of the Malta Post Office in the Holland Europa 88/Filacept International Philatelic Exhibition, which is to be held in The Hague, will be for sale from the 18 to 23 October, 1988.

The postal card will be available during this period, either in mint condition or cancelled with a special postmark, inscribed, "Post Office - Malta - 18 - 23.X.88 - Filacept - Holland Europa 88".

The emblem of Malta and the postal horn are also incorporated in the postmark.

### Detailed Information about:

By J. Farrugia

International Commemorations Issue .....	X
Maltese Uniforms Second Issue .....	Y
XXIV Olympiad 1988 Issue .....	Z

Issue	X	Y	Z
Date of Issue	28-5-88	23-7-88	17-9-88
Values	4c, 18c, 19c	3c, 4c, 10c, 25c	4c, 10c, 35c
Stamp Size	35mm x 26.5mm	29mm x 47mm	20mm x 38mm
Designer	Marco Cremona	Luciano Micallef	Ray Gauci
Printers	Printex Ltd.	same	same

Issue	X	Y	Z
Process	Lithography	same	same
Perforation	13.6 × 13.5	13.6 × 13.9	13.9 × 13.6
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Upright	Maltese Crosses Sideways	Maltese Crosses Sideways
Paper	Chalk Surfaced	same	same
Gum	P.V.A.	same	same

### Colours:

Issues X, Y and Z were printed in multicolours using four colours for each value of the three issues.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter are seen in the right hand margin, next to the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of each value, in issues X, Y and Z. Colour checks from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right, on all Panes, of all values, of issues X, Y and Z.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps, are seen in top and bottom margins, printed in black, on all Panes, of all values, of issues X and Y, but printed in brown, blue and green on Panes of the 4c, 10c and 35c respectively, in issue Z.

- Issue X – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of three Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of five rows of ten stamps. All values are of the horizontal format.
- Issue Y – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of three Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of eight rows of five stamps. All values are of the vertical format.
- Issue Z – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of three Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps. All values are of the vertical format.

### Plate/Pane numbers:

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, in issues X, Y and Z.

- Issue X – 4c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
18c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
19c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.
- Issue Y – 3c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
4c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
10c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
25c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.
- Issue Z – 4c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
10c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.  
35c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4.

### Perforation of Margins:

- Issue X – The left hand margins of Panes A, B and C, of each value, are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated.

Registration marks in the form of a circle in an ellipse, crossed by

two lines at right angles, or parts of them, were seen in the top left and right hand margins of Panes A, in the 18c and 19c values. Also a small horizontal line, in the middle of the left hand margin, next to the first stamp, of the third row, was seen in all Panes B, of the three values.

Issue Y – The top margins of Panes A, B and C, of each value, are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated.

Registration marks similar to those in issue X, were seen in the bottom left hand margin of Panes A and in the top and bottom of the right hand margin, of Panes C, of all values.

Issue Z – The top margins of Panes A, B and C, of each value, are imperforate. The other three margins of these Panes are fully perforated.

Registration marks similar to those in issue X, were seen in the top and bottom of the left hand margin of Panes A, of all values.

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of all values, before cutting into Panes, would look as shown in fig. (a) for issue X, and in fig. (b) for issues Y and Z.

Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps is upright in issue X and sideways in issues Y and Z.

Perforator ran from left to right in issue X and from top to bottom in issues Y and Z.

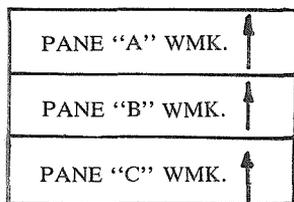


FIG. (a)

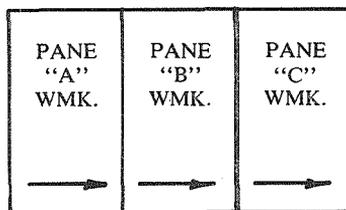


FIG. (b)

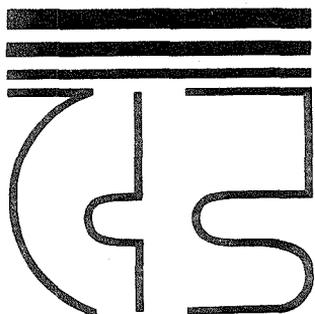
### Imprint Blocks:

The Imprint “Printex Limited Malta” is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, in issues X and Y, but under the last two stamps of the bottom row in issue Z.

