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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

DEWAYNE JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. CGC-16-550128

MONSANTO COMPANY, et al.,

Defendants.

-----/

Proceedings held on Friday, July 27, 2018,
Volume 18, Morning Session, before the Honorable
Suzanne R. Bolanos, at 9:11 a.m.

REPORTED BY:

LESLIE ROCKWOOD ROSAS, RPR, CSR 3462

Job No. 2965334A

Pages 3812 - 3943

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CHARLES BENBROOK	3853			

EXHIBITS ADMITTED

(None.)

Friday, July 27, 2018

9:11 a.m.

Volume 18

Morning Session

San Francisco, California

Department 504

Judge Suzanne Ramos Bolanos

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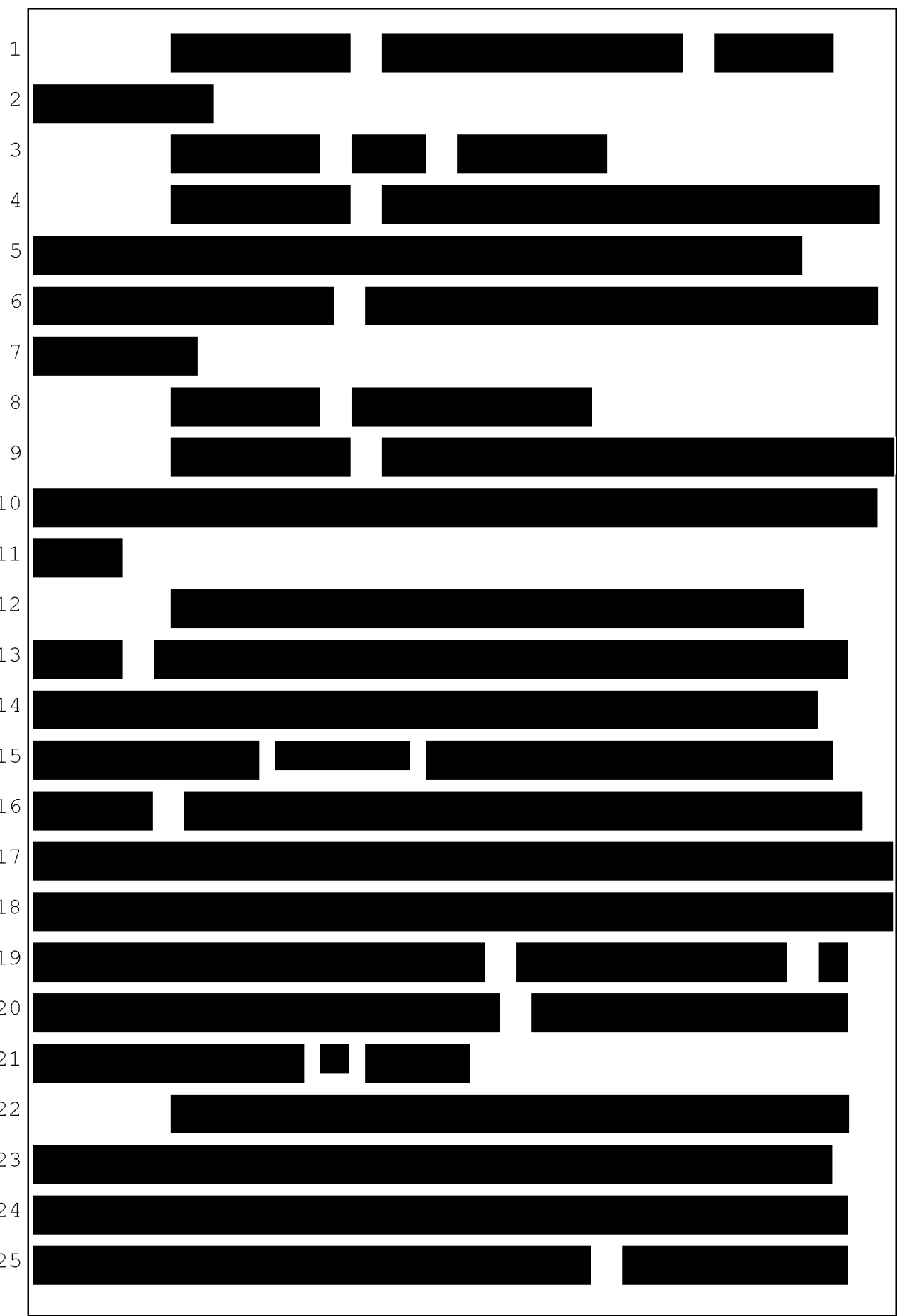
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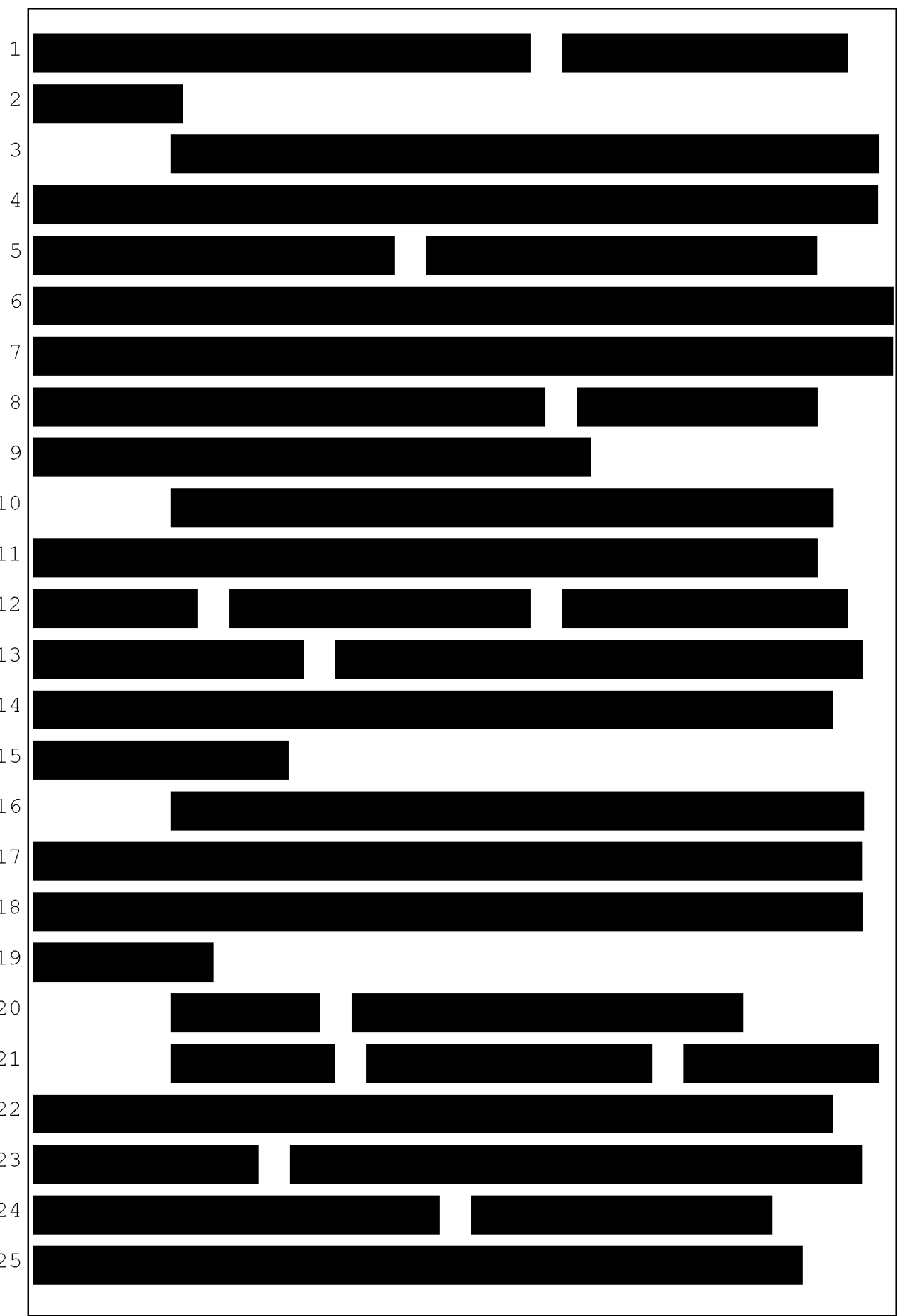
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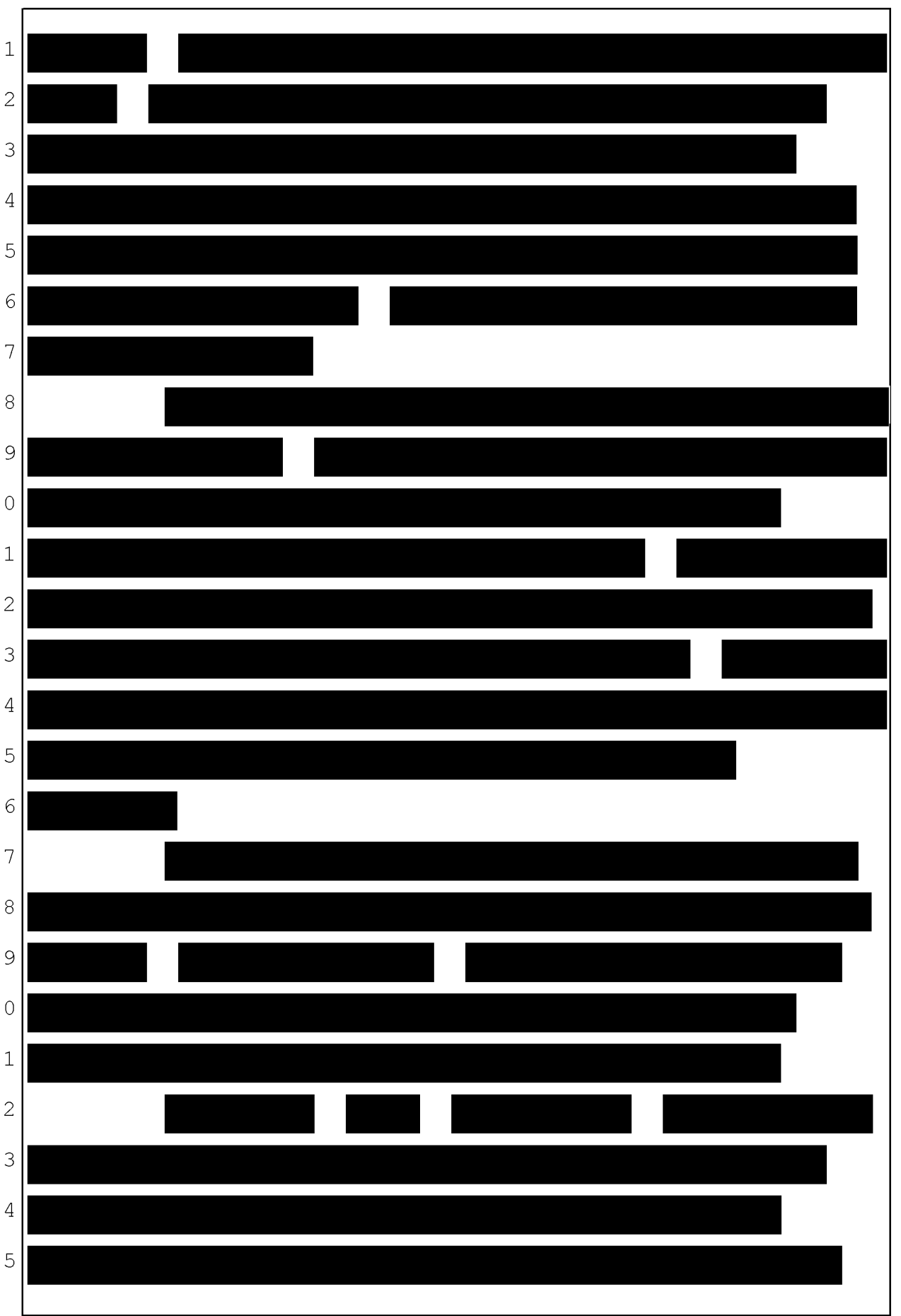
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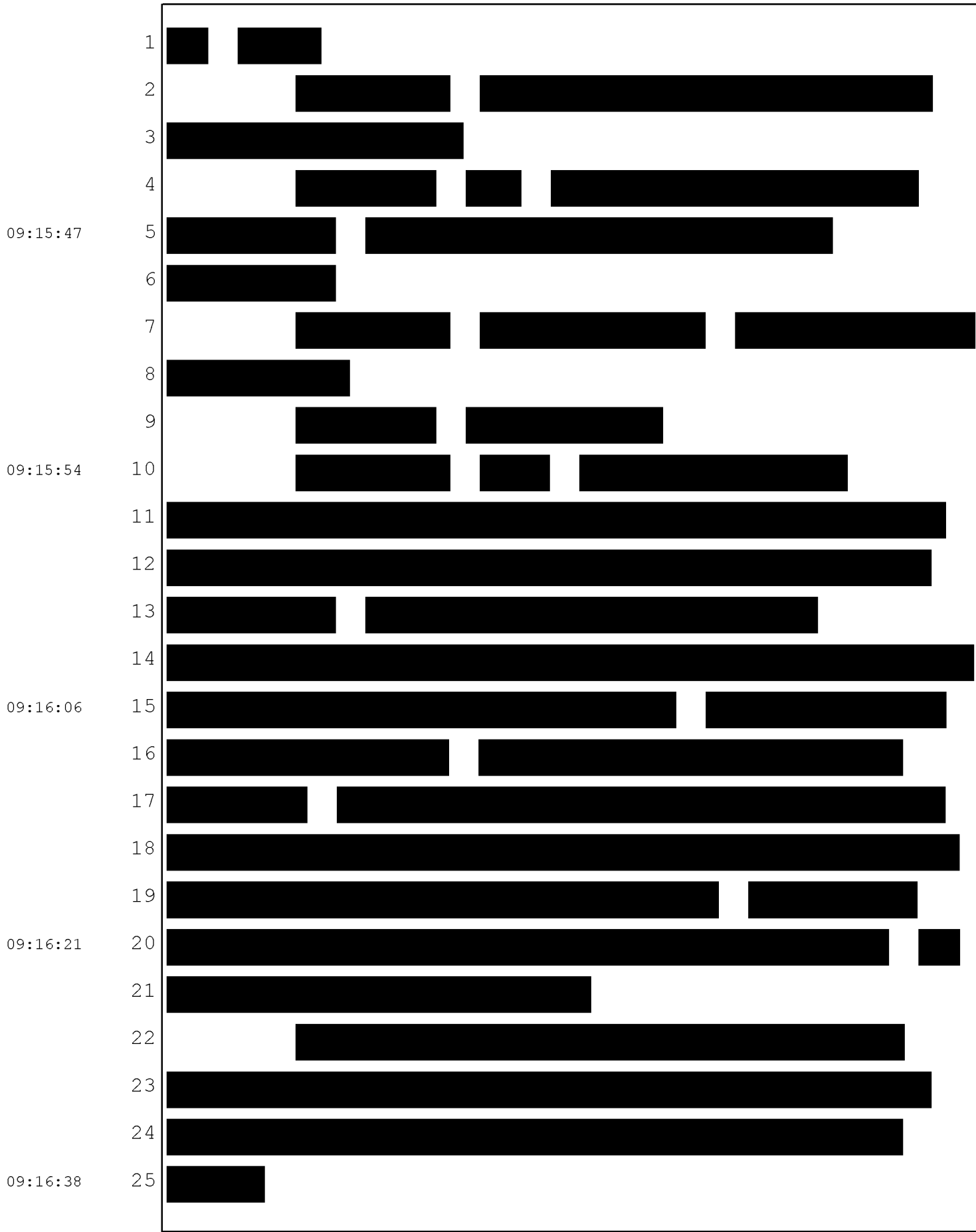
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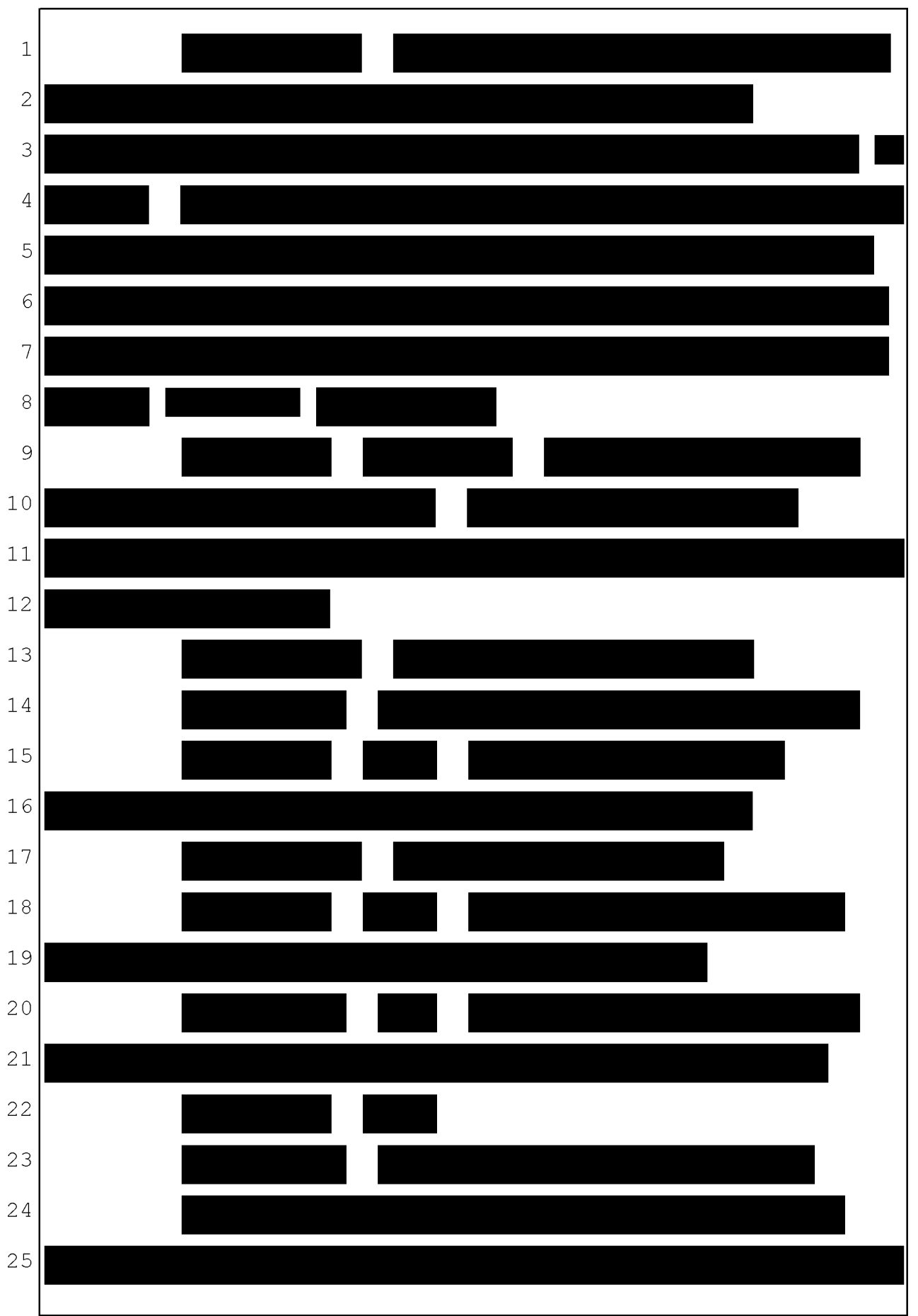
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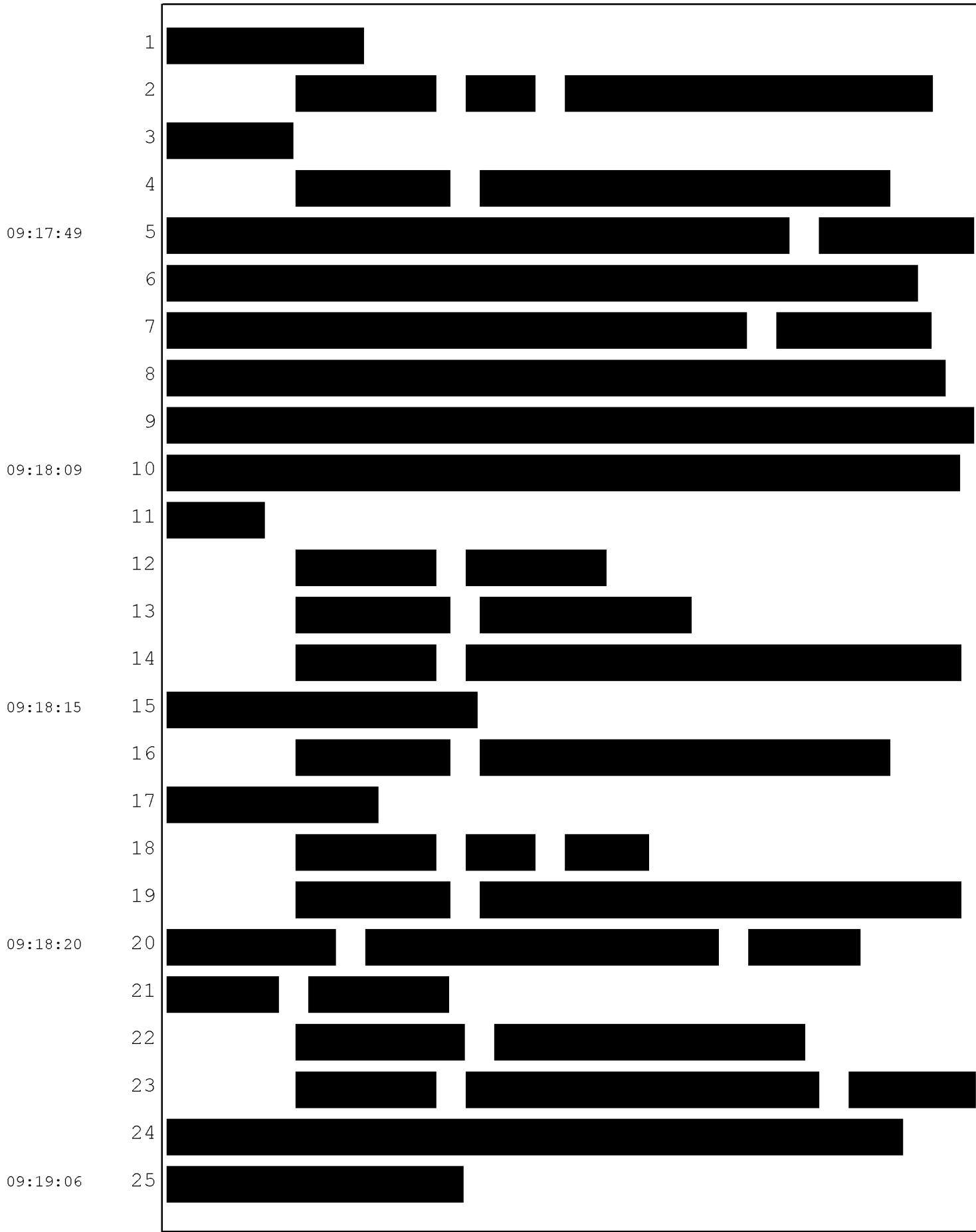
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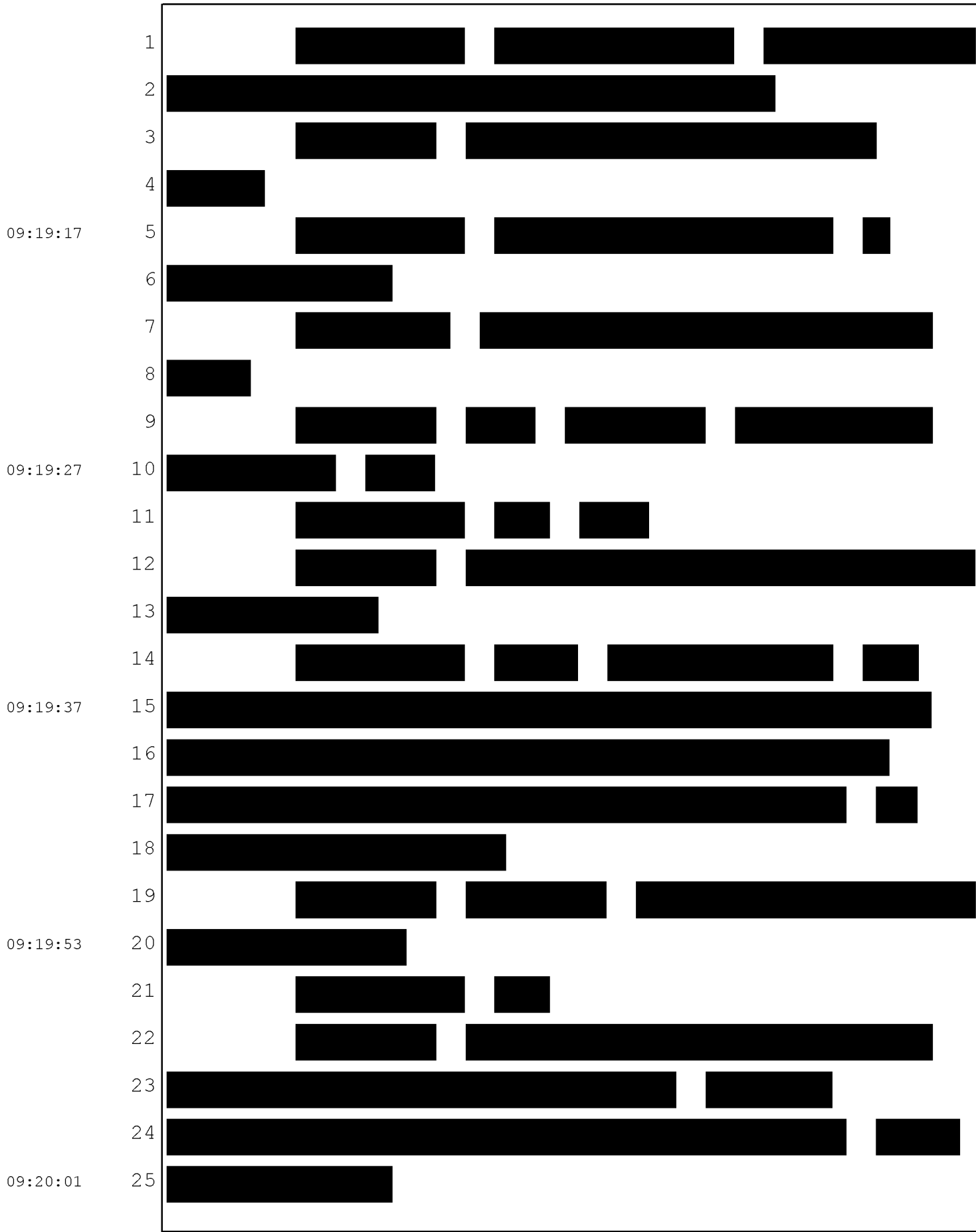
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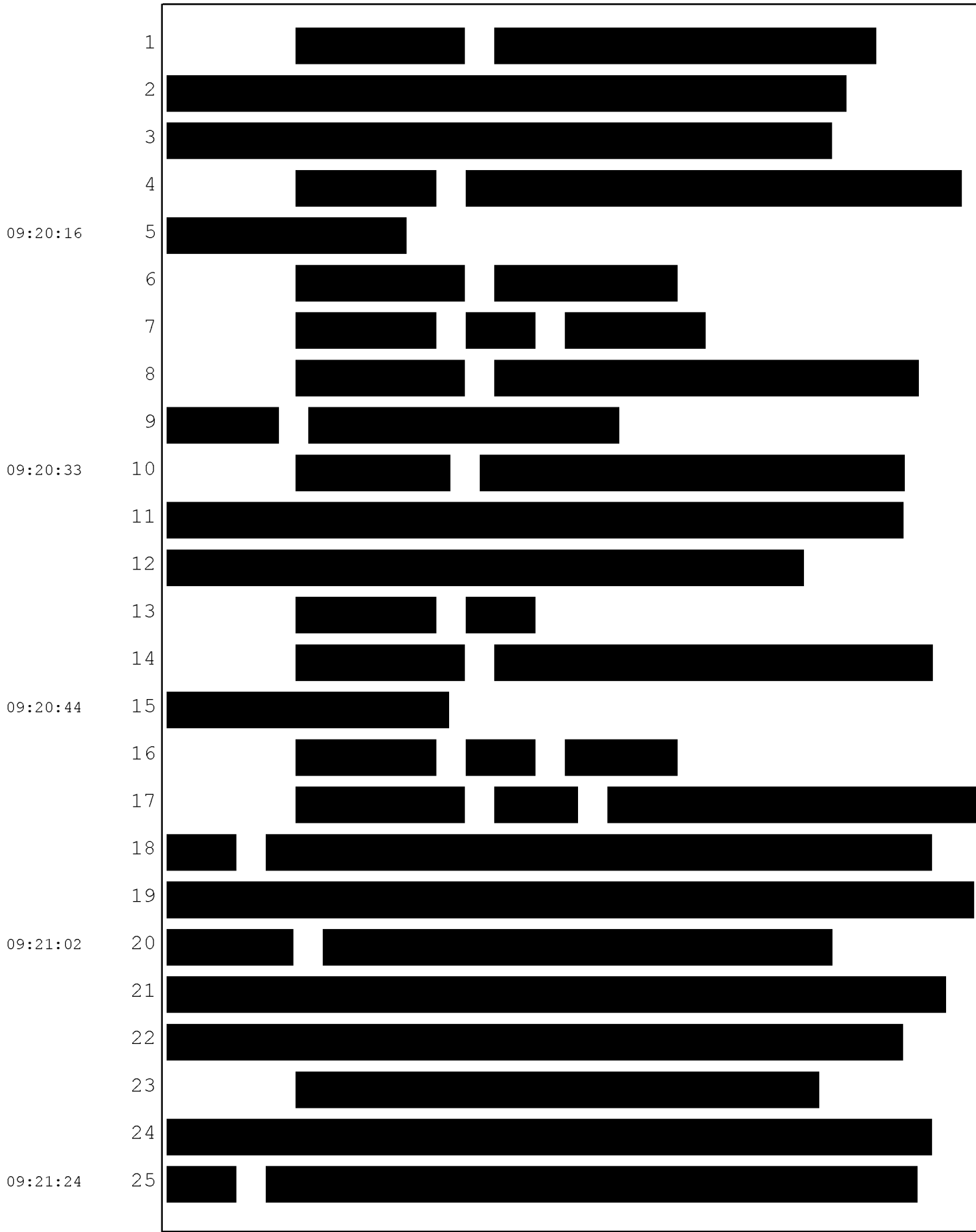
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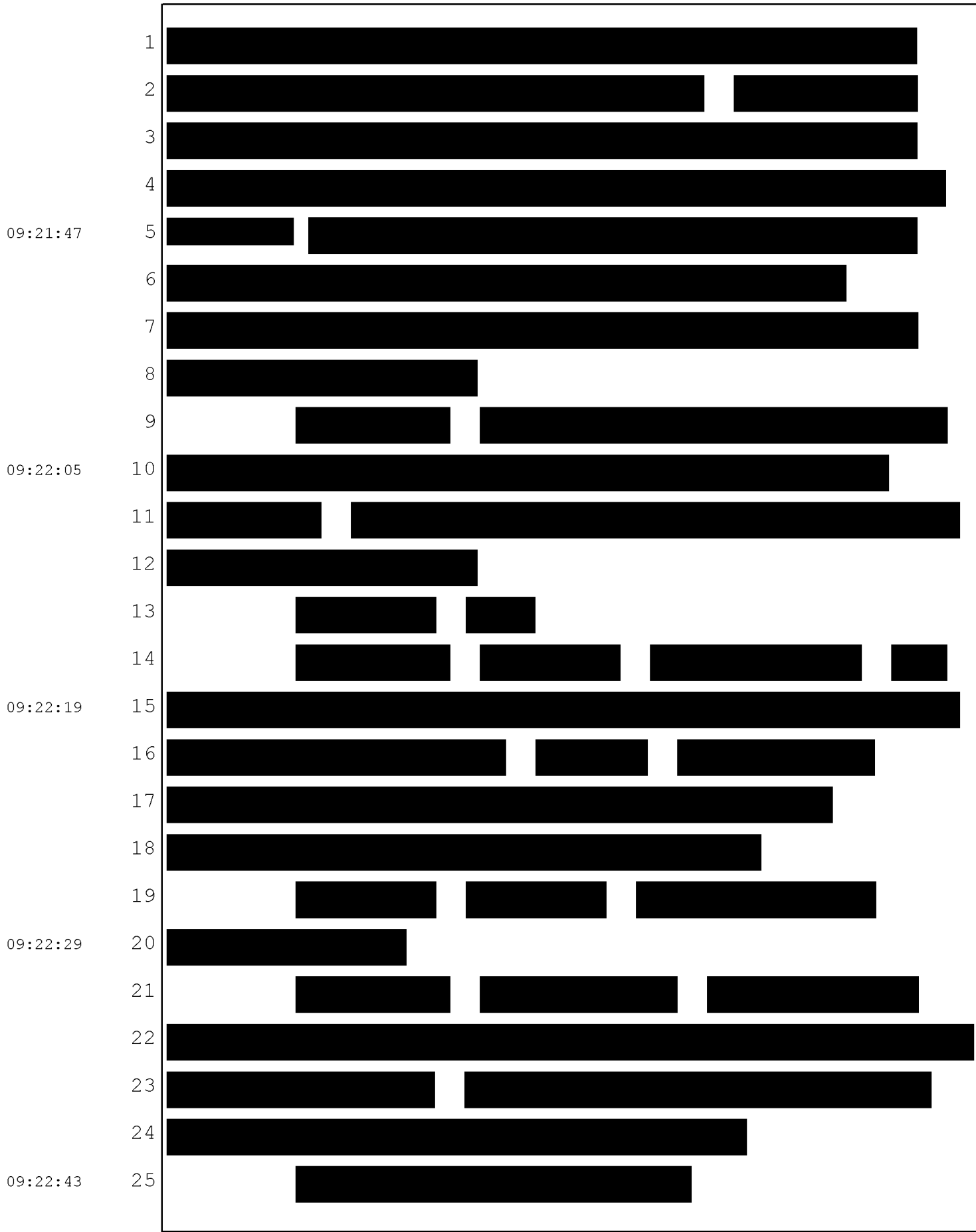
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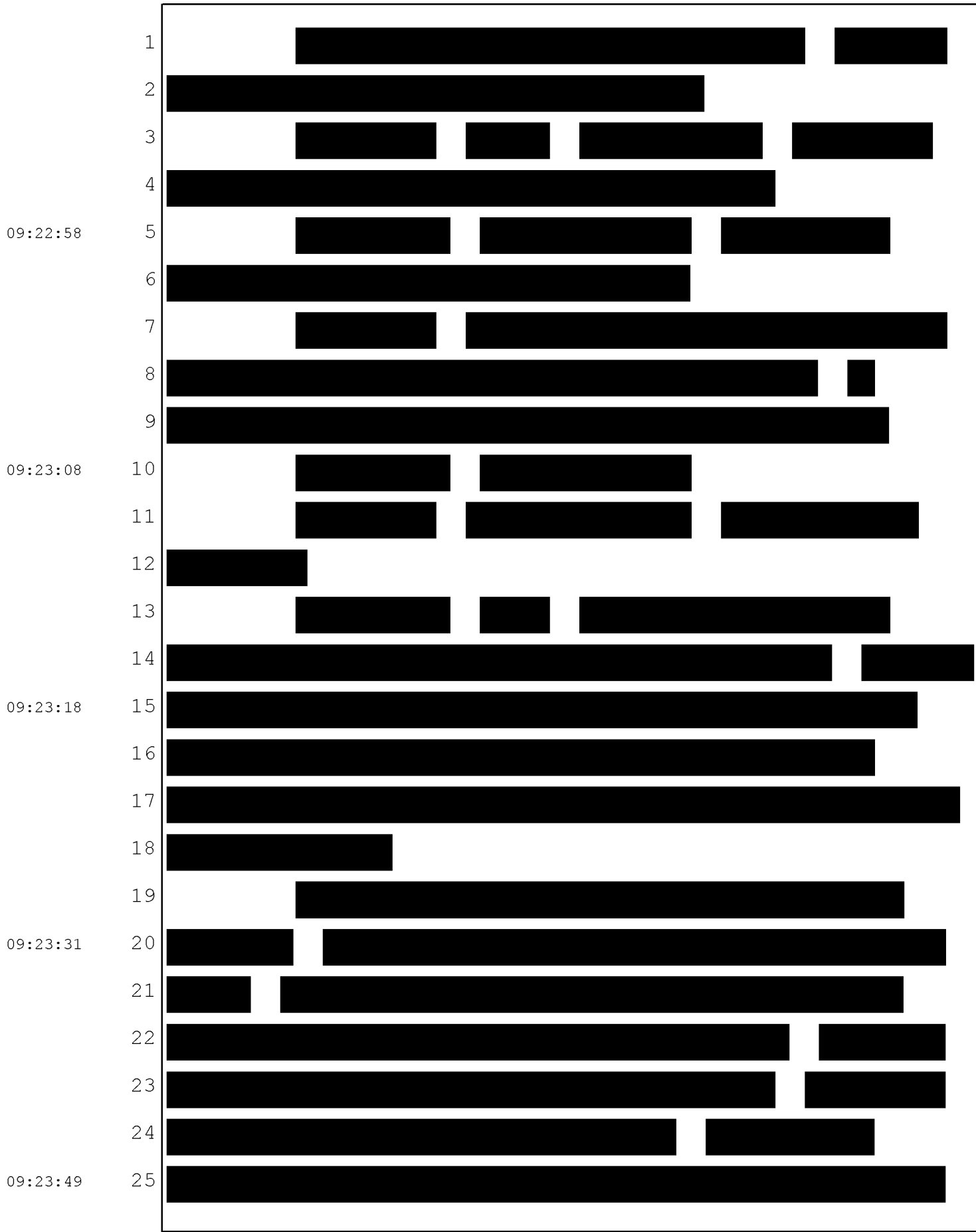