Letters are 1mm high and printed in black in issues X and Y, but printed in brown, blue and green on Panes of the 4c, 10c and 35c respectively, in issue Z. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks in issues X, Y and Z.

Special hand postmarks were used on the first day of each issue. By 12.45pm on the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm20,081 (issue X), Lm21,468 (issue Y) and Lm28,245 (issue Z).

Stamps of these three issues were to remain for sale up to Monday, 9th. January, 1989, (issue X), up to Wednesday, 22nd. March, 1989, (issue Y) and up to Wednesday, 24th. May, 1989 (issue Z), unless stocks were previously exhausted.



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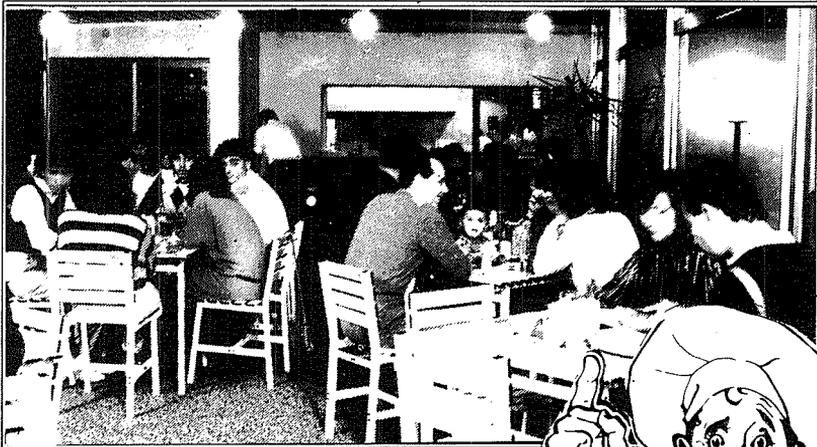
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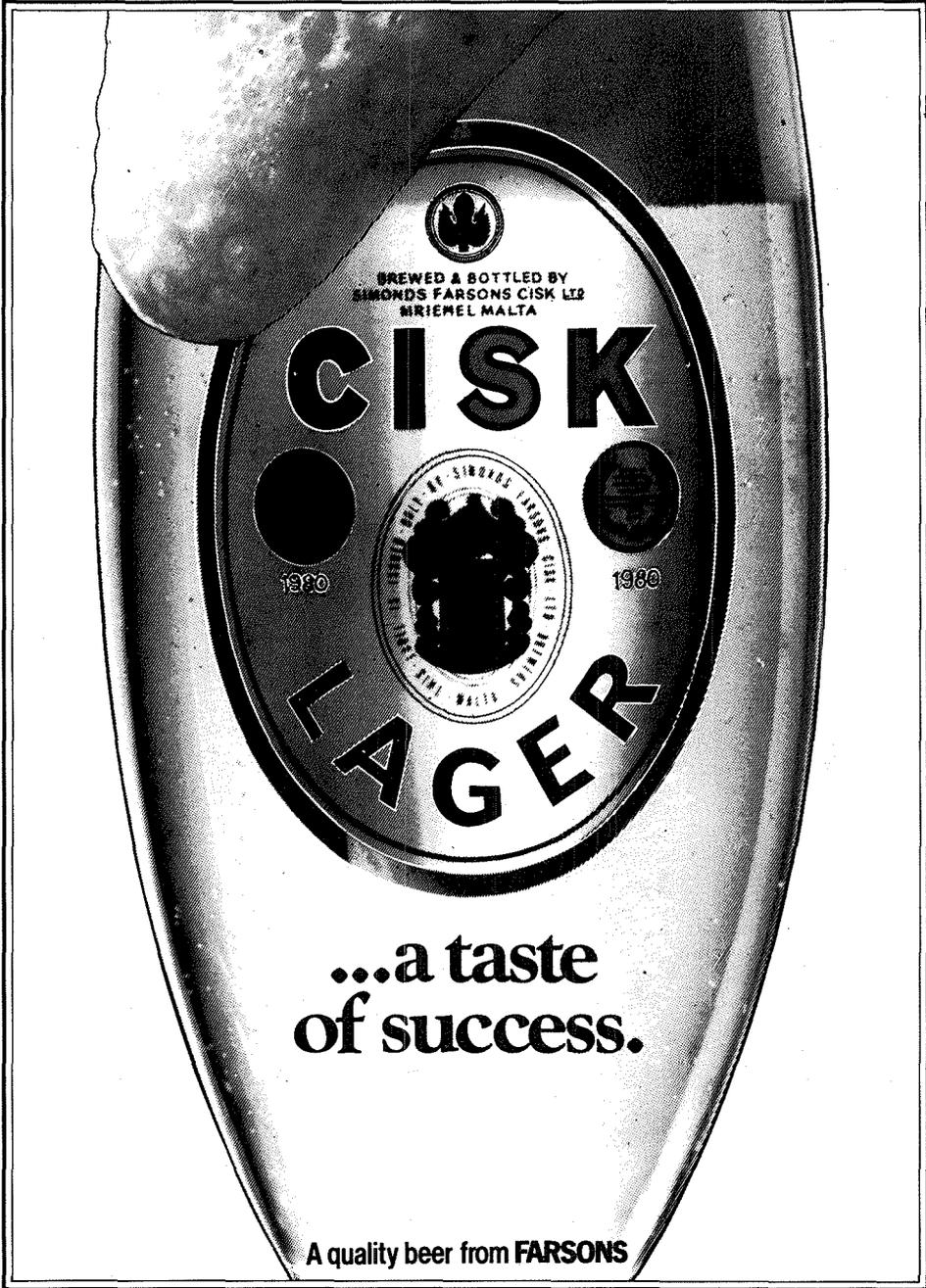
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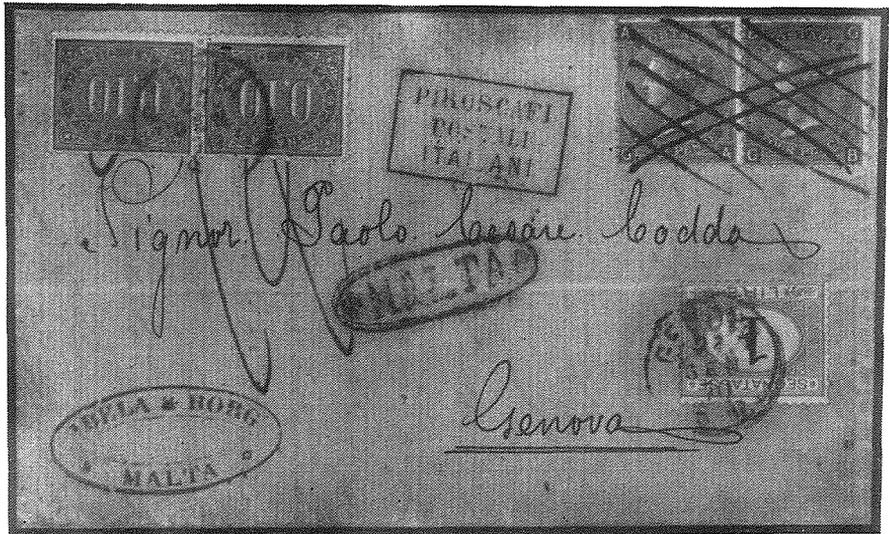


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