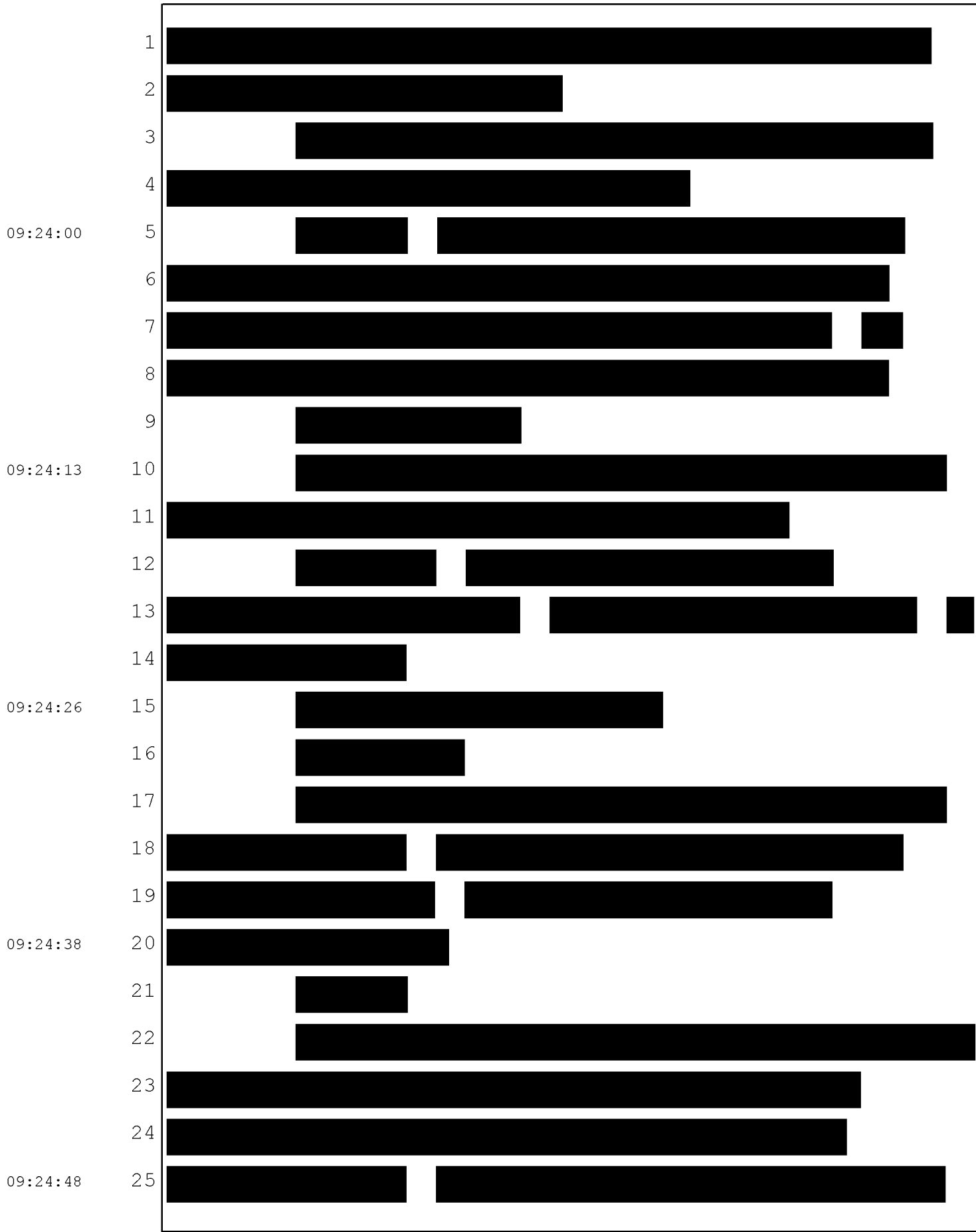
















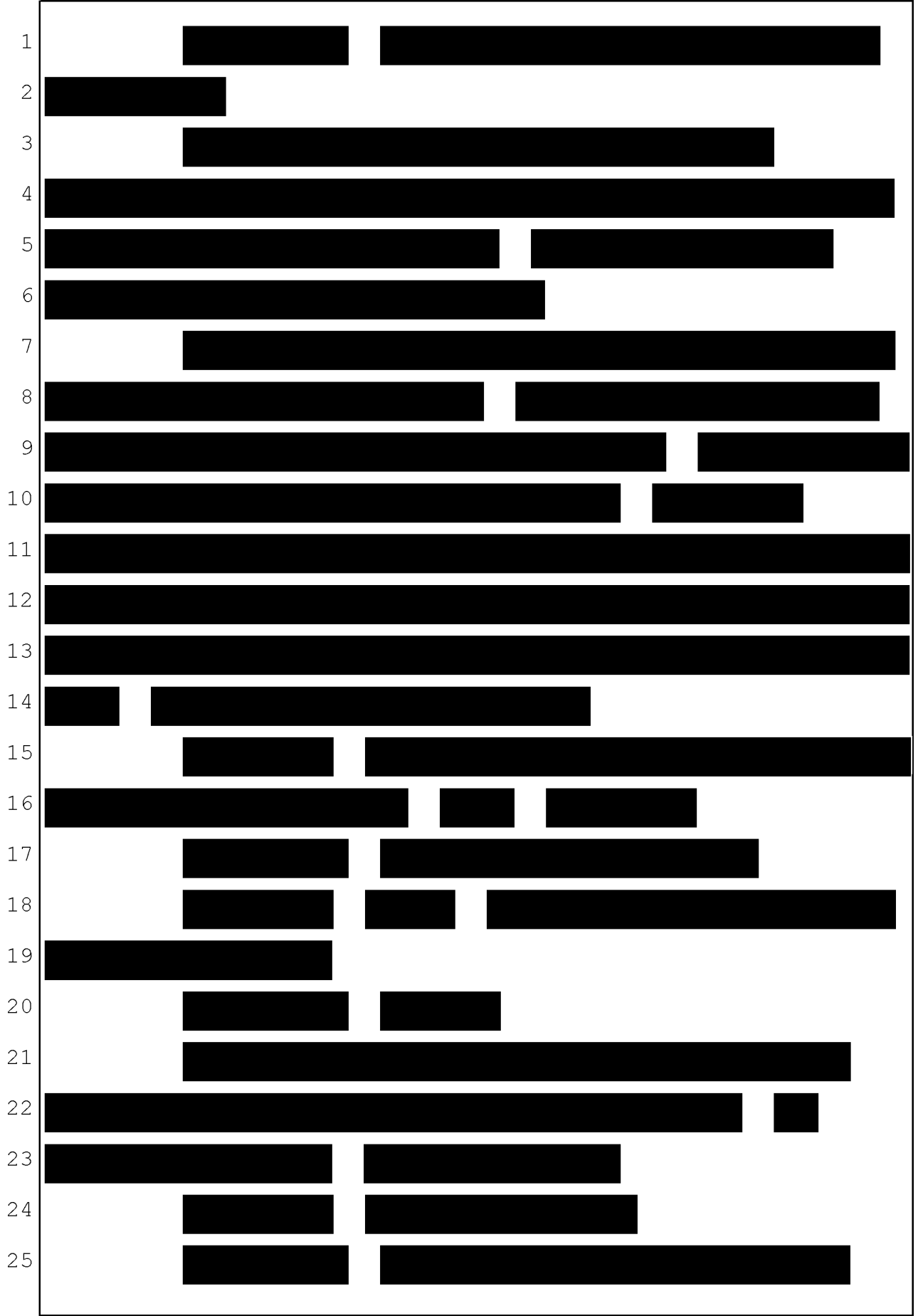
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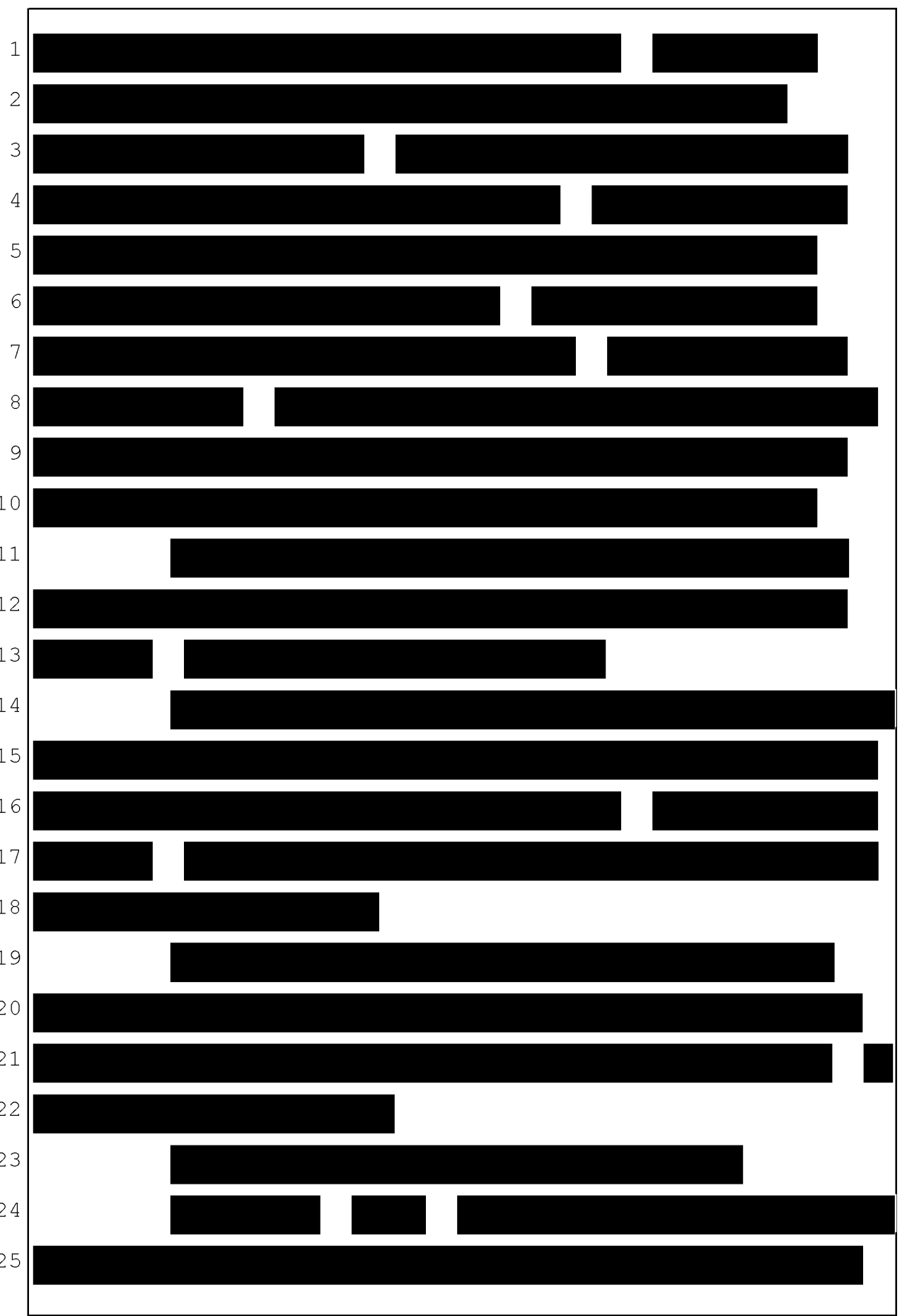
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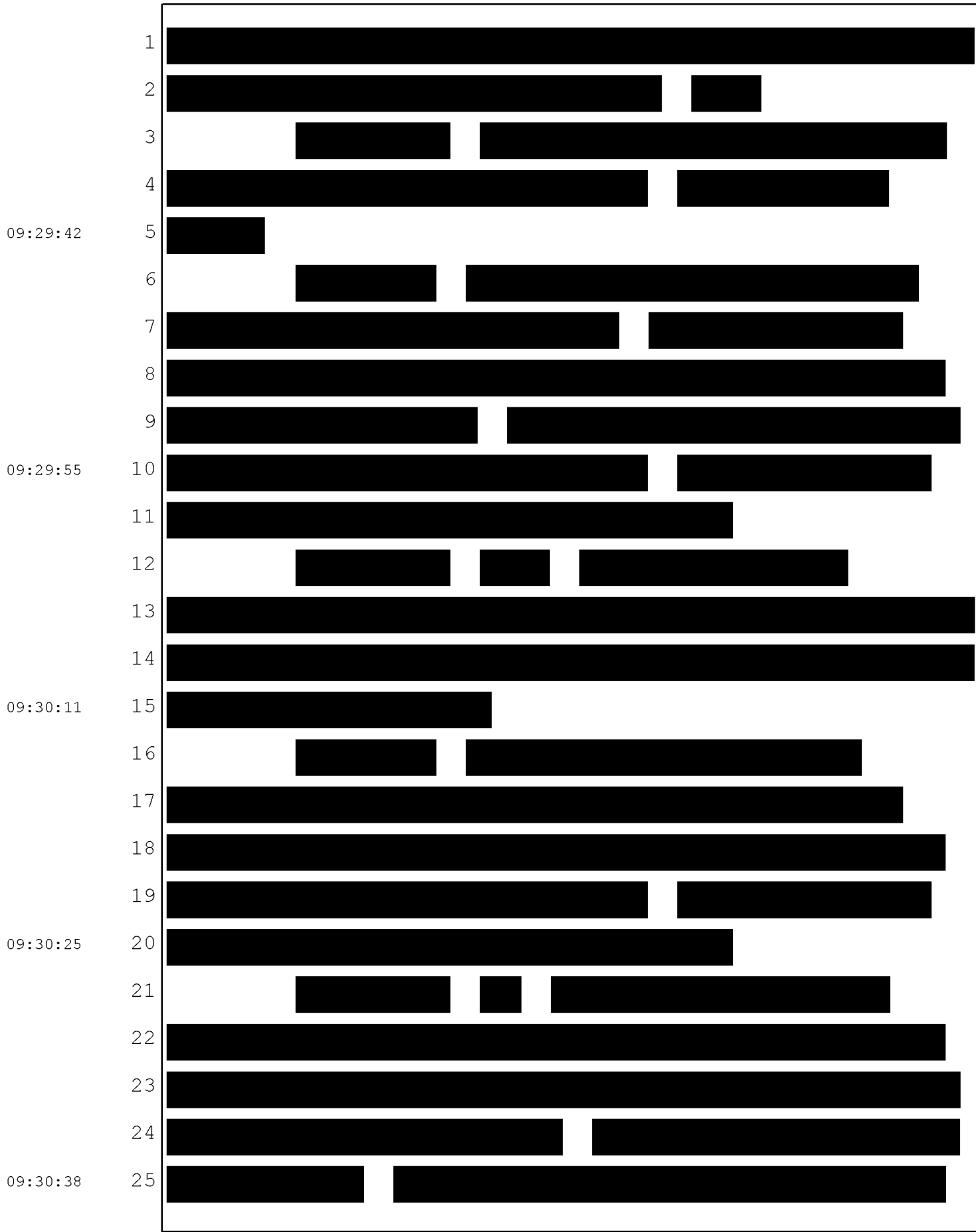
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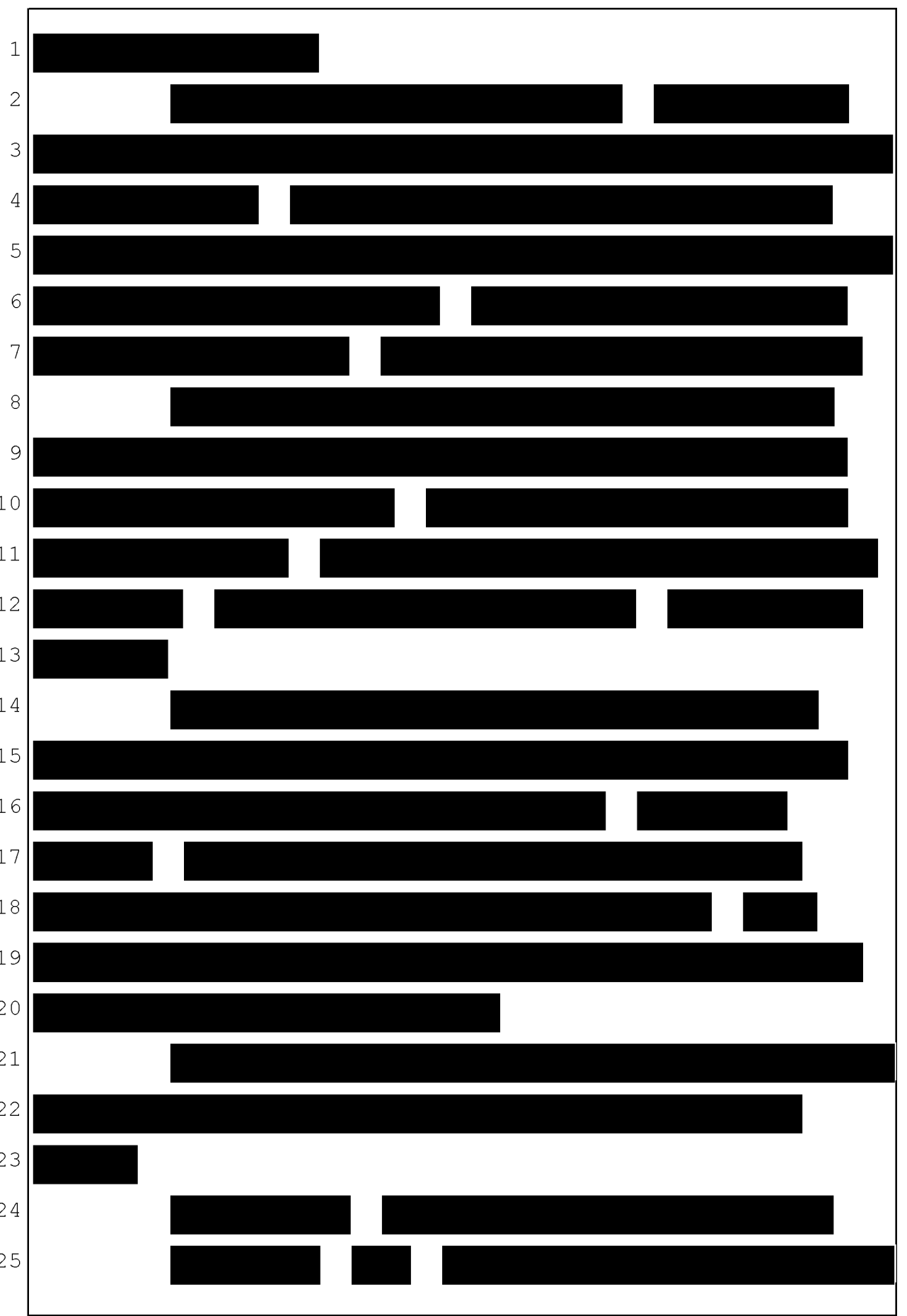
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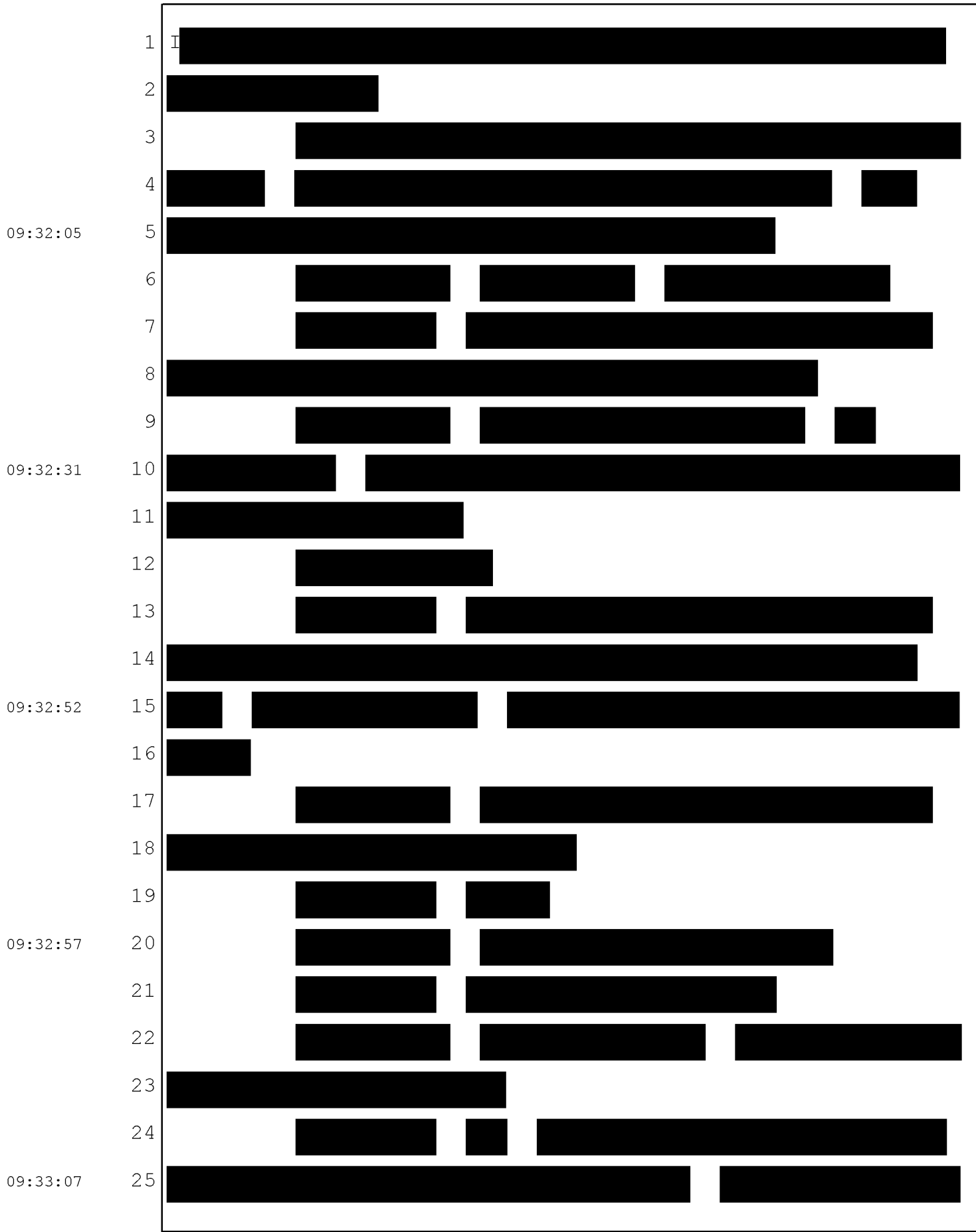
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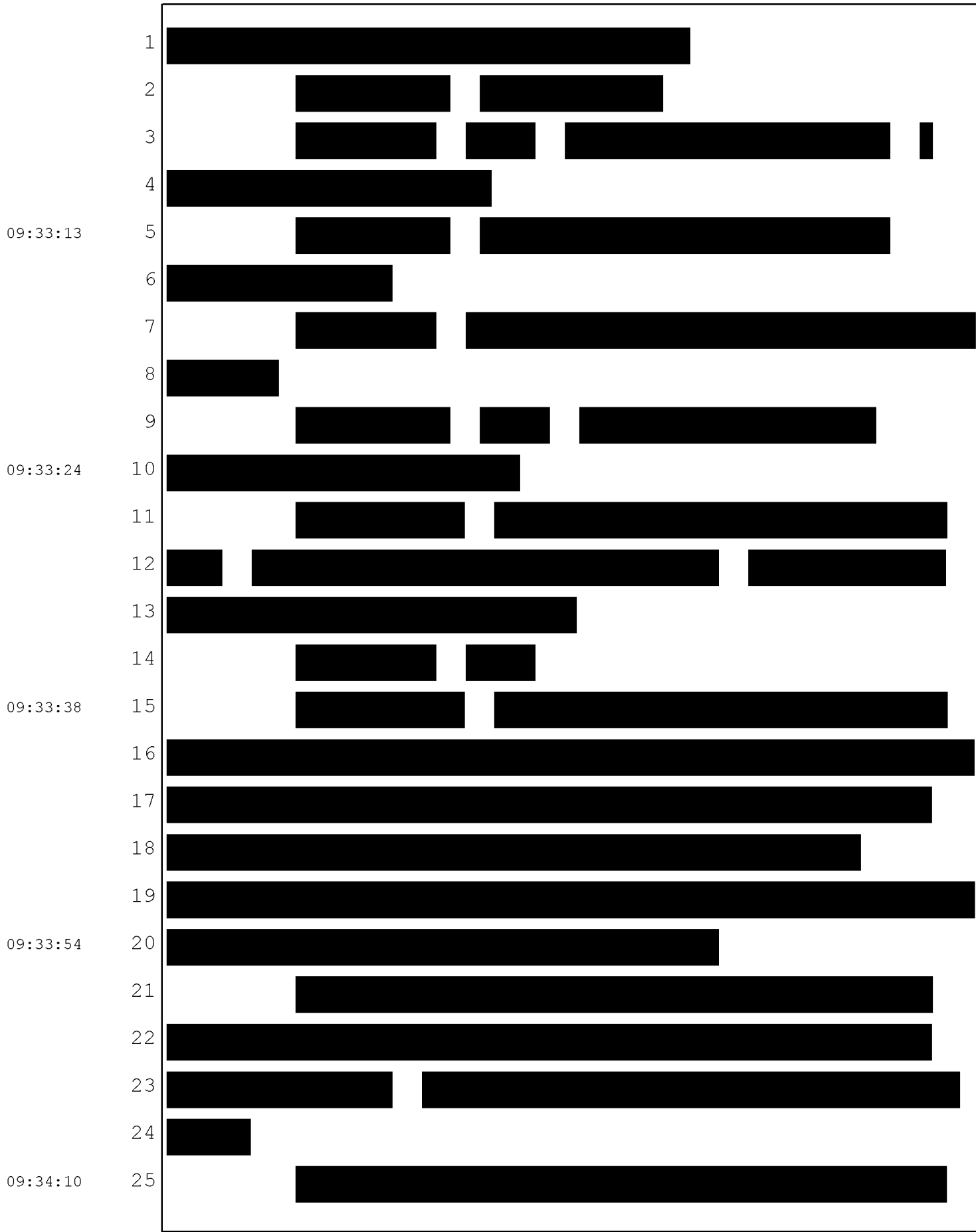
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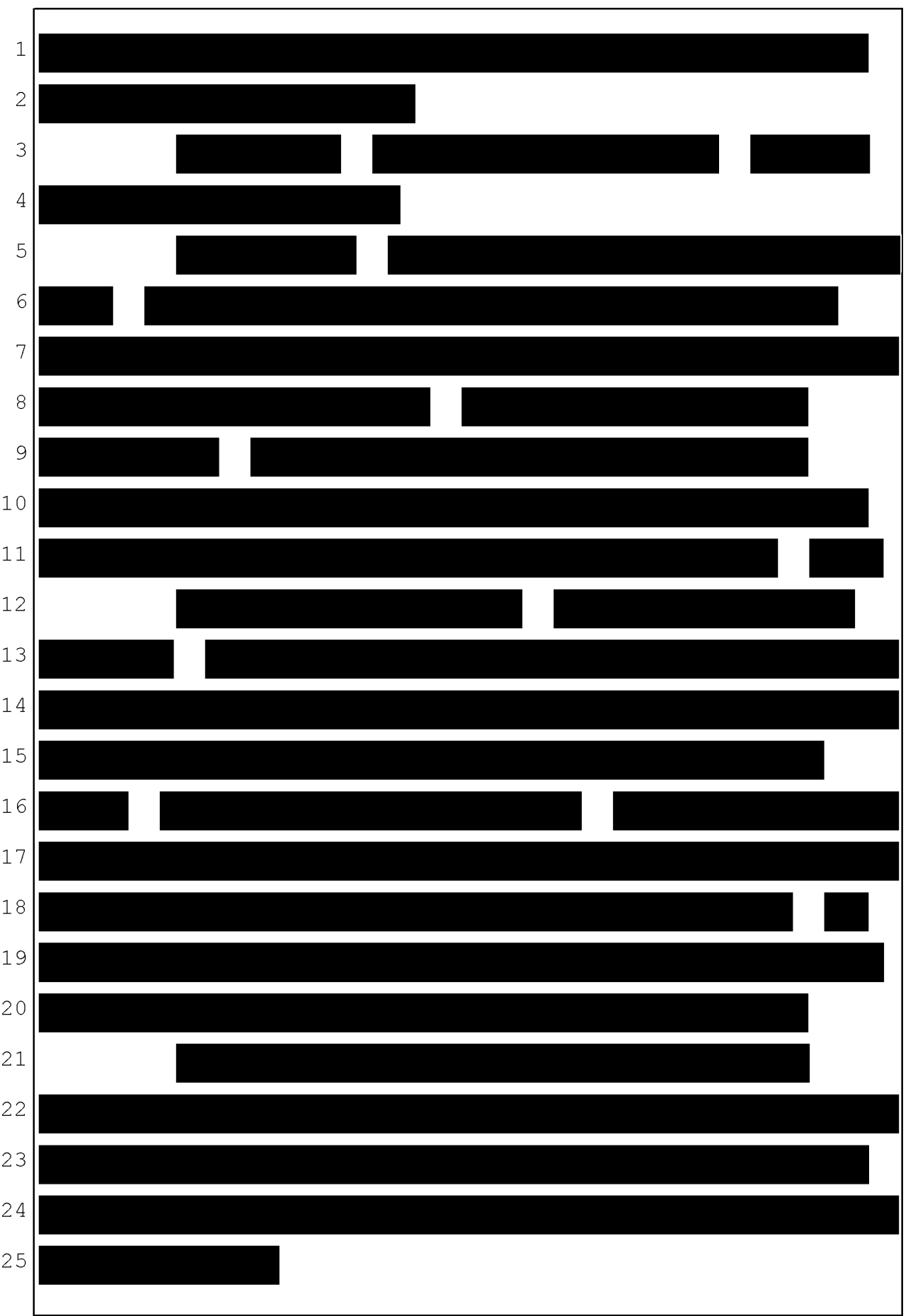
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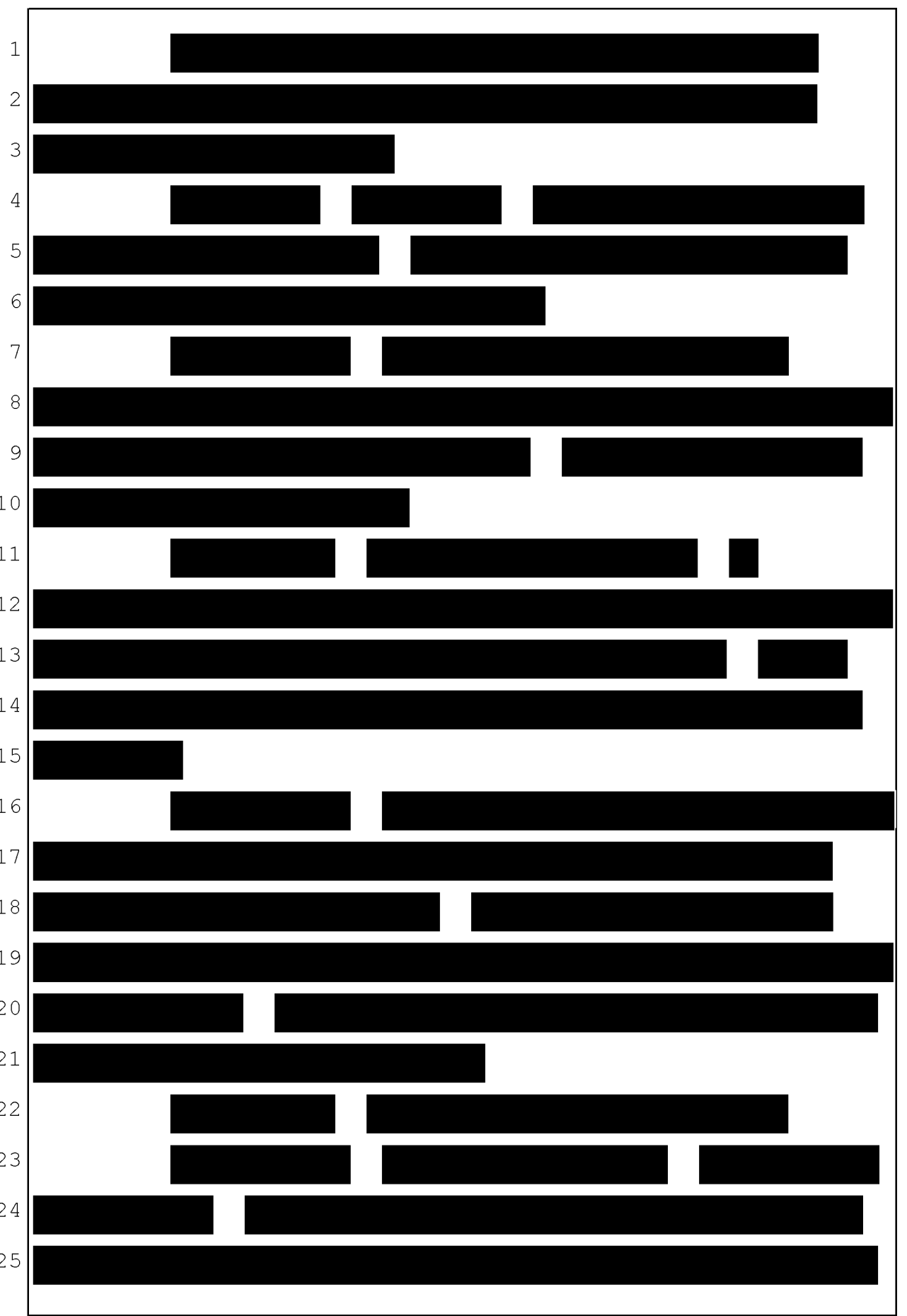
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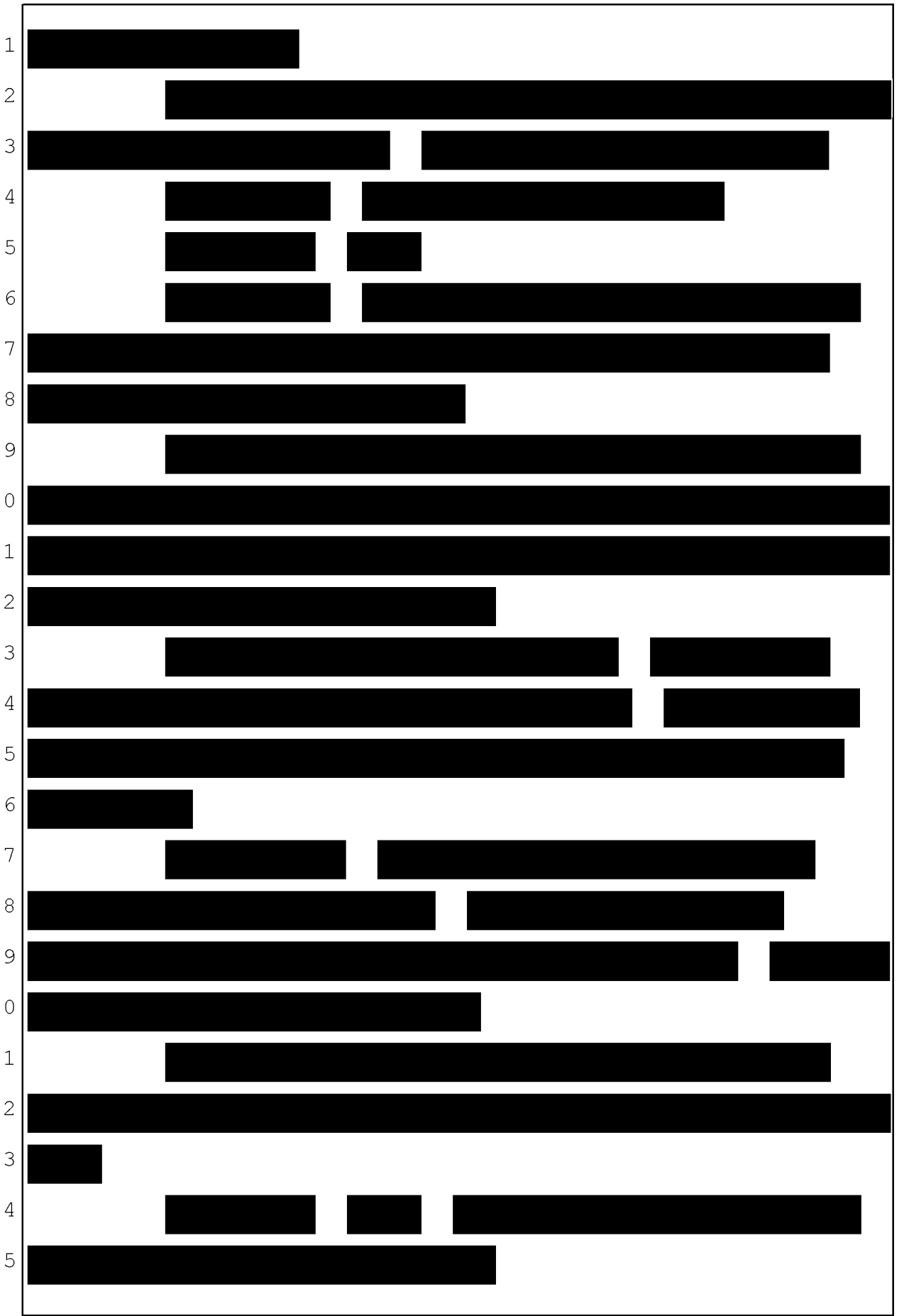


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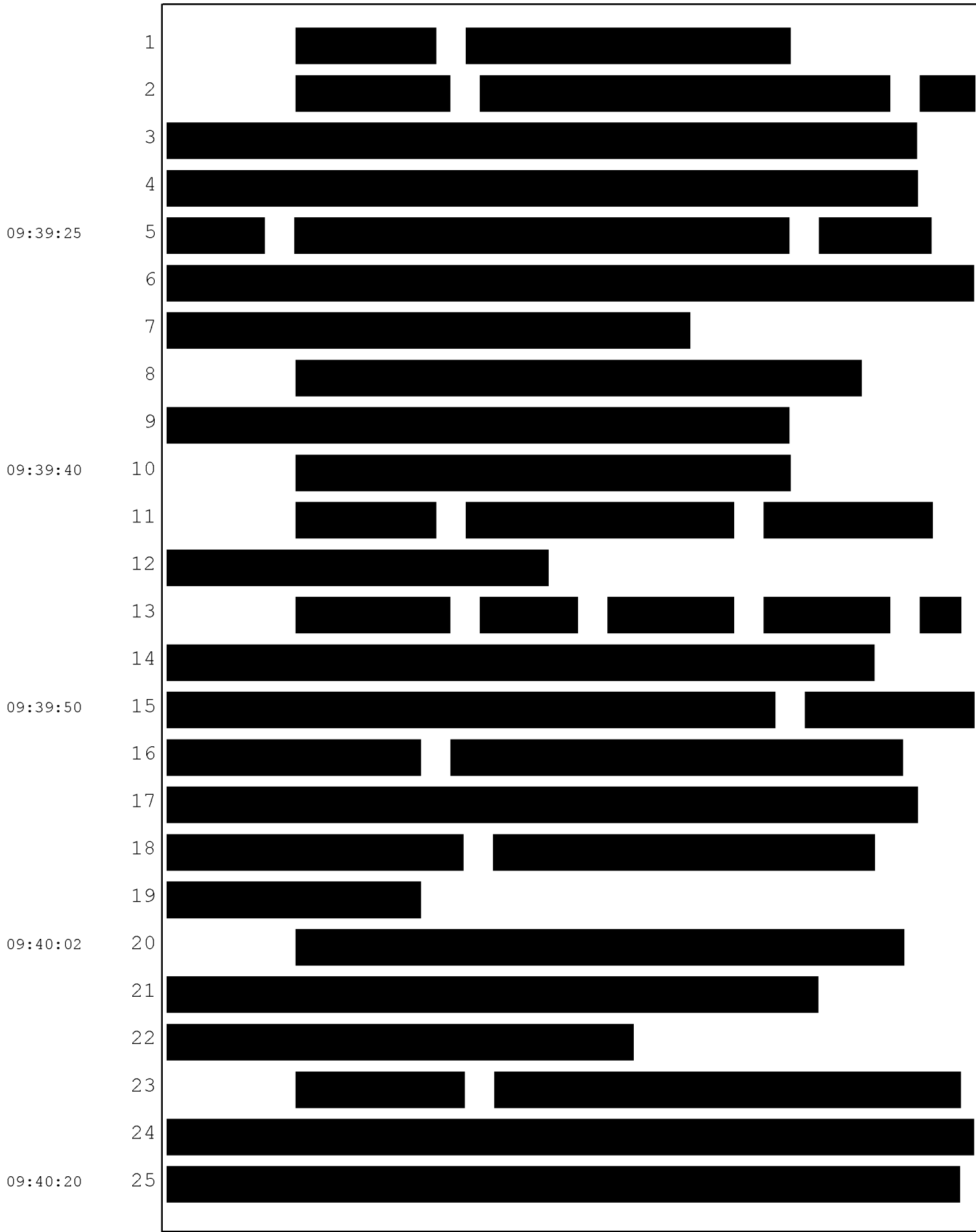
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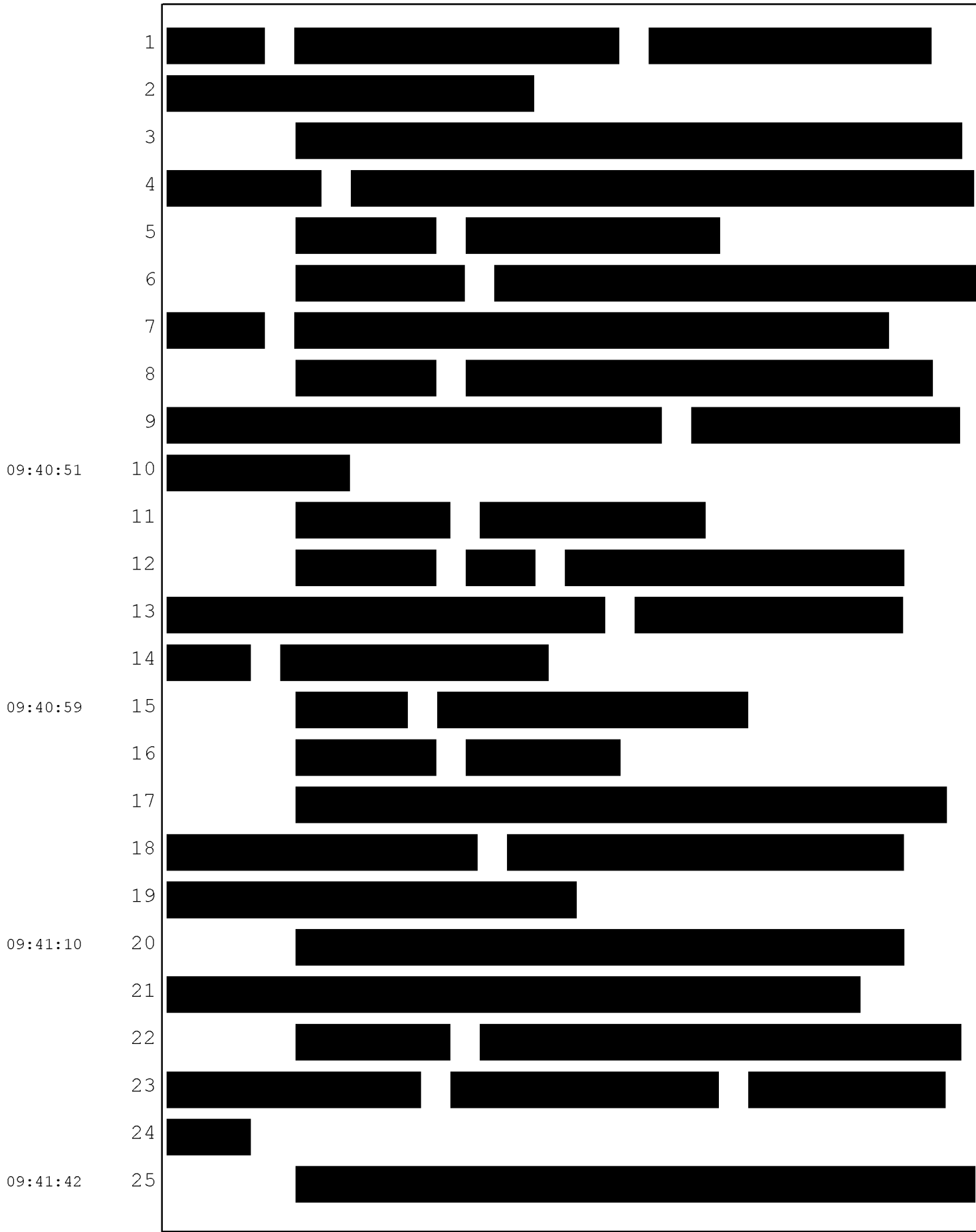
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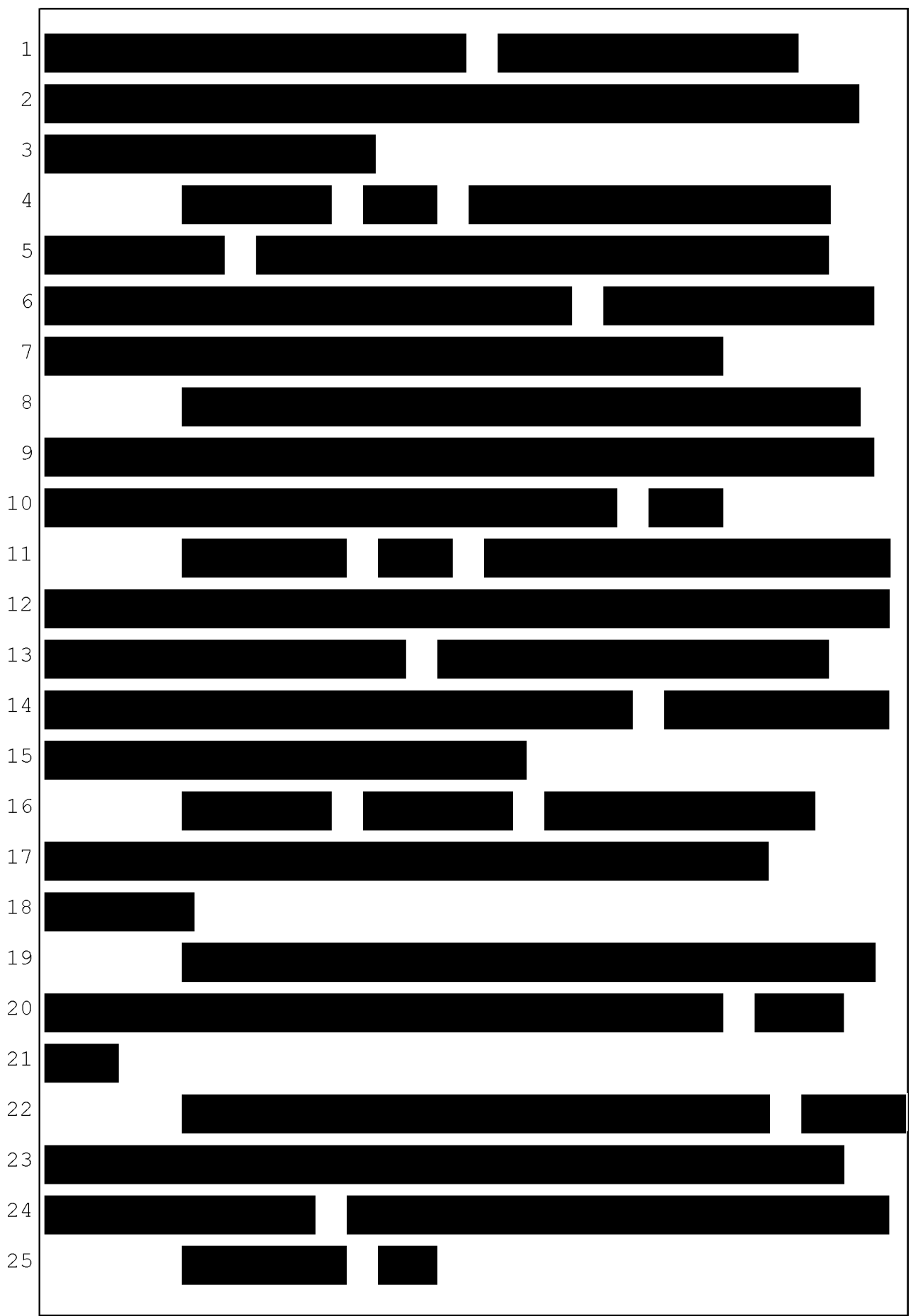
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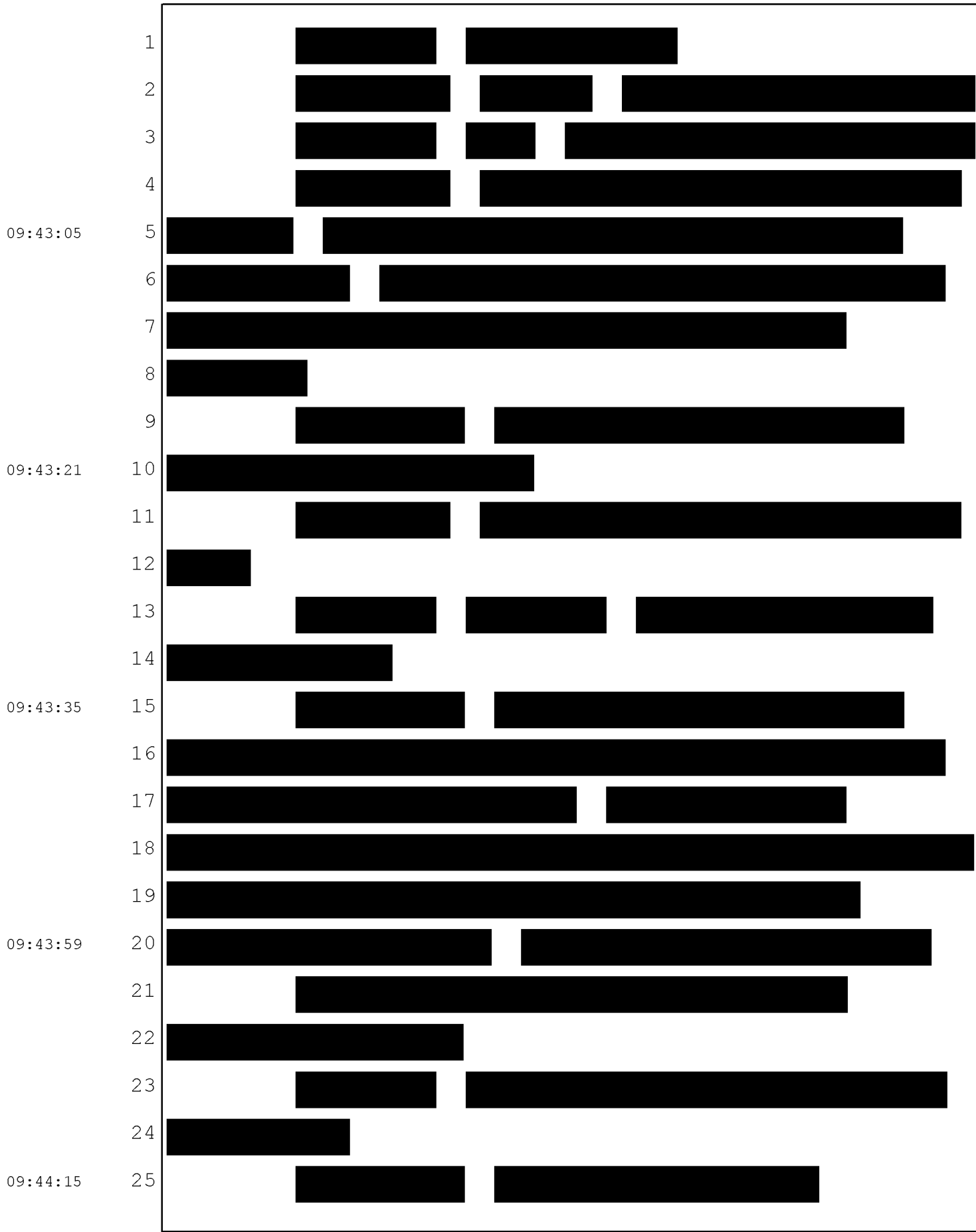
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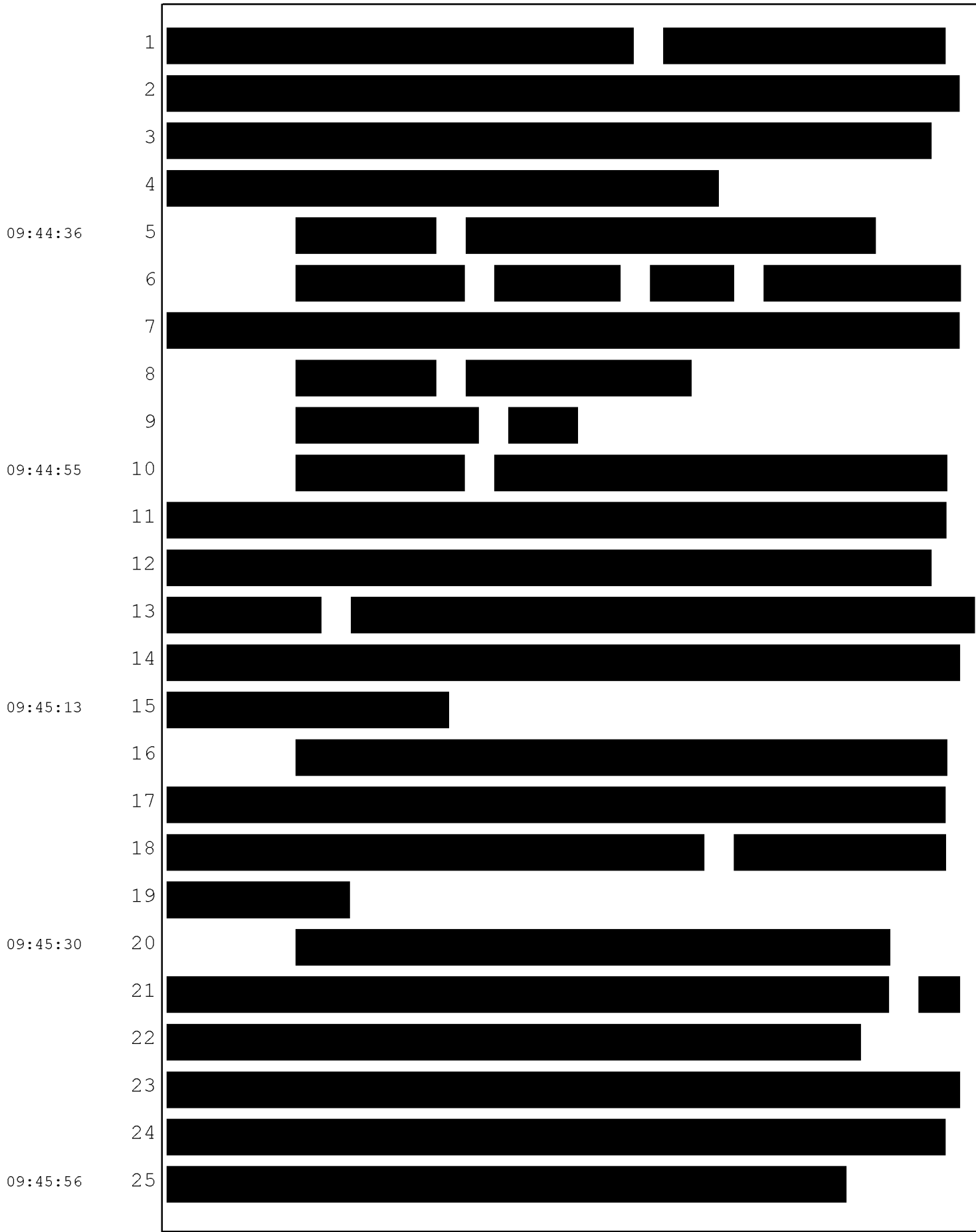
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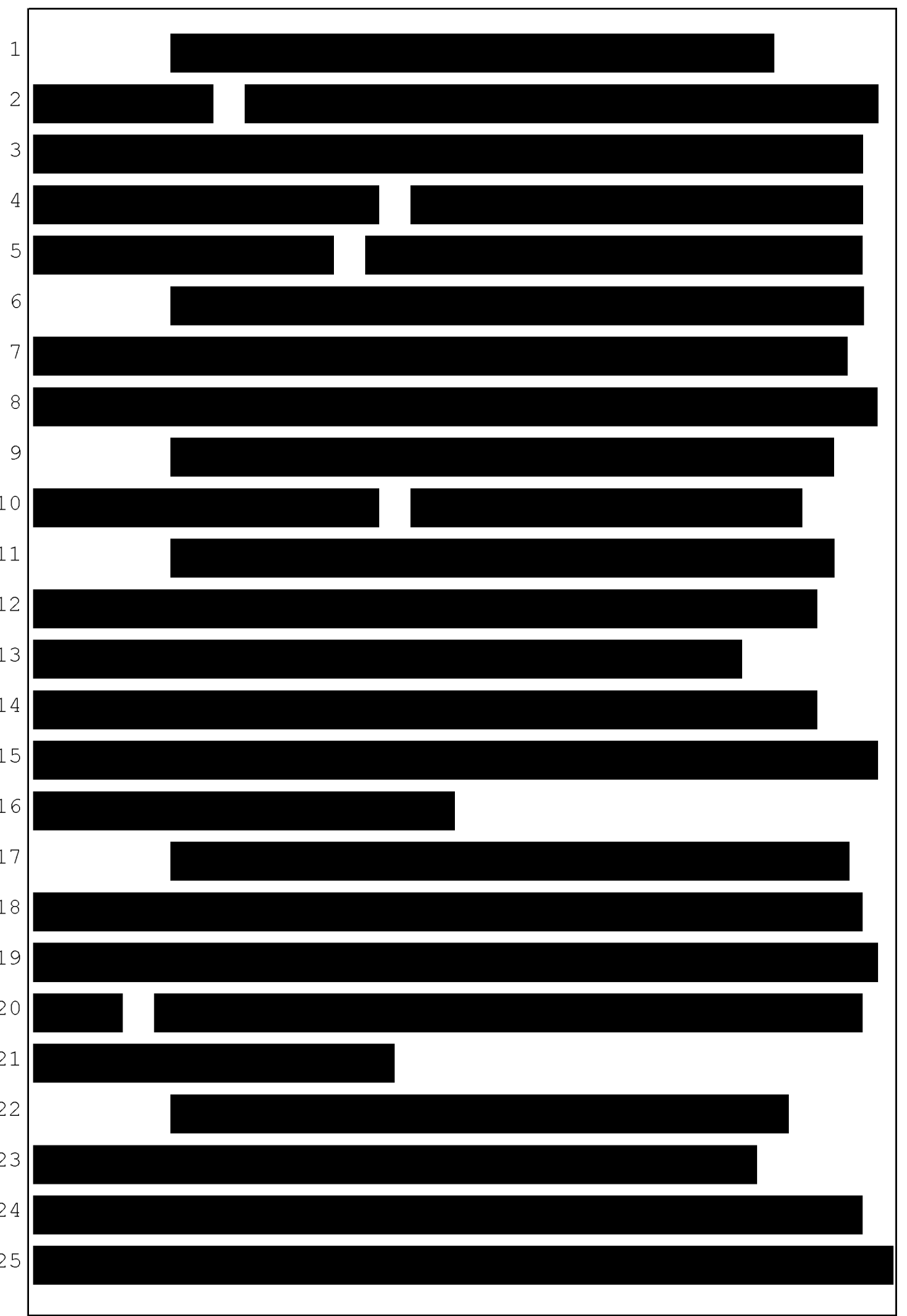
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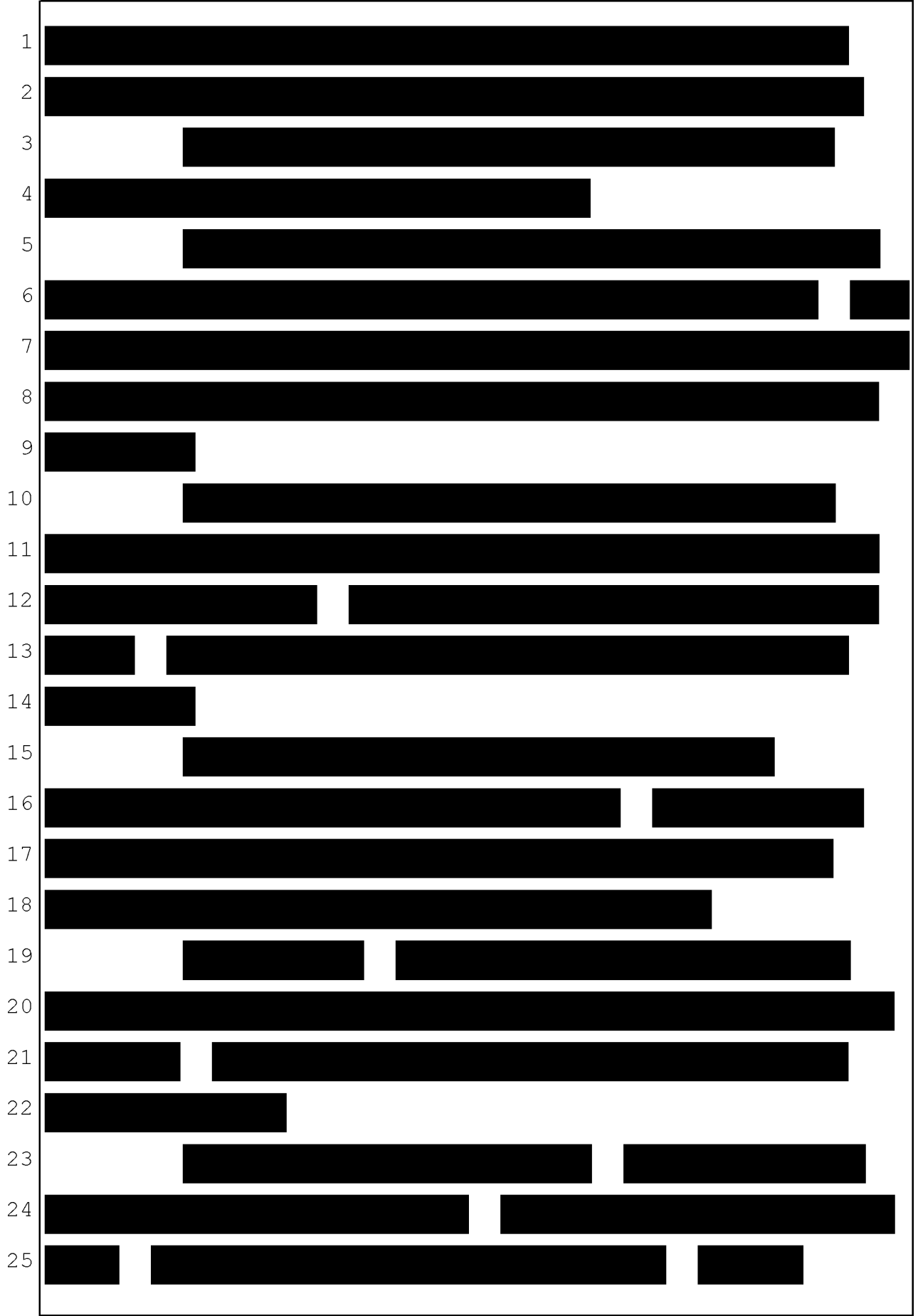
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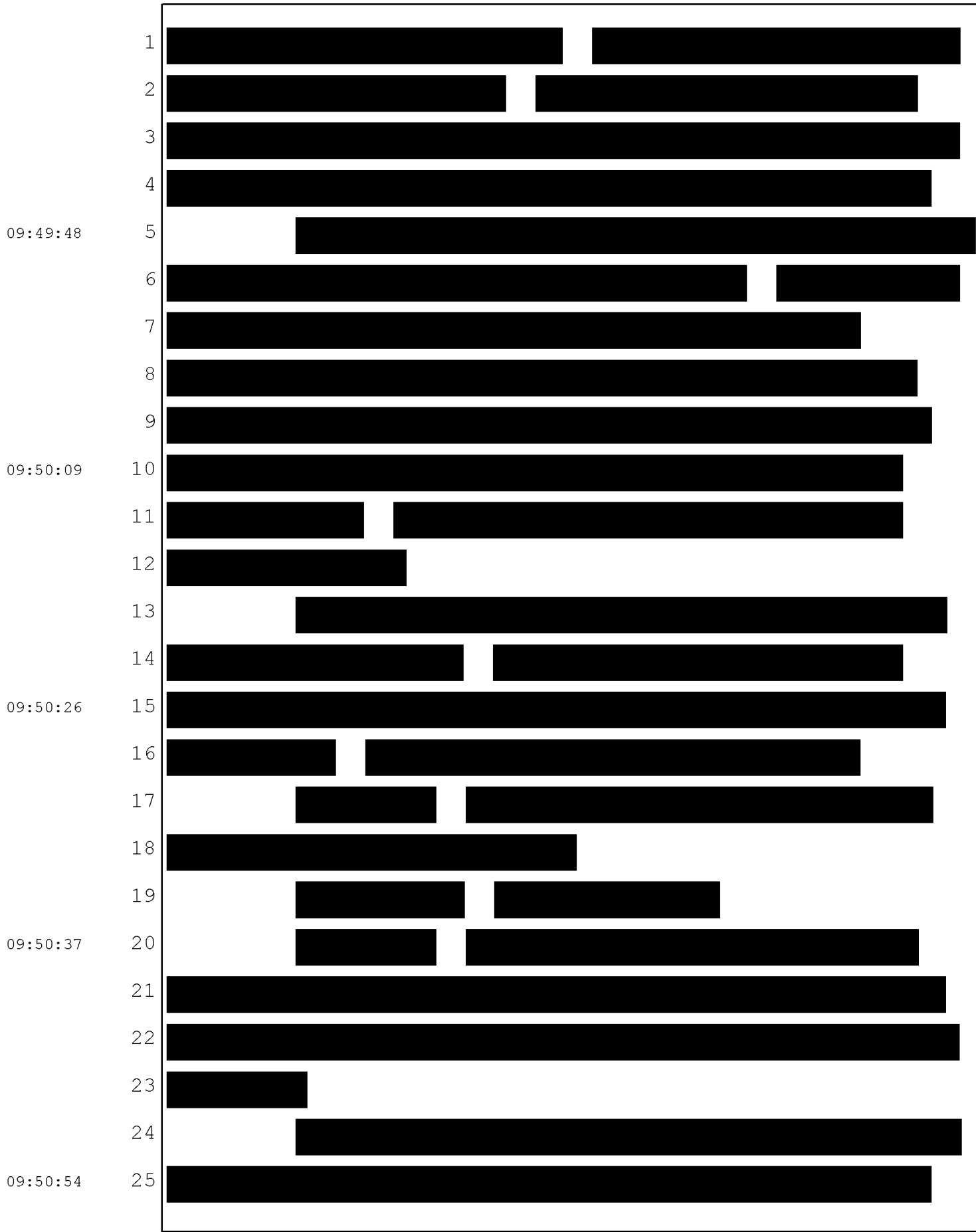
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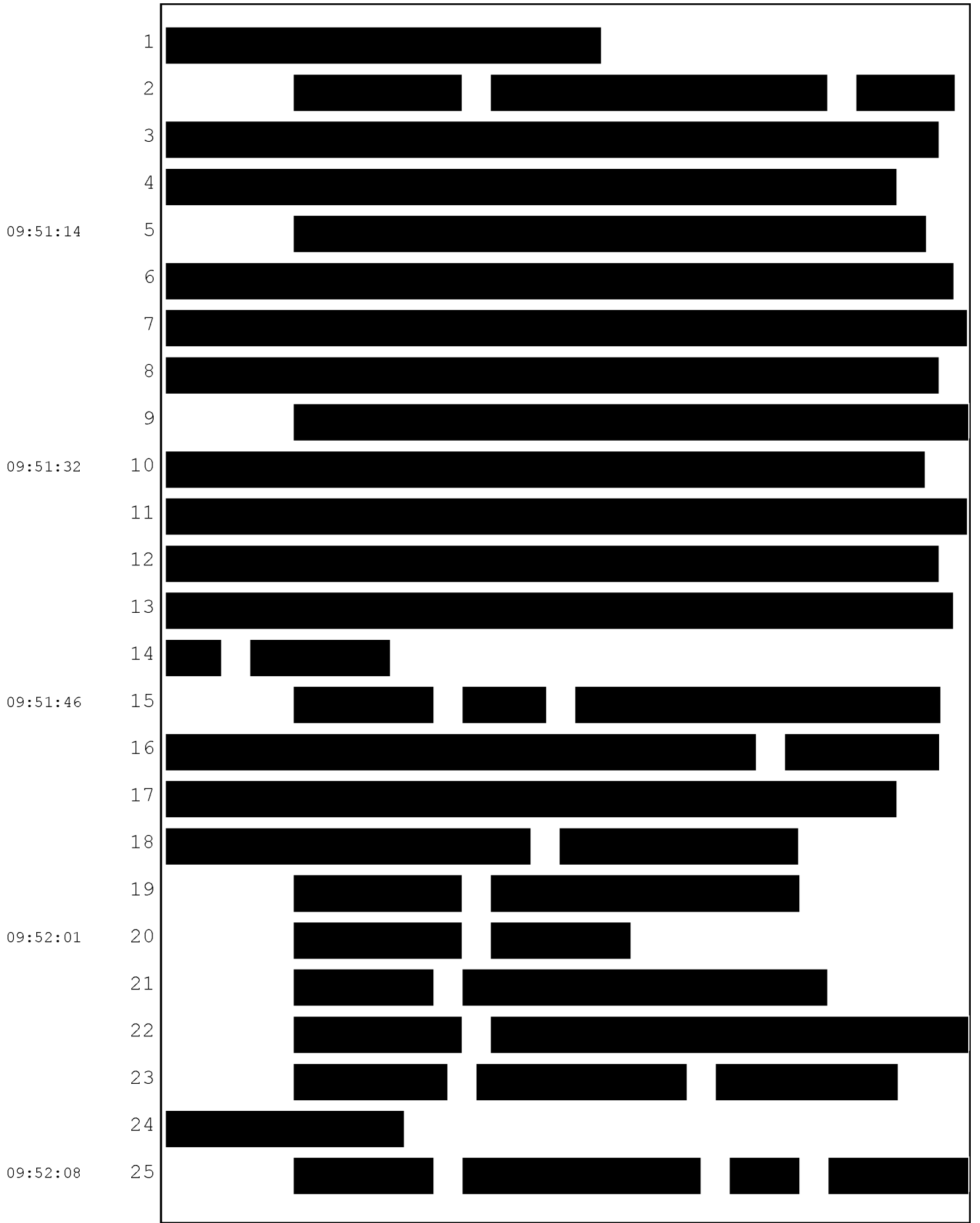
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(Jury enters courtroom.)

THE COURT: Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen.
Welcome back.

09:54:36

My apologies again for the late start, but I
promise you that we are working very hard to try to
streamline everything so it will hopefully go as smoothly
as possible today.

Mr. Wisner, you may call your next witness.

09:54:49

MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.

Before we do that, we are going to read a few
admissions into the record.

MR. GRIFFIS: I believe there's also an
instruction to be read.

09:54:57

THE COURT: Oh, yes. Thank you for reminding
me.

Before we proceed with the next witness, I did
wish to read the following instruction to you: "Members
of the jury, there are times when I make rulings that
prevent certain information from being presented to you
for legal reasons. On those occasions, witnesses are
barred from discussing the information or referring to
the information. If information is not presented to you,
it is because I have made that decision for legal
reasons. You should disregard any reference to

09:55:29

1 information that I have excluded and not speculate as to
2 what that information is."

3 All right. Thank you.

4 Now you may proceed, Mr. Wisner.

09:55:44

5 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.

6 Good morning. I'm going to read you three
7 admissions that have been made in this case.

09:56:03

8 "Admission Number 10: Request: Admit that
9 Monsanto has not conducted a chronic toxicity study of
10 any of the glyphosate-containing formulations sold in the
11 United States as of June 29, 2017.

09:56:22

12 "Response: Monsanto admits that after
13 reasonable inquiry into the information that is known or
14 reasonably obtainable, it has not identified any 12-month
15 or longer chronic toxicity studies that it has conducted
16 on glyphosate-containing formulations that were available
17 for sale in the United States as of June 29, 2017. But
18 denies that Monsanto has not conducted toxicity studies
19 of shorter durations, genotoxicity studies and other
20 tests on formulated glyphosate-containing products sold
21 in the United States as of June 29, 2017.

09:56:44

22 "Monsanto also denies the request to the extent
23 it suggests that Monsanto has not conducted chronic
24 toxicity studies on glyphosate. Monsanto otherwise
25 denies this request."

09:57:03

1 "Admission Number 12: Request: Admit that
2 Monsanto has never conducted an epidemiological study to
3 study the association between glyphosate-containing
4 formulations and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

09:57:27

5 "Response: Denied. Monsanto has conducted
6 epidemiological studies on glyphosate-containing
7 formulations, including the farm family exposure study.
8 Monsanto admits that that has not conducted a study
9 designed to examine specifically whether an association

09:57:46

10 exists between glyphosate-containing formulations and
11 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. However, multiple published
12 studies conducted by others show no association.

13 Finally, "Admission Number 4. Request: Admit
14 that after receipt of EPA's July 29, 1985, letter,
15 Monsanto stated that EPA's determination that glyphosate
16 was oncogenic," quote, "'would have serious negative
17 economic repercussions.'

09:58:10

18 "Response: Monsanto denies this request as
19 written. Monsanto admits that the cited document dated
20 March 13, 1985, states," quote, "'Monsanto is concerned
21 that even the initiation of formal regulatory action
22 would have serious negative economic repercussions, which
23 we believe are not justified by the scientific evidence.'

09:58:30

24 "Monsanto denies that this document was created
25 after Monsanto received EPA's July 29, 1985, letter,

09:58:50

1 MONGLY04269006-07. Monsanto otherwise denies this
2 request."

3 With that, your Honor, we're ready to call our
4 next witness.

09:59:12

5 THE COURT: Very well.

6 MR. WISNER: At this time, the plaintiffs call
7 Dr. Charles Benbrook to the stand.

09:59:26

8 THE COURT: Good morning, Dr. Benbrook. If you
9 could please step up here and remain standing. The clerk
10 will swear you in.

11

12

CHARLES BENBROOK,

13

having been first duly sworn, was examined

14

and testified as follows:

15

16

THE CLERK: Would you please state and spell
17 your name for the record.

18

THE WITNESS: Yes. Dr. Charles Benbrook,

19

C-H-A-R-L-E-S, Benbrook, B-E-N-B-R-O-O-K.

10:00:01

20

THE COURT: Thank you.

21

You may proceed, Mr. Wisner.

22

MR. WISNER: Your Honor, may I approach with the
23 binder and some water?

24

THE COURT: Yes.

10:00:17

25

MR. WISNER: Your Honor, I have one for the

1 court as well.

2 THE COURT: Oh, thank you.

3

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. WISNER:

6 Q. Good morning, Doctor. How are you?

7 A. Good morning, Mr. Wisner. I'm fine.

8 Q. I'd like to -- please introduce yourself to the
9 jury, say where you live and what you do.

10:00:34 10 A. I live in Troy, Oregon, in the very northeast
11 corner of the state. I'm glad to be down in
12 San Francisco. I went to high school in Palo Alto.

13 Q. And what do you currently do for a living, sir?

14 A. I'm a scientist that works on the impact of
10:00:50 15 agricultural production systems and toxicology on human
16 health, the environment, agriculture production,
17 economics of agriculture. And I've done extensive work
18 over many years on pesticide regulation.

19 Q. Let's go through a little bit about your history
10:01:06 20 and background. Where did you go to college?

21 A. I went to Harvard University.

22 Q. And what degree did you receive at Harvard?

23 A. An economics degree.

24 Q. Was that a Bachelor of Science or Arts?

10:01:17 25 A. Bachelor of Science.

1 Q. What's the difference?

2 A. Well, if you get a degree in English literature,
3 that's a Bachelor of Arts. And if you get a degree in
4 physics or chemistry or biology or economics, that's a
10:01:33 5 science, and they give you a Bachelor of Science degree.

6 Q. And after Harvard, did you go to graduate
7 school?

8 A. Yes, I did.

9 Q. And where did you attend graduate school?

10:01:42 10 A. In Madison, Wisconsin. The University of
11 Wisconsin at Madison.

12 Q. What did you study while you were there?

13 A. I studied agricultural economics.

14 Q. And did you get a degree from there?

10:01:53 15 A. Yes. I received a Master's and a PhD.

16 Q. And was that PhD specifically in agricultural
17 economics?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Can you please just explain to the jury what is
10:02:04 20 agricultural economics? What is that?

21 A. Well, agricultural economists get involved with
22 the costs and profits of farming, the cost of technology.
23 And agriculture economists often get heavily involved in
24 policy issues, commodity programs, crop insurance,
10:02:24 25 pesticide regulation, trade, tariffs. All the things

1 that affect the -- the economics of either agriculture
2 production at the farm level or the cost of food that
3 General Mills or Kellogg has to pay or the cost of food
4 at the grocery store.

10:02:42

5 Q. And when you were getting your PhD, what did you
6 focus your studies on?

10:03:00

7 A. I focused my doctorate dissertation work on the
8 impact of farm size and the growing concentration of
9 farms getting bigger and bigger on the intensity of input
10 use and the environmental impact of farming.

10:03:20

11 So I used agricultural census data across
12 counties and -- primarily in the midwest, corn/soybean
13 country -- and looked at the relationship between average
14 farm size and the pounds of nitrogen fertilizer applied,
15 the pounds of pesticides applied and what we knew at the
16 time about the impact on the environment, on soil health,
17 on water quality of those choices farmers were making.

10:03:38

18 Q. Now, Doctor, I'm a bit confused. Because my
19 understanding is that people who graduate from Harvard in
20 econ, they go work on Wall Street. How did you end up in
21 Madison Wisconsin studying agricultural economics?

10:03:54

22 A. Well, I had three small children, and the
23 grandparents were in northern Illinois. And I applied to
24 two grad schools, and I had to pick between Stanford and
25 Madison. And the grandparents won.

1 Q. Okay. After you got your PhD, what did you do?

2 A. I -- I was actually in the middle of my PhD
3 program, and I kind of got recruited into an agriculture
4 policy job in the Council on Environmental Quality in the
10:04:16 5 Executive Office of the President at the end of the
6 Carter administration.

7 I had gone to DC for a conference on soil and
8 water conservation policy and had an opportunity to meet
9 several of the people that were active in the issues that
10:04:31 10 I was doing my dissertation on, actually. And several
11 people told me about this job that was open in CEQ.

12 They're, kind of, worker bee agricultural specialists,
13 agricultural policy specialists. And kind of on a
14 whim -- I mean, I was in the middle of my PhD program. I
10:04:53 15 wasn't ready to enter the job market.

16 On a bit of a whim, I -- I went and talked with
17 them about the job, and they were very desperate to get
18 somebody in, because they didn't think there would be a
19 second Carter administration. And, of course, they were
10:05:07 20 right.

21 They kind of made me an offer I couldn't refuse.
22 And they negotiated a deal with my academic department to
23 make it possible for me to fly back and forth to DC and
24 still finish my dissertation.

10:05:19 25 So I started my national federal agricultural

1 policy career at the tail end of the Carter
2 administration.

3 Q. So it looks like the only thing that could beat
4 out your grandparents would be President Carter; is that
10:05:32 5 right?

6 A. Well, I suppose.

7 Q. Okay. So you worked there, and obviously
8 President Reagan came into office. What happened then?

9 A. Well, I -- I had filled a professional
10:05:42 10 analytical job -- it's called a Schedule C appointment --
11 in the federal government. And you serve at the pleasure
12 of the president. And I, and essentially all of my
13 colleagues in CEQ, were -- lost their jobs at -- on the
14 day of the inaugural, when President Reagan came into --
10:06:02 15 came into office.

16 Q. And after working for the Council on
17 Environmental Quality, what did you do next?

18 A. I was very fortunate. It was a long time ago.
19 I'll just remind people the republicans won the executive
10:06:22 20 branch, so, you know, EPA -- they also won control of the
21 senate. But the democrats retained a majority in the
22 house. And there was a sub-committee of the house ag
23 committee that had a new chairman that was hiring staff.
24 It happened to be the sub-committee of the house ag
10:06:41 25 committee that dealt with agriculture research, trade,

1 oversight of all of the USDA. And it also had
2 jurisdiction over a federal law called FIFRA, which is
3 the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
4 that -- the national pesticide law. And, really, just by
10:07:02 5 accident, I was responsible for managing reauthorization
6 of the FIFRA statute.

7 Q. Now, Doctor, the court reporter is looking at me
8 concerned, because I speak really quickly, and you speak
9 really quickly. And if we both start speaking really
10:07:22 10 quickly, our heads will explode. So let's both make an
11 effort to slow down.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. All right. So while you were working at this
14 sub-committee, what are some of the issues that you were
10:07:33 15 working on in that official capacity?

16 A. The primary issues were pest management and
17 pesticide use related. The Council on Environmental
18 Quality in the Carter administration actually put out the
19 first national report on something called integrated pest
10:07:49 20 management or IPM. That term would have come up in the
21 course of this trial. That was a very important report
22 that had an influence on federal policy for a number of
23 years.

24 We did a lot of work on soil and water
10:08:02 25 conservation policy. And a third issue that I ended up

1 spending a lot of time on was the conversion of
2 agricultural land to suburbs and commercial development.

3 And at the end of the Carter administration, one
4 of the reports that I think we got out the day before the
10:08:20 5 inaugural was called the "National Agricultural Land
6 Study." Very -- first national study of that. I spent a
7 lot of time working on that.

8 Q. You mentioned earlier that one of the issues
9 that your committee worked on was FIFRA; right?

10:08:35 10 A. Yes. Back when I was the staff director of the
11 congressional sub-committee, correct.

12 Q. And did you specifically, in your official
13 capacity, work to help amend, change or analyze FIFRA as
14 it's being applied?

10:08:49 15 A. Well, sure. That was the responsibility of the
16 sub-committee. Our sub-committee had to consider and
17 pass any authorizing legislation that would just keep
18 FIFRA going, without changing it or amend it to address
19 additional issues.

10:09:09 20 And, you know, much like today with the Trump
21 administration, with the Reagan administration coming in,
22 there was a strong push to amend, really, all of the
23 federal environmental statutes.

24 So our sub-committee had to deal with that
10:09:25 25 deluge of proposals to change federal environmental law.

1 Q. Was one of the jobs of the sub-committee to
2 organize hearings?

3 A. Yes, sir.

10:09:38

4 Q. And at that time, did you ever organize any
5 hearings specifically related to pesticides?

6 A. Several.

7 Q. Now, Doctor, let's kind of take a step back in
8 time for a second. So we're talking 1981, 1983; right?

9 A. Correct.

10:09:49

10 Q. What's going on in the country agriculturally
11 and pesticide-wise at this time in history?

12 A. Well, it happened to be a -- a time of low crop
13 prices. There was a lot of financial stress in
14 agriculture. And there's pressure to cut the budget.

10:10:09

15 There was a lot of pressure to deregulate, just like
16 there is today, to provide farmers with easier access to
17 technology.

18 And the political appointees in the EPA brought
19 in by President Reagan really went after the FIFRA
20 statute in a -- in a big way, to try to change some of
21 the fundamental provisions in it governing the review and
22 registration by EPA. And in particular, in the case of
23 cancer-causing pesticides.

10:10:31

24 Q. And as part of these hearings that you helped
25 organized in this committee, did you ever have the

10:10:51

1 occasion to work with a guy named Dr. Aaron Blair?

2 A. Yes. In our -- we decided to hold a hearing on
3 federal government policy addressing cancer-causing
4 pesticides, and so we invited -- people from EPA
10:11:10 5 testified. Of course, they had the responsibility for
6 doing risk assessments on cancer-causing pesticides,
7 making regulatory decisions, deciding whether to approve
8 tolerances or reduce tolerances or eliminate them. So we
9 had EPA people.

10:11:27 10 We invited -- I -- on behalf of the
11 sub-committee, I called the National Cancer Institute up
12 and said, "You have a large epidemiology program
13 involving pesticides. You" -- the National Cancer
14 Institute ran some of the most important studies on
10:11:49 15 oncogenicity, so I asked if a representative could come
16 and testify to our sub-committee, and they agreed, and
17 that's when I met a young epidemiologist named
18 Dr. Aaron Blair.

19 Q. And the jury's heard a lot about Dr. Blair, but
10:12:05 20 it's your understanding as well that he chaired the IARC
21 committee specifically on glyphosate?

22 A. I came to know that, yes.

23 Q. And, in fact, from my understanding, you've
24 actually had conversation with Dr. Blair about his work
10:12:16 25 with IARC and glyphosate?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Okay. Now, after the sub-committee, you went to
3 work for the National Academy of Sciences; is that right?

4 A. Correct.

10:12:24 5 Q. And what was your position or post there?

6 A. I was the executive director of a newly formed
7 major operating unit of the National Academy of Sciences
8 called the board on agriculture.

9 Q. And did you -- what was your job? What were you
10:12:40 10 doing?

11 A. Well, the National Academy of Sciences at the
12 time wanted to substantially increase its involvement in
13 a wide range of agricultural science and technology and
14 policy issues, and so they elevated to, sort of, major
10:13:01 15 unit status. They brought in a highly-respected
16 wonderful man named Dr. William Brown to be chair of the
17 board. They hired new staff. I was the new staff
18 director. I had two other staff. And our charge was to
19 go out and design studies, find either federal agencies
10:13:23 20 or foundations that would support -- financially support
21 the studies, because the National Academy of Sciences,
22 it's not part of government. It was established by an
23 executive order by President Lincoln to provide
24 independent science advice to the federal government.
10:13:39 25 It's not part of the federal government.

1 So we did work on -- a lot of work on
2 pesticides, a lot of work on animal drugs, a lot of work
3 on nutrition. We did work on groundwater contamination
4 with pesticides and a lot of work on emerging new
10:14:01 5 techniques for plant breeding.

6 Q. You were at the National Academy of Sciences as
7 an executive director for about ten years; is that right?

8 A. Seven.

9 Q. Seven. Okay.

10:14:10 10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. And during your time there, did you help design,
12 recruit, create studies specifically looking at the
13 health effects of pesticides?

14 A. Yes. We had held -- back when I was the
10:14:23 15 executive director of -- the staff director of the
16 sub-committee, we had done a series of hearings --
17 oversight hearings on EPA, and one of the biggest issues
18 was how EPA was dealing with oncogenic pesticides in
19 terms of establishing tolerances and approving
10:14:46 20 registrations.

21 And it was really our sub-committee work that
22 brought fully into the public light and in front of the
23 Congress a fundamental conflict in the two major federal
24 statutes that govern pesticide regulation, FIFRA statute
10:14:59 25 and the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act. There's provisions

1 in both of them that EPA had to administer, and for
2 certain cases, certain pesticides, certain foods, the
3 FIFRA statute said, "Jump to the right," and the FDCA,
4 the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act, said, "Jump to the left."
10:15:19 5 And EPA was just caught in a -- in an unforeseen conflict
6 between two federal statutes.

7 So during my time at the sub-committee, we fully
8 brought that out. The EPA people explained the conflict,
9 and I was recruited into this job. I loved my work with
10:15:38 10 the sub-committee. I would have stayed there perhaps for
11 my whole career, but I was given an opportunity to go
12 work for the academy and a substantial pay raise, and all
13 that stuff, so I took the job.

14 But I almost immediately called up my -- you
10:15:54 15 know, the EPA official that we worked with very closely,
16 a guy named Dr. John Moore, Dr. Jack Moore, and said,
17 "Why don't you have us and the board on agriculture do a
18 National Academy of Science study on this problem you
19 have dealing with oncogenic pesticides and residues in
10:16:13 20 food?" And the EPA thought that was a good idea. We got
21 a large contract, and we did what's called the Delaney
22 Paradox Report.

23 Q. Okay. Doctor, there's a lot of detail here. We
24 don't need to get into all of it.

10:16:30 25 A. I'm sorry.

1 Q. I understand you've got a lot of story to tell.
2 And that's fine, but let's just keep it to the
3 questions --

4 A. Okay.

10:16:35

5 Q. -- and we can get through it pretty quickly.
6 We're trying to get the jury out of here pretty
7 fast.

10:16:44

8 So -- all right. So after you left the Academy
9 of Sciences, you started a company called Benbrook
10 Consulting; is that right?

11 A. Correct.

10:16:56

12 Q. And as part of the consulting, you would consult
13 with various companies, agencies, government, whoever,
14 about looking at the effects of pesticides and other
15 things on agricultural practices?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Okay. I understand at one point you worked for
18 Organics Organization? Is that what it's called?

10:17:05

19 A. Well, much later. The Organic Trade Association
20 and then a research-based group called The Organic
21 Center.

22 Q. And what did you do while you were there?

10:17:21

23 A. I served as the chief scientist for The Organic
24 Center from 2005, 2006 to 2015. And I was responsible
25 for tracking scientific developments on the impacted of

1 organic farming on the nutritional quality of food, the
2 safety of food, both from a perspective of pesticides,
3 antibiotics and antibiotic-resistant bacteria in animal
4 products and the environmental footprint, if you will, of
5 agriculture.

10:17:43

6 Q. And I understand also as part of your consulting
7 work that you've worked on various scientific studies to
8 examine the effects of pesticides on health; is that
9 right?

10:17:53

10 A. Oh, many. My very first client was Kraft Foods
11 that was worried about pesticide residues in Folgers
12 Coffee coming out of Central America. That was my very
13 first project as Benbrook Consulting Services, but then
14 I -- because of my involvement with oncogenic pesticides
15 in food and the federal law dealing with it, I had
16 multiple contracts with many people, and my biggest
17 client in that era was a consumers' union, the
18 organization that puts out the magazine Consumer Reports.

10:18:17

19 Q. And, Doctor, I understand you, in your
20 consulting and capacity, you've actually specifically
21 researched glyphosate and its rise and change of use in
22 the United States?

10:18:27

23 A. Certainly later on. I started it -- really more
24 extensive work on glyphosate in around 2000 when the use
25 of Roundup, herbicides and other glyphosate-based

10:18:49

1 herbicides -- and let me just say for the jury --

2 Q. Doctor, we're going to get into this later.

3 A. I just want to clear up -- I'll use the term

4 "glyphosate-based herbicides," and that means any

10:19:03

5 herbicide manufactured by any company that contains

6 glyphosate as the active ingredient, so that's the term I

7 will use.

8 Q. And Roundup, Ranger Pro, those would be

9 glyphosate --

10:19:12

10 A. Glyphosate-based herbicides.

11 Q. Okay. All right. So then in 2000 -- so you've

12 done some research on glyphosate specifically. You've

13 been published in peer-reviewed journals; is that

14 correct?

10:19:24

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Specifically relating to the safety of

17 pesticides; is that right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You said you started studying it in 2000; is

10:19:34

20 that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And at what point were you contacted and asked

23 to be looking at the -- glyphosate and its relationship

24 to NHL in a litigation capacity?

10:19:44

25 A. Would have been September of 2016.

1 Q. Okay. So you were looking at glyphosate and
2 studying its effect on the world for about 16 years
3 before you were ever contacted by anybody?

4 A. Oh, yes. Yeah.

10:19:59

5 Q. Okay. And I understand that you're currently --
6 I mean, as we speak, you're leading a scientific study in
7 the midwest; is that right?

10:20:15

8 A. Well, I'm one of the members of the science
9 team, and I have a -- some managerial and operational
10 responsibilities for a project that's run by the
11 Children's Environmental Health Network. It's a
12 Washington, DC-based organization that works on policy
13 and science issues that effect children's health.

10:20:31

14 And there's great concern, particularly in the
15 midwest, about the substantial increase in herbicide use
16 that's happening now and has been going on for a few
17 years, and the potential for that really massive increase
18 in herbicide use to increase the frequency and severity
19 of the number of birth defects and reproductive problems,
20 and so we've put together a scientific team to address
21 that, and that's ongoing.

10:20:54

22 Q. Okay. As part of reaching your opinions in this
23 case, have you personally reviewed all the publicly
24 available scientific literature related to glyphosate and
25 NHL?

10:21:10

1 A. Well, I've certainly reviewed a lot of it. I
2 would suspect there's a study or two out there that I
3 haven't reviewed.

4 Q. And in part of your work, you prepared, like, a
10:21:23 5 250-page report; is that right?

6 A. My expert report for this case was 207 pages.

7 Q. Okay. Now, Doctor, we are not going to get into
8 all the stuff in that report. This jury has heard a lot
9 from a lot of experts about studies and mice and epi and
10:21:41 10 exposure, so we're not going to talk about any of that.
11 Okay? What I want to focus on is basically cleanup. I
12 want to talk about a few issues that have arisen during
13 trial and see if we can help explain some of those
14 issues. Okay, Doctor?

10:21:54 15 A. That's fine.

16 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, at this time, I would
17 like to certify Dr. Benbrook as an expert in pesticide
18 regulation and pesticide risk assessment.

19 THE COURT: Any *voir dire*?

10:22:04 20 MR. GRIFFIS: No, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. I will accept
22 Dr. Benbrook as an expert in pesticide regulation and
23 pesticide risk assessment. Thank you.

24 Q. BY MR. WISNER: All right. Let's start off just
10:22:16 25 generally. We've heard a lot about the EPA. Let's just

1 talk about the general framework of the EPA regulatory
2 decision making process. Okay? And let's talk about
3 this in the context of, like, how a bill -- did you ever
4 seen that thing how a bill becomes a law?

10:22:36

5 A. Yes.

10:22:46

6 Q. So let's talk about how a chemical becomes a
7 pesticide. All right. So a company goes out and finds
8 this chemical and goes, "Hey, we can use this as a
9 pesticide." What do they do? What's the steps that
10 happen before it can get approved for sale in the United
11 States?

10:23:07

12 A. The EPA has issued extensive guidelines for a
13 set of toxicological studies, environmental fate studies,
14 that are -- that produce information essential to doing a
15 risk assessment on the -- on the proposed use of the
16 pesticide.

10:23:23

17 So when a company discovers a molecule that has
18 activity, and that means the potential to control a pest,
19 and so we'll talk about herbicides and weeds in general,
20 since that's the focus of the case.

10:23:40

21 So when a pesticide company finds an active
22 molecule, they'll do a number of tests, usually in
23 greenhouses, to figure out which weeds it controls and
24 how much you have to spray. And then they have to do
25 significant work to understand the environmental fate of

1 it. Is it -- is it persistent? What level of residue
2 might be in the harvested part of the crop.

3 And so the company has to develop a set of data
4 that will cover -- and provide EPA the ability to, first
10:24:00 5 of all, understand the potential toxicological hazards
6 associated with exposure to the active ingredients, as
7 well as on how much of it people might be exposed to,
8 from the food that's been treated with it, from drinking
9 water or Coca-Cola or beer, or if it's a farmer that's
10:24:18 10 spraying it or a person that's spraying it around the
11 yard, they need information to calculate what's called
12 occupational exposure.

13 And all that information goes into the EPA, and
14 in the -- so the pesticide regulation is done by the
10:24:38 15 Office of Pesticide Programs, and that office is broken
16 up into various science divisions that are responsible
17 for the review of different categories of studies.

18 So the basic science branches get their set of
19 studies, and they have to determine did the research that
10:24:57 20 the -- the registrant that's asking for approval of a
21 pesticide label, does it meet the requirements? And if
22 they check that box, then the -- the -- either the
23 petition to establish a tolerance or an application for a
24 registration, which would be to get a label that would
10:25:16 25 make it legal to sell the pesticide, kind of moves along

1 the process.

2 Q. All right. So you said a lot of things there.
3 Let's, kind of, break it down a little bit.

4 So my understanding is before they can even sell
10:25:27 5 a product, they have to do all this testing on it; is
6 that right?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Okay. And so they test a lot of things. They
9 test, like, eye irritation, skin irritation, you know,
10:25:37 10 does it -- how it changes in the environment, things like
11 that; right?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. And as part of these battery of different tests,
14 only a small subset of it is directed towards the issue
10:25:49 15 of carcinogenicity; is that right?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Now, you mentioned occupational exposure. And
18 if a product hasn't been sold on the market yet, how can
19 you have occupational exposure data if it's not being
10:26:01 20 used?

21 A. Well, the testing guidelines require the
22 registrant to do some field tests under the provisions on
23 the label governing how someone will use it that buys the
24 product. And so they would have to do a study, for
10:26:20 25 example, to estimate dermal absorption or how much would

1 get on an applicator, or how much would be in food.

2 So they -- they -- there's a set of studies that
3 go into risk assessment methodologies that the EPA uses,
4 and the EPA will establish some benchmark or exposure
10:26:46 5 threshold over which they don't want to see exposures
6 going above, and they draw on these studies that have
7 been done to make a determination whether their level of
8 concern is exceeded or not.

9 Q. Well, it seems like this would be a pretty easy
10:27:03 10 system to gain, Doctor. I mean, couldn't I just do 20
11 studies, even if 19 of them show problems, just don't
12 share that with the EPA? Just give them the one good
13 one? Wouldn't that be a problem? Or is there a way that
14 the EPA tries to deal with that?

10:27:17 15 A. Well, there is. There's a way that Congress
16 tried to deal with it, and the EPA has to administer the
17 law. Pesticide registrants have an ongoing
18 responsibility to share with the EPA any new information
19 that they get, any studies that they do that raises new
10:27:42 20 information that is not already included in previous
21 studies that have been submitted to the EPA. So it's
22 kind of, "If you learn something new that might suggest a
23 higher risk, you've got to tell us about it."

24 Q. So, for example, this is hypothetical, if a
10:27:55 25 company had done, like, an exposure study and it showed a

1 much higher rate of absorption --

2 MR. GRIFFIS: May we approach, your Honor?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 (Sidebar.)

10:28:16

5 [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10:28:35

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11 [REDACTED]

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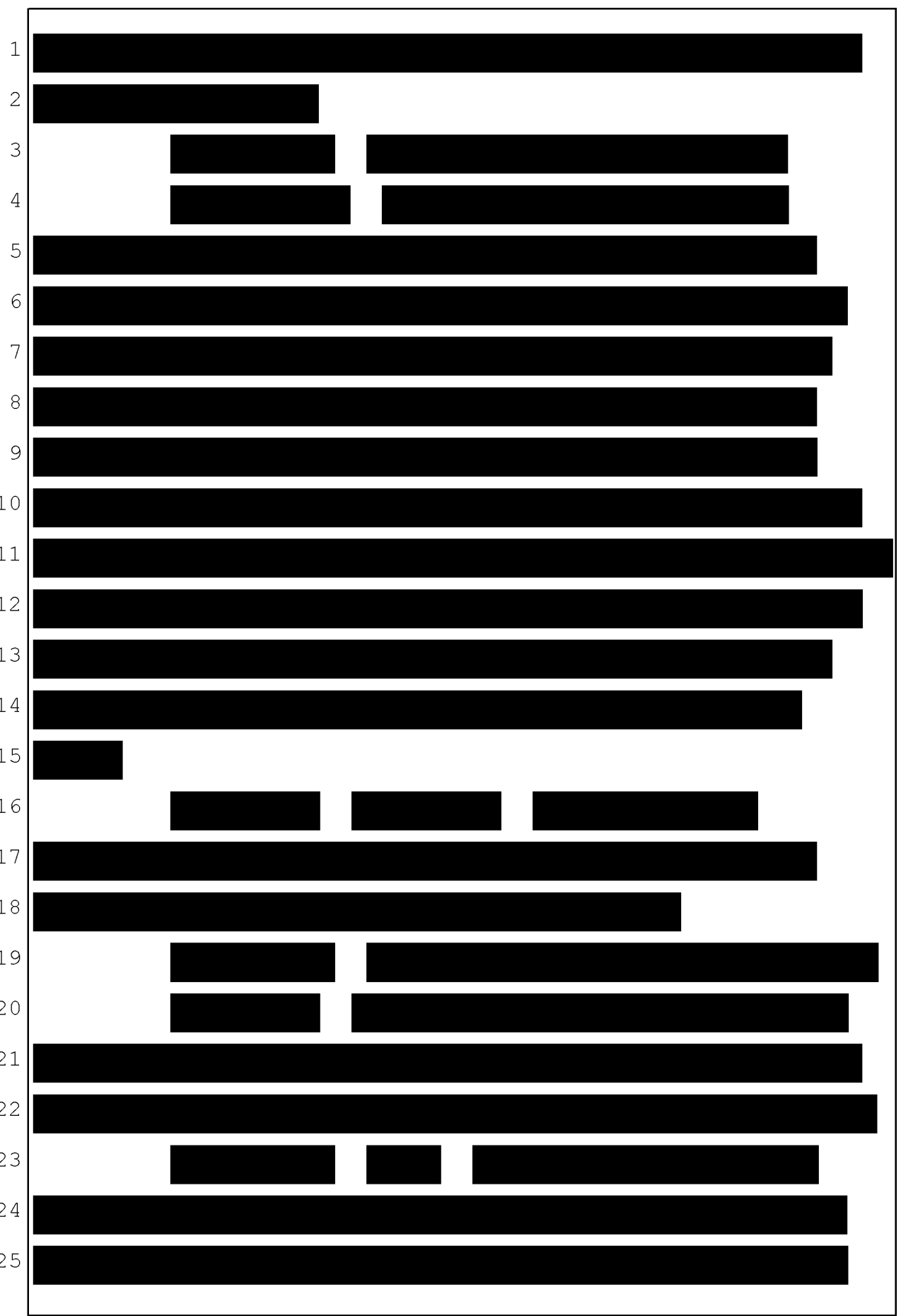
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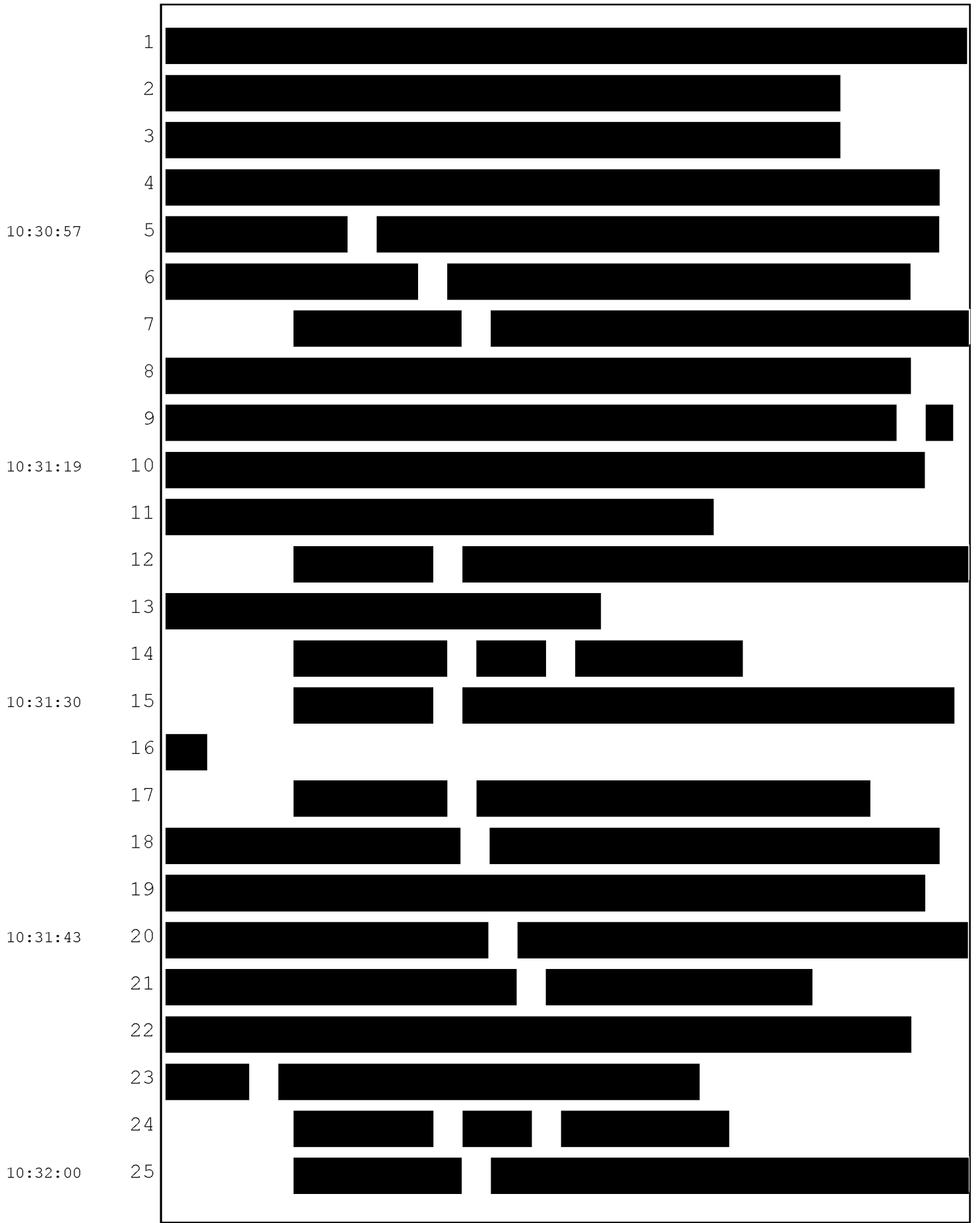
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[REDACTED]

(End sidebar.)

THE COURT: You may proceed, Mr. Dickens.

MR. WISNER: Wisner, your Honor.

10:32:14

THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry. Mr. Wisner.

MR. DICKENS: Wishful thinking.

10:32:28

Q. BY MR. WISNER: Doctor, so, hypothetically, if a study had been done that showed dermal absorption over, like, much higher than what had been previously reported, would that be something that constitutes new information?

A. Yes.

Q. And should be disclosed?

A. Yes.

10:32:36

Q. Okay. And I guess that applies similarly to -- you said new information. Could it also be evaluation of old information with a new conclusion?

A. Yes.

MR. GRIFFIS: And, your Honor, same -- same objection.

10:32:46

THE COURT: All right. Overruled.

But be careful, please, Mr. Wisner.

MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.

10:33:02

Q. Okay. We've had some discussion in this court about the Roundup and Ranger Pro labels. I just want to -- who controls that label?

1 A. The registrant, Monsanto Company.

2 Q. And putting aside Monsanto, let's talk about
3 general EPA regs. I shouldn't have gone to Monsanto.
4 Let's just keep it general.

10:33:17 5 Is -- who has the responsibility for the
6 accuracy of the label?

7 A. The registrant that drafts the label and submits
8 it to the EPA for review and approval.

9 Q. And can a registrant, if they discover new
10:33:32 10 information, change the label?

11 A. Oh, absolutely. They do it almost on an annual
12 basis.

13 Q. In fact, they're required to; right?

14 A. Yes.

10:33:41 15 Q. And, Doctor, in your entire career monitoring
16 EPA and pesticide use, have you ever seen in your entire
17 life the EPA reject a label --

18 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection. Your Honor.

19 MR. WISNER: Let me finish my question.

10:33:57 20 Q. -- where they tried to add risk information?

21 A. No.

22 MR. WISNER: Oh, sorry. Don't answer.

23 MR. GRIFFIS: That's a violation of
24 Restriction 4 on the order.

10:34:06 25 THE COURT: All right. Sustained.

1 Please ask a different question.

2 MR. GRIFFIS: May I ask that the question and
3 answer be stricken?

10:34:15

4 THE COURT: Yes. The question and answer will
5 be stricken.

6 Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, you should disregard
7 that last question and answer.

8 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Now, I understand that EPA
9 requires certain types of studies; is that right?

10:34:28

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I want to ask a different question. Does the
12 EPA prevent any studies?

10:34:49

13 A. No. Not -- I mean, you can't -- you can't
14 administer a pesticide to a pregnant woman to see its
15 effect on her developing child. I'm sure that's illegal.

16 Q. Okay. Fair enough.

17 Let me ask you a more specific question. Does
18 the EPA prevent a company from conducting an
19 epidemiological study?

10:35:02

20 A. No.

21 Q. Does the EPA prevent a company from studying
22 whether a formulated product can cause cancer?

23 A. No.

10:35:13

24 Q. So if someone were to say, "Well, the EPA
25 doesn't require it," that doesn't mean the EPA prevents

1 it; is that right?

2 A. Oh, yes, of course.

10:35:26

3 Q. Now, there's been some discussion about the
4 regulations surrounding surfactants in this case. What
5 is a surfactant, Doctor?

10:35:47

6 A. A surfactant is a so-called inert ingredient.
7 And inert because it doesn't contribute to the weed
8 control impact of the formulated product. Glyphosate is
9 a pure active ingredient. No one ever buys, no one ever
10 applies pure glyphosate. They buy a formulated product
11 that has surfactants added to it which alter the
12 environmental fate of the herbicide when it's applied in
13 the environment.

10:36:03

14 The key thing for surfactants is to get the
15 Roundup to stick to the surface of the weed long enough
16 to get inside the weed where it will have its desired
17 impact on it, i.e., kill it. And the big concern is, you
18 know, it rains sometimes, so the surfactants help keep
19 the Roundup on the weeds long enough to get inside even
20 if there's a little bit of rain.

10:36:24

21 Q. And now, Doctor, do you know the word "synergy"?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What does that mean?

10:36:43

24 A. Synergy is a concept when one thing potentiates
25 or increases or enhances another thing, and in the field

1 of pesticide risk assessment, it's a very important
2 concept that arise in the review of a majority of
3 pesticides, because of the potential for a pesticide
4 active ingredient to interact with the surfactants that
10:37:04 5 it's formulated with or to interact with the fertilizers
6 that are in the tank. Lots of times farmers will put
7 liquid fertilizer in a tank and some herbicide and make
8 one application across the field. So they have to worry
9 about do the chemical properties of the fertilizer affect
10:37:26 10 the environmental fate of the pesticide, maybe making it
11 more likely to leach into groundwater or more persistent.

12 Q. Now, I understand that the EPA, they require
13 animal cancer studies about glyphosate; right?

14 A. Correct.

10:37:41 15 Q. And I understand that they have studied in
16 computer models the carcinogenicity of the surfactant; is
17 that right?

18 A. EPA, in assessing the potential cancer risks
19 from various surfactants, they rarely require a battery
10:37:59 20 of two-year cancer studies like -- like has been done on
21 most major active ingredients. But what they do is they
22 look at structure activity relationships from -- you
23 know, basically is this: Is the structure, the chemical
24 structure of the surfactant, is it similar to some other
10:38:18 25 chemical that we know poses some oncogenic risk. And if

1 there isn't anything, they don't require any further
2 testing.

10:38:39 3 Q. Now we talked about synergy. Does the EPA
4 require tests to measure the synergy between a pesticide
5 and its other ingredients?

6 A. Not very often, no. Certainly not -- certainly
7 not routinely.

10:38:53 8 Q. Let me just ask you this question: To the best
9 of your knowledge, has anybody ever attempted to study
10 the formulated product of glyphosate and its surfactants
11 on the animal carcinogenicity?

12 A. There's only been -- there's been no formal
13 two-year cancer study, no.

14 Q. Monsanto's Roundup came on the market in 1976.

10:39:14 15 A. First experimental use permit was in 1974, and
16 various labels came into place in '75, '76. I think the
17 first Roundup was in -- the first Roundup label was
18 approved in '76.

10:39:34 19 Q. And my understanding is that when a registrant
20 submits a product for registration on the issue of
21 cancer, they submit usually one mouse and one rat study;
22 is that right?

23 A. That's what the requirements call for, yes.

24 Q. Okay.

10:39:45 25 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish Exhibit 12,

1 sorry, 1021 and 1020.

2 THE COURT: Any objection?

3 MR. GRIFFIS: I don't think so. I'm not quite
4 sure what they are.

10:40:19

5 No objection.

6 THE COURT: Very well. You may proceed.

10:40:32

7 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Now, Doctor, I don't want to
8 spend too much time on this. Dr. Portier walked us
9 through a lot of tumors and stuff. But I just want to
10 ask a question about something because it occurred to me
11 this might be something that the jury is wondering.

12 We just established that Roundup was approved in
13 1974, '76; right?

14 A. Correct.

10:40:41

15 Q. Yet this mouse study is 1983. Do you see that?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. And this rat study is 1981. Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

10:40:58

19 Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that between its
20 original registration in the '70s in these mouse and rat
21 studies, there actually was no valid mouse or rat studies
22 related to the carcinogenicity of this product?

23 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection, your Honor --

10:41:15

24 THE COURT: Sustained. Please ask a different
25 question.

1 MR. WISNER: Okay. Your Honor, can I have a
2 sidebar?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 (Sidebar.)

10:41:34

5 [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10:41:52

10 [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]

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14 [REDACTED]

10:42:09

15 [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

10:42:23

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

10:42:41

25 [REDACTED]

1 (End sidebar.)

2 THE COURT: You may continue.

3 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Sir, you studied, looked at all
4 the animal studies conducted on Roundup -- and sorry,
10:42:55 5 specifically glyphosate; right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. All the ones that were on these boards; right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You looked at them closely; right?

10:43:01 10 A. Yes, in varying degrees of depth, but yes.

11 Q. And you've even looked at the studies that
12 happened before these ones; right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay.

10:43:13 15 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, may I ask the question
16 now or no? Has the foundation been laid?

17 THE COURT: No. You may ask a different
18 question.

19 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Let me ask you this: Before
10:43:35 20 these dates, to the best of your knowledge, Doctor, were
21 there any valid studies on animal carcinogenicity?

22 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection. Ask counsel to move
23 on.

24 THE COURT: Objection is sustained.

10:43:46 25 MR. WISNER: Okay.

1 Q. Let's talk about one of the ones on this board.
2 Talk briefly about the 1983 study.

3 Do you see that?

4 A. Yes, sir.

10:43:58 5 Q. This is one by Knezevich & Hogan; is that right?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. And I understand that this study is specifically
8 addressed in the IARC Monograph; is that right?

9 A. That's correct.

10:44:10 10 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish
11 the IARC Monograph, which is Exhibit 169.

12 THE COURT: Very well.

13 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Doctor, our cool computer system
14 that we have crashed this morning.

10:44:24 15 A. Well, what do you know. And in San Francisco to
16 boot.

17 Q. I know; right? Why we don't have a backup, I
18 don't know, Brian. But we're going to do it old school.

19 All right. So this is a copy -- all right.

10:44:55 20 This is a copy of the Monograph, and it has some
21 highlights on it. I apologize. But this is a copy of
22 the Monograph; right?

23 A. Yes, correct.

24 Q. And this is Exhibit 169. Do you see that?

10:45:07 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Now in the Monograph there's a discussion about
2 this, and I just want to sort of walk through it a little
3 bit so the jury can understand it when they're reviewing
4 this later.

10:45:18 5 So this is on page 30, and this is the section
6 cancer in experimental animals.

7 Do you see that, Doctor?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And the first one is table 3.1, and it says
10:45:32 10 dietary administration?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. And it proceeds to describe a group of studies,
13 groups of 50 male mice and 50 females, CD-1 mice.

14 Do you see that?

10:45:43 15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. This is the study of the Knezevich & Hogan; is
17 that right?

18 A. Yes. I refer to it in my expert report as the
19 1983 biodynamics study. That's the contract lab that
10:45:53 20 conducted it. But it's also known by the two authors.

21 Q. Okay. And there's quite a bit of discussion of
22 this study in the Working Group, and let's just read some
23 of it. It says there was a consistent -- okay, starting
24 here.

10:46:08 25 There was a positive -- I need a highlighter.

1 All right. It says, "There was a positive trend
2 test in the incidence of renal tubular adenoma in dosed
3 male mice.

4 Do you see that?

10:46:25

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Okay. Very simply, what does that mean?

7 A. It means that in this study, the groups of mice,
8 male mice that were treated with Roundup, had a
9 statistically significant increase in cancer.

10:46:43

10 Q. Okay. Then it goes, "The Working Group noted
11 that the renal tubular adenoma is a rare tumor in CD-1
12 mouse."

13 Do you see that?

14 A. Yes.

10:46:52

15 Q. And do you agree with that?

16 A. Well, yes.

17 Q. "No data on tumors of the kidney were provided
18 for female mice. No other tumor sites were identified."

19 Do you see that?

10:47:03

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And it cites the EPA's 1985. Do you see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. That's referring to an EPA report that was
24 generated in 1985 related to this study?

10:47:13

25 A. Very well-known report, yes.

1 Q. Subsequent to its initial report, the United
2 States Environmental Protection Agency recommended that
3 additional renal sections be cut and evaluated from all
4 male mice in the control and treated groups. The
10:47:28 5 pathology report for these additional sections indicated
6 the same incidence of renal tubular adenoma as originally
7 reported, with no significant increase in incidence
8 between the control group and treated groups by pairwise
9 comparison. However, as already reported above, the test
10:47:45 10 for linear trend in proportions resulted in a
11 significance of point -- a P value of .016.

12 Do you see that?

13 A. Yeah, that was the evaluation of the Working
14 Group of this 1983 biodynamic study, the renal tubular
10:48:01 15 adenomas in the male mice, yeah.

16 Q. To say this really simply, they looked at it,
17 they saw an increased risk; is that right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. The EPA? Then they again had a group reevaluate
10:48:17 20 those tumors; right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And they still saw the results?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Sorry, there's a lot of complicated verbiage to
10:48:28 25 explain a simple thing, but it's how it's written.

1 "The EPA also requested that a pathology Working
2 Group be convened to evaluate the tumors of the kidney
3 observed in male mice treated with glyphosate, including
4 the additional renal sections."

10:48:44

5 Do you see that?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. Now, you reviewed the EPA documents at this
8 time; right?

10:48:51

9 A. Yeah, I've been -- I've carefully studied and
10 referred to this back and forth between EPA and the
11 registrant on this particular study for, you know,
12 20 years.

10:49:05

13 Q. And you've been studying the EPA. Have you ever
14 seen the EPA conduct a pathology Working Group after they
15 find a positive result?

16 A. It's a fairly unusual event, but you know, this
17 was a -- this was a cancer study and a controversy that
18 had enormous consequences.

10:49:22

19 Q. And do you know if that was done at the request
20 of Monsanto?

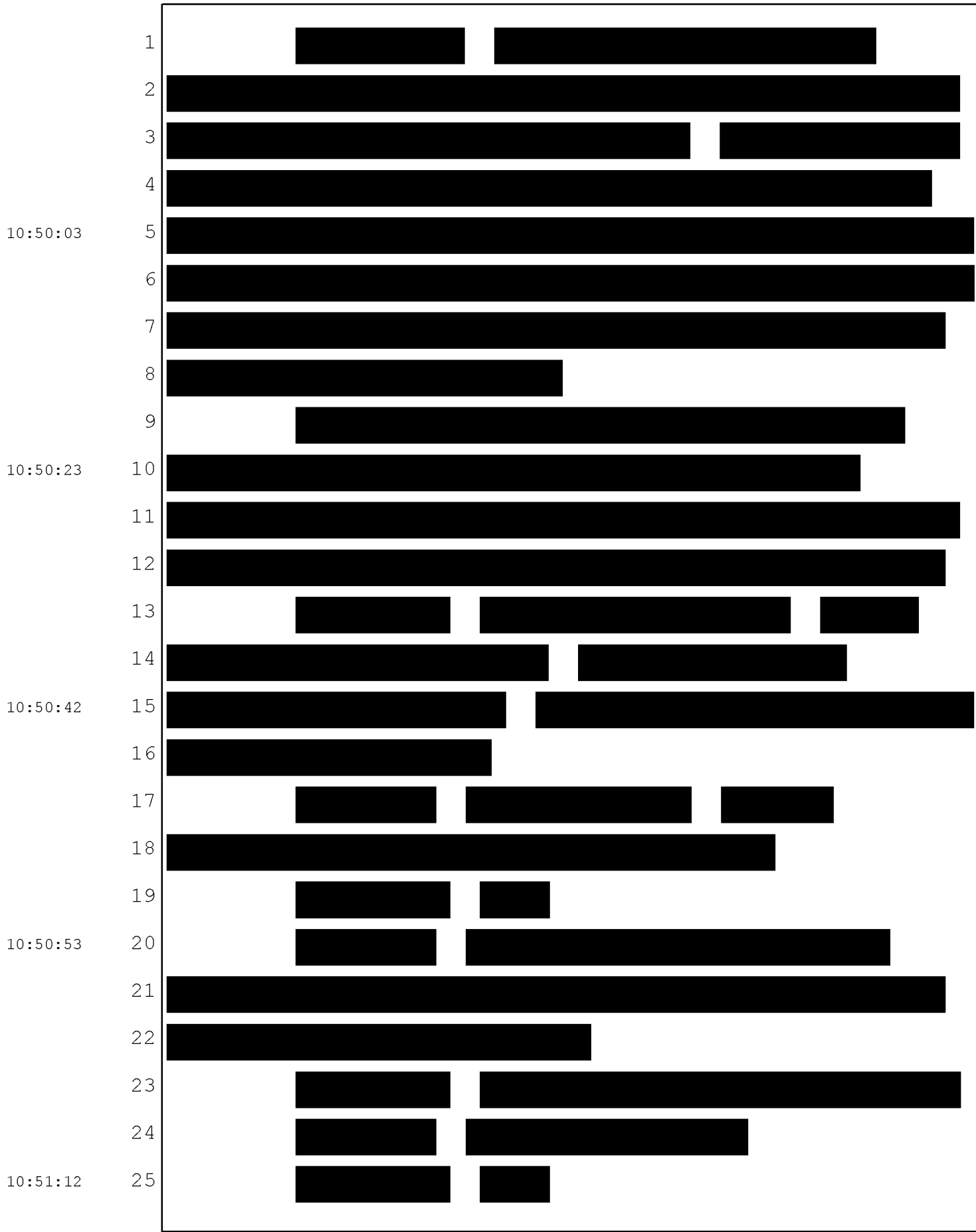
21 A. Well, I'm -- I don't -- I think Monsanto
22 continued to press its case with the agency.

23 MR. GRIFFIS: Your Honor, may we approach?

24 THE COURT: Yes.

10:49:48

25 (Sidebar.)



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[REDACTED]

10:51:26

(End sidebar.)

10:51:40

THE COURT: All right. You may proceed,
Mr. Wisner.

MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.

Q. So at this time, it's your understanding that
Monsanto requested that the EPA take another look at the
data?

10:51:49

A. Yes.

Q. In the second evaluation, the -- I guess this is
the pathology Working Group, reported that the incidence
of adenoma of the renal tumors was 1 out of 49 and that
it was not statistically significant.

10:52:06

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

Q. What changed between the first evaluation and
the second one, just factually?

10:52:19

A. Factually, a new group of pathologists was hired
by Monsanto to look at the slides, and first one and then

1 several others identified an additional renal tubular
2 adenoma in control mouse number 102A, which just for the
3 jury's sake, this may be the most debated tumor in the
4 history of carcinogenicity testing. I'm serious. It's
10:52:41 5 been looked at and looked at and looked at.

6 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection, your Honor,
7 interpretation and commentary.

8 MR. WISNER: It's not prejudicial. It's true.

9 THE COURT: Objection is sustained.

10:52:50 10 MR. WISNER: Okay.

11 Q. Let's just refrain from any commentary. Stick
12 to the facts.

13 A. I'm sorry.

14 Q. So just walk through here, EPA looks at it, sees
10:53:02 15 no tumor in the control group?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. EPA looks at it again, sees no tumor in the
18 control group; correct?

19 A. Correct.

10:53:10 20 Q. Monsanto takes a look at it and they find a
21 tumor in the control group?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And that tumor in the control group suddenly
24 makes the result no longer statistically significant?

10:53:20 25 A. Or equivocal.

1 Q. Okay, fair enough. Equivocal.

2 And then it goes on to say, "The incidence of
3 carcinoma of the renal tumors was," and it gives the
4 numbers, and it gives a P value of .037.

10:53:34

5 Do you see that?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. So even after this new Working Group review and
8 they find this tumor in the control, the review of actual
9 cancer was still statistically significant?

10:53:45

10 A. Correct, according to the Working Group, yes.

11 Q. Okay. All right. And it gives a bunch of
12 numbers. I don't want to spend too much time on it. It
13 says, "The Working Group considered that this second
14 evaluation indicated a significant increase in the
15 incidence of rare tumors with a dose-related trend which
16 could be attributed to glyphosate."

10:54:02

17 Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. And it goes on for a bunch more
20 stuff. I don't want to belabor the point, but at least
21 according to IARC, even after they found this tumor, they
22 still considered it to be significant; is that right?

10:54:12

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Okay. After this tumor was found -- we're going
25 to come back to the Monograph later, Doctor, but after

10:54:31

1 the tumor was found, did the EPA request a scientific
2 advisory committee?

3 A. You're talking about the additional tumor in the
4 control mouse?

10:54:44 5 Q. Yeah, in 1985.

6 A. Yes, there was. Yes.

7 Q. And in 1985, they convened a scientific advisory
8 panel. They've heard about what that is so we don't have
9 to explain that.

10:54:57 10 A. All right.

11 Q. And at the meeting different positions were
12 presented by Monsanto and by the EPA; right?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. About how to interpret this data; right?

10:55:05 15 A. Correct.

16 Q. And then the SAP, after that meeting, made a
17 recommendation; right?

18 A. Yes, they did.

19 Q. And the recommendation was we don't know what's
10:55:13 20 going on here. It's not very clear. Let's do the study
21 again; right?

22 A. They used the term "equivocal," and they
23 recommended that EPA call in, which is a term of art,
24 which means request a registrant to do another study, a
10:55:33 25 replacement mouse oncogenicity study.

1 Q. And the EPA said, okay, we'll do that?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And they requested the study. And did they make
4 any special accommodations for the study?

10:55:48

5 A. Yes, they did.

6 Q. What did they do?

7 A. Because of the guidance provided in the
8 scientific advisory panel meeting, it was very clear that
9 the issue was this, really these renal tubular adenomas
10 in the male mice.

10:56:05

11 And so EPA and -- actually in consultation with
12 Monsanto, designed kind of a renal tubular adenoma study
13 on steroids, where they increased the number of animals
14 per treatment group from 50 to 200. They added two
15 additional dose ranges to more clearly delineate the
16 dose-response relationship, and they said don't have to
17 do the females, just do it in the males.

10:56:25

18 And they also -- because Monsanto was concerned
19 about the cost of the study, they said you only have to
20 do a histopathology on the liver and the kidney, and if
21 those turn out clean, you're done, the study's done.

10:56:42

22 Q. Let's break that down. Normally in a mouse or
23 rat study, they do these treatment groups, both sexes,
24 and they look at every possible organ to see if there's
25 tumors; right?

1 A. They look at a lot of different things, yes.

2 Q. But here they're saying, listen, don't worry
3 about all that extra work. Just look at the kidney and
4 liver and see if you see any tumors there in male mice?

10:57:09

5 A. And in particular, the renal tubular adenomas
6 that they were concerned about.

7 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish again, 1020?

8 MR. GRIFFIS: No objection.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10:57:21

10 Q. BY MR. WISNER: So sir, the studies here is
11 1983. That's the one we're talking about; right?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. That was already done.

14 This Atkinson study, is that the one that was
15 done?

10:57:31

16 A. No.

17 Q. Was that study that was requested by the EPA
18 ever done?

19 A. No.

10:57:42

20 Q. All right. Let's talk about a few other issues.
21 Since we're back in cleanup, I'm going to be kind of
22 jumping around here, and I apologize, Doctor.

23 Let me ask you a question: Are you familiar
24 with the word "ghostwriting"?

10:57:52

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. What is "ghostwriting"?

2 A. Ghostwriting is a term of art that's applied in
3 the scientific literature but also in popular literature,
4 where the individuals that wrote or contributed to a
10:58:10 5 document are not given attribution in the list of authors
6 or author of a document.

7 Q. And when you say "attribution," do you mean they
8 don't disclose that they wrote it?

9 A. Correct.

10:58:24 10 Q. Okay. And in the world of scientific
11 assessment, which is where you operate, is ghostwriting
12 considered ethical?

13 A. Oh, heavens, no.

14 Q. Why not?

10:58:34 15 A. Because it's very important for people reading
16 the scientific literature to have knowledge of who
17 conducted the research and interpreted the results and
18 wrote the paper. That's considered very important in
19 evaluating the quality of the research, the reliability
10:59:01 20 of the research, the independence of the research,
21 whether there was a conflict of interest of some sort.

22 So it's truthfulness in authorship is a central
23 feature of scientific publishing integrity.

24 Q. Now, Doctor, I want to be clear: I understand
10:59:20 25 you published an article in 2017 about glyphosate; right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. But it was actually submitted months, months
3 before the journal; right?

4 A. Yes.

10:59:27

5 Q. And your portion of it, your research on it, was
6 done before you were ever involved in litigation in this
7 case; right?

8 A. Yes. That paper, yeah.

10:59:39

9 Q. So when it got submitted, it didn't have any
10 disclosure about you working on glyphosate litigation?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. But subsequently, you did start working for --
13 at least in the context here today?

14 A. Yeah, correct.

10:59:50

15 Q. And so that paper exists out there in the world,
16 and it doesn't say that you were an expert for us, does
17 it?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Are you working to correct that?

10:59:59

20 A. Well, if it's required by the journal, yes.

21 Q. And Doctor, to be clear, you have published
22 after that as well; right?

23 A. Yes, several papers.

11:00:10

24 Q. And you've published, you know, after you've
25 been hired as an expert in this case; right?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And have you disclosed that you're an expert in
3 those?

11:00:19

4 A. In papers that address anything involving
5 pesticides, yes.

6 Q. Thank you.

7 Now, we're jumping around here. I know it's a
8 little awkward, but we're just cleaning up some stuff.

9 So what is a abstract in a journal?

11:00:34

10 A. An abstract is a very important part of a paper.
11 It's a concise summary of the purpose of the research,
12 the methodology used, the statistical analysis done on
13 the results, the key findings from the study, the new
14 information that a piece of research is reporting to the
15 rest of the silicone community, and then often there's a
16 conclusion section.

11:00:56

17 The abstract is very important because in all of
18 the search engines that scientists use to try to learn
19 what other scientists have done on a particular topic,
20 the -- they focus on the title of the paper and the words
21 that in the abstract.

11:01:11

22 So it's a -- the abstract is a very essential
23 tool for communicating with the rest the scientific
24 community and anybody that uses the published scientific
25 papers.

11:01:27

1 Q. You're familiar with PubMed; right?

2 A. Pardon me?

3 Q. PubMed?

4 A. Yes, of course.

11:01:31 5 Q. That's a search engine for scientific
6 literature; right?

7 A. PubMed is the Federal government's major
8 biomedical search engine, yes.

9 Q. And so if you type in a search on like, you
11:01:43 10 know, pesticides in cancer, it would hopefully give you
11 most of the publications that related to pesticides in
12 cancer; right?

13 A. Yes, an awful lot of them.

14 Q. Okay. And very often you'll click on a link --
11:01:53 15 I'm saying this because I've done this before, but you
16 click on a link and you often go to a page that has the
17 abstract; right?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. But to get the full article, you sometimes have
11:02:03 20 to pay for it; right?

21 A. Yes. Yes, absolutely.

22 Q. And sometimes they're free, but a lot of times
23 they're behind a pay wall; is that right?

24 A. Correct.

11:02:11 25 Q. So to read the whole article, you have like pay

1 30, 40 bucks to see the article --

2 A. Or subscribe to the journal.

3 Q. There you go.

4 And if something is not in the abstract and the
11:02:23 5 person doesn't have a description to that journal, they
6 won't learn about something because it's behind a pay
7 wall; right?

8 A. They wouldn't be alerted to seek out the full
9 paper if something's not addressed in the abstract.

11:02:40 10 Q. Now, Doctor, from a scientific perspective, if a
11 journal article raises a new concern about a risk, do you
12 think it would be appropriate to celebrate getting it out
13 of the abstract?

14 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection, your Honor.

11:02:54 15 Restrictions 1 and 5 from the order regarding
16 Dr. Benbrook.

17 THE COURT: Sustained.

18 Please ask a different question.

19 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Are you familiar with the
11:03:03 20 American Council on Science and Health?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What is that?

23 A. It's a private organization funded primarily by
24 drug, food, pesticide companies that issues reports on
11:03:20 25 regulatory issues, risk assessment issues, that argue

1 largely from the perspective of the industry.

2 Q. The ACSH, what position did it take with regards
3 to tobacco?

4 A. They were one of the scientific organizations
11:03:41 5 that held out to the end and argued that the science
6 really wasn't clear about tobacco causing cancer.

7 Q. Talked about how too many confounding factors;
8 right?

9 A. That's certainly one of the arguments that
11:03:54 10 that's brought up.

11 Q. The ACSH, they also took a position with regard
12 to lead poisoning; is that right?

13 A. They were one of the organizations active in
14 that debate, too, yes.

11:04:07 15 Q. The jury has heard some testimony about them
16 through Dr. Goldstein's deposition so I'm not going to
17 get into it too much. But are you aware of what position
18 they've taken with regards to glyphosate?

19 A. Actually, I'm not.

11:04:21 20 Q. Okay. Now I understand there's reporting
21 requirements under FIFRA; is that right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And I understand that there's a time limit for
24 when someone has to report an adverse effect; is that
11:04:32 25 right?

1 A. Yes. Various time limits.

2 Q. What are the time limits?

3 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection, your Honor. We
4 discussed this at sidebar. It's number two.

11:04:40 5 MR. WISNER: I didn't pose a hypothetical. This
6 is just what the law is.

7 THE COURT: He may answer this question, but be
8 careful.

9 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.

11:04:48 10 THE WITNESS: There's a provision in the Federal
11 pesticide law that places a continuing responsibility or
12 obligation on registrants to submit new information that
13 they become in the possession of to the EPA if that
14 information is in really any way new relative to
11:05:10 15 conducting a risk assessment of a registered pesticide.

16 Q. BY MR. WISNER: All right. Again, we're just
17 doing kind of flash issues here. I apologize for that.
18 It's confusing. But let's move on to another issue.

19 I want to specifically talk about labels and the
11:05:26 20 Material Safety Data Sheet. This is something that you
21 looked at and considered and reviewed in your
22 professional capacity as well as for this case.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Wisner, before we get into a new
24 topic, perhaps we should take the morning break.

11:05:38 25 MR. WISNER: Perfect, your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and Gentlemen,
2 we'll be in recess for 15 minutes and resume again at
3 11:20.

4 (Recess.)

11:20:46 5 THE COURT: Welcome back, Ladies and Gentlemen.
6 Mr. Wisner, do you wish to recall Dr. Benbrook?

7 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.
8 He just went to the bathroom.

9 THE COURT: I think I see him in the back.

11:21:22 10 MR. WISNER: All right.

11 THE COURT: Welcome back, Dr. Benbrook.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and Gentlemen,
14 Dr. Benbrook remains under oath.

11:21:38 15 And Mr. Wisner, when you're ready, you may
16 proceed.

17 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.

18 Q. I'd like to talk to you a little bit about the
19 IARC Monograph. It's something that you relied upon;
11:21:48 20 right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And it's something that you have considered and
23 reviewed as part of, you know, your evaluation of the
24 issues in this case?

11:21:56 25 A. Correct.

1 MR. WISNER: All right. Permission to publish
2 Exhibit 166, which is in evidence. It's the preamble to
3 the IARC Monograph.

4 THE COURT: Very well. You may proceed.

11:22:14 5 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Doctor, this is Exhibit 166, and
6 this is a copy of the preamble for the Monograph program;
7 is that right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay. And to the best of your knowledge, this
11:22:24 10 is the one that was in operation at the time that
11 glyphosate was assessed; right?

12 A. I believe so, yes.

13 Q. Okay. It's got a lot of highlights here. I
14 apologize for that. You know what? I think we actually
11:22:41 15 have a clean one. Give me one sec. Okay.

16 All right, Doctor, I'm going to talk about the
17 preamble. There's one thing I want to share with you.
18 The jury here has actually heard testimony from
19 Dr. Daniel Goldstein in this case.

11:23:00 20 A. Okay.

21 Q. And when he was asked about the IARC Monograph,
22 he said, "They completely failed to take into account any
23 consideration of exposure." And then he goes on to say,
24 "They did not take into account real-world exposure
11:23:16 25 data."

1 I want to talk about that. All right?

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Now, in the preamble the sort of source of this
4 issue and debate has been the sentence -- and I'm sorry
11:23:26 5 it's all pink because it's my notes, but it starts at
6 line 18 on page 2 of the preamble.

7 Can you see it, Doctor?

8 A. Yeah, I do. I can see it here.

9 Q. And it reads: "A cancer hazard is an agent that
11:23:42 10 is capable of causing cancer under some circumstances,
11 while a cancer risk is an estimate of the carcinogenic
12 effects expected from exposure to a cancer hazard."

13 You understand the difference between a hazard
14 and a risk, Doctor?

11:23:57 15 A. Yes, of course.

16 Q. Okay. And to the best of your knowledge,
17 doesn't the EPA do both?

18 A. Yes, they do.

19 Q. So before they get to a risk assessment, they
11:24:09 20 actually conduct a hazard assessment; is that right?

21 A. A hazard assessment is a part of a risk
22 assessment, yes.

23 Q. So to put it simply, you first determine can it
24 cause cancer and then you see at what rate does it cause
11:24:26 25 cancer. Is that a fair way --

1 A. Based on exposure, yes.

2 Q. Okay. "The Monographs are an exercise in
3 evaluating cancer hazards despite the historical presence
4 of the word 'risk' in the title. The distinction between
5 hazard and risk is important, and the Monographs identify
6 cancer hazards even when risk are very low at current
7 exposure levels because new issues or unforeseen
8 exposures could engender risks that are significantly
9 higher."

11:24:37 10 Do you see that?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. It's my understanding -- tell me if this is
13 right -- but IARC can, in fact, determine that a
14 substance is carcinogenic but it's not really causing
15 cancer in the real world. That's possible; right?

11:25:03

16 A. Well, a good example would be an industrial
17 chemical that's made in a factory. Somebody working
18 inside the factory is exposed in a totally different way
19 than the general public.

11:25:13

20 Q. So in that context, like industrial chemical, we
21 know it causes cancer, but it's not likely causing cancer
22 in the real world; right?

23 A. Because of the difference in exposure.

24 Q. Now just because IARC can do this; right? That
25 they can identify something that's cancer causing, even

11:25:28

1 not necessarily in the real world, does that mean that
2 they necessarily always do that?

3 A. I don't understand your question.

4 Q. It says they may do this; right? They may
11:25:40 5 identify a risk that maybe is not really causing cancer
6 in the real world; right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Does that mean that every time they identify a
9 cancer-causing agent, it's not causing cancer in the real
11:25:50 10 world?

11 A. Heavens, no.

12 Q. And in fact, with glyphosate did they do one of
13 these cancer hazards but there's no risk?

14 A. No, they did not.

11:25:59 15 Q. All right. This issue that they didn't look at
16 any exposure at all in the real world, I'd like to show
17 you some portions of the preamble and ask what they mean.
18 So there's a section in this preamble that's
19 interestingly enough titled "Exposure Data."

11:26:22 20 Do you see that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And it reads -- it has a paragraph sort of
23 outlining the section. It says, "Each Monograph includes
24 general information on the agent." And then it goes,
11:26:32 25 "Also included is information on production and use, when

1 appropriate, methods of analysis and detection,
2 occurrence, and sources and routes of human occupational
3 and environmental exposures. Depending on the agent,
4 regulations and guidelines for use may be presented."

11:26:46 5 Do you see that?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. All right. I want to talk specifically about
8 the portion that really is at the heart of this, and this
9 is occurrence and exposure.

11:26:53 10 Now, what section of the Monograph is this
11 referring to?

12 A. Well, typically the very first section addresses
13 use and exposure.

14 Q. In the real world?

11:27:05 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. It goes on, "Information on the
17 occurrence of an agent in the environment is obtained
18 from data derived from the monitoring and surveillance of
19 levels in occupational environments."

11:27:17 20 What does that mean, "occupational
21 environments"?

22 A. That means reviewing any information about
23 levels of exposure to people that actually mix and load
24 the pesticide or apply the pesticide or live or work
11:27:34 25 around an area where the pesticide is applied.

1 So there's -- for the general public, we could
2 be exposed to pesticides through our food and drinking
3 water, but for other people that live near where they're
4 being used, they could also be exposed either because
11:27:51 5 they handle or use the pesticide or they're in an area
6 where a lot of it's applied.

7 Q. All right. They also look at air, water, soil,
8 plants, foods, and animal and human tissues.

9 Do you see that?

11:28:04 10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And when they collect all this exposure
12 information, are they collecting this exposure
13 information from out in the real world?

14 A. Yes. For the most part, yes.

11:28:13 15 Q. Because water, that's out in the real world;
16 right?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Soil, real world?

19 A. Yes, sir.

11:28:19 20 Q. All right. "When available data on the
21 generation persistence and bioaccumulation of the agent
22 are also included."

23 What does "bioaccumulation" mean?

24 A. It's a very important property of certain
11:28:33 25 pesticides. It's very important in the risk assessment

1 process because some pesticides actually concentrate as
2 they move up the food chain, from bacteria to a snail to
3 a bird to an eagle.

4 This is what, of course, was the problem with
11:28:49 5 DDT that threatened the bald eagle. It bioaccumulated in
6 food chains.

7 So persistent -- certain pesticides that are
8 persistent, the level of them in different parts of the
9 environment can increase.

11:29:03 10 Q. It goes on to say, "Data that indicate the
11 extent of past and present human exposure, the sources of
12 exposure, the people most likely to be exposed, and the
13 factors that contribute to the exposure are reported."

14 Do you see that?

11:29:16 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What is that referring to, sir?

17 A. That's referring to the -- all of the data that
18 an IARC Working Group accesses and reviews that gives
19 them the best possible sense of the levels of exposure
11:29:32 20 and who's being exposed and through what routes of
21 exposure.

22 A route of exposure could be inhaled, falls on
23 the skin, in drinking water, or via food. Those are the
24 major routes of exposure.

11:29:47 25 Q. So when the data is available, the IARC

1 committee specifically looks for exposure data before
2 rendering a decision?

3 A. Yes.

11:29:58

4 Q. Let's look and see what they did for glyphosate,
5 okay?

6 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish 169, your
7 Honor, the Monograph.

8 THE COURT: Yes.

11:30:07

9 Q. BY MR. WISNER: So this is the Monograph; right?
10 Do you see that, sir?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. And this is the first page of it; right?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And the very first page here, what's the first
15 section?

16 A. It goes over exposure data and information that
17 provides some concept of the levels of exposure.

18 Q. And if we go through here, it talks about, you
19 know, production volume; right? Do you see that?

11:30:28

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Agricultural uses. Do you see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And it goes into residential use, other uses.

24 Do you see that?

11:30:37

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And it even talks about the regulation of the
2 various things. Do you see that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Now, measuring and analysis, it talks about how
11:30:46 5 it's collected. Do you see that?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. And there's even a table here going through the
8 various ways that it's been collected and studied by the
9 Monograph program; right?

11:30:58 10 A. Correct. And regulators around the world.

11 Q. They look in the water, in the soil, dust and
12 air, fruits and vegetables, crops, vegetation, urine.

13 Do you see that?

14 A. Yes.

11:31:09 15 Q. And this is typical for the IARC Monograph. If
16 the data exists on exposure, they're going to look at it;
17 right?

18 A. They do it in the case of every one.

19 Q. All right. And it goes down here, occurrence
11:31:19 20 and exposure. Do you see that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Occupational exposure, we were just talking
23 about that; right?

24 A. Yes.

11:31:25 25 Q. And I notice in here it actually cites -- it

1 goes Canada -- it mentions a couple studies. And the one
2 I want to ask you about is this one.

3 Do you see that?

4 A. Sure.

11:31:35 5 Q. Do you see -- what is Acquavella 2004?

6 A. That's Dr. John Acquavella's Farm Family
7 Exposure Study done in Iowa in 2004 -- yeah, published in
8 2004 in *Environmental Health Perspectives*. It was a
9 Monsanto conducted and financed study. Important
10 contribution to the literature.

11:31:54

11 Q. So that's the Farm Family Exposure Study; is
12 that right?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And is that an epidemiological study?

11:32:08

15 A. No, no. It was an exposure study. We talk
16 about it now with the word "biomonitoring."

17 Q. So if I were to state to you Monsanto Has
18 conducted epidemiological studies on
19 glyphosate-containing formulations, including the Farm
20 Family Exposure Study, that would be a true statement?

11:32:32

21 A. No, it wouldn't. Not all of it.

22 Q. The Farm Family Exposure Study, that's just not
23 an epidemiological study?

24 A. Right, it's not a -- yeah. And it didn't claim
25 to be, either.

11:32:47

1 Q. All right. So it looks like IARC is
2 specifically -- oh, who paid for that study?

3 A. Monsanto.

11:32:55

4 Q. So the IARC Monograph is actually looking at
5 exposure as reported by Monsanto's own studies; is that
6 correct?

7 A. In a peer-reviewed published journal, yes.

8 Q. And it goes on. It looks at community exposure.
9 Do you see that?

11:33:06

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And it talks about how it can be found in these
12 different areas of the soil and water and groundwater and
13 stuff?

14 A. Correct.

11:33:14

15 Q. And then there's actually -- it goes into charts
16 about the different data that they have and where it's
17 cited to here in reference.

18 Do you see that, Doctor?

19 A. Yes, sir.

11:33:24

20 Q. It goes on. And then they talk again about air.
21 You see that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Water; right?

24 A. Yep.

11:33:32

25 Q. It talks about how it could be in food, maybe?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And this is household exposure. Do you see
3 that?

4 A. Correct.

11:33:40 5 Q. And this is actually they're talking about a
6 study done on California households?

7 A. I believe that's the case, yes.

8 Q. It talks about biological markers; right?

9 A. Correct.

11:33:51 10 Q. To see if -- it says right here, "Glyphosate
11 concentrations in urine were analyzed in urban
12 populations in Europe and in rural populations living
13 near areas sprayed for drug eradication in Columbia."

14 You see that?

11:34:06 15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Glyphosate concentrations in Columbia were
17 considerably higher than in Europe with a means of --
18 some numbers that I don't pretend to know.

19 Do you see that?

11:34:17 20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. And to be clear, this is referring to a study
22 that people were being sprayed in Columbia and they were
23 looking to see how much glyphosate was absorbed; right?

24 A. Well, the people weren't being sprayed. They
11:34:30 25 were spraying from large planes areas where coca, the

1 sources of heroin and cocaine, was being grown in
2 Columbia, and people lived in those areas and farmed, and
3 they were -- they were exposed from some of that aerially
4 applied herbicide.

11:34:44

5 Q. And they wanted to see if any of it was absorbed
6 and they said it was. It was absorbed in their urine at
7 least; right?

8 A. Correct, there was a considerable amount of
9 science done on those exposed populations.

11:34:56

10 Q. There's even an exposure assessment. Do you see
11 that?

12 A. Yes.

11:35:07

13 Q. It says it's discussed specifically, a similar
14 assessment on epidemiological studies on glyphosate and
15 cancer are discussed in section 2.0 of the Monograph on
16 malathion in the present volume.

17 Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

11:35:14

19 Q. Can you explain what it means by the volume?
20 What's that referring to?

21 A. The Working Group's full scientific report on
22 glyphosate was part of Monograph Volume 112. That
23 Monograph covered five -- four or five pesticides, it was
24 diazinon and tetrachloroethylene, and there were -- there
25 were three or four others.

11:35:33

1 And in the malathion section, there's a long
2 treatment and discussion about the methodology in the
3 agricultural health study, which is -- plays a role in
4 all of them.

11:35:48

5 And they just go into a lot of the
6 methodological details on how they do exposure
7 assessments in that -- in that one malathion part of the
8 Monograph, and they don't repeat it five times.

11:36:03

9 Q. Okay. So addition to looking at exposure in
10 occupational settings in our environment, households,
11 they actually did a full-on exposure assessment in the
12 epidemiological literature itself; right?

11:36:21

13 A. Well, they tried to glean all information they
14 could from studies published in peer-reviewed journals on
15 exposure, and then when they evaluated the
16 epidemiological studies, they did the same thing.

17 Q. So if someone were to say, hey, epidemiology,
18 that's in the real world, and IARC didn't look at the
19 real world, is that accurate?

11:36:33

20 A. Oh, epidemiological studies are always done in
21 the real world. They're based on typically focusing on a
22 population that was exposed to the pesticide. And so
23 they really try to recognize whether there's any
24 potential linkages between real-world exposures and a
25 disease outcome.

11:36:56

1 Q. And so when Dr. Goldstein told this jury they
2 did not take into account real-world exposure data, was
3 that true?

4 A. No.

11:37:07

5 Q. All right. I want to go back to the Monograph
6 because there's another sort of issue that's been arising
7 again, actually.

11:37:35

8 Earlier in his deposition, Dr. Goldstein stated,
9 referring to IARC, "They look at only a subset of
10 available information. They cherry-pick the data that
11 they wanted to focus on rather than looking at the
12 broader weight of evidence."

13 Do you see that? Okay. So that's what he's
14 testified to.

11:37:47

15 Is that true?

11:38:06

16 A. I don't think that's a fair characterization of
17 the IARC process. They -- the big difference between
18 IARC and, say, an EPA risk assessment is that IARC relies
19 only on scientific studies published in peer-reviewed
20 journals, where all the data is available, the methods
21 are available, the science is transparent, if you will,
22 fully explained. Whereas, regulatory agencies, and in
23 the case of the US the EPA, largely base their risk
24 assessments on registrant-done studies and only on the
25 pure active ingredient, so it's a very different science

11:38:31

1 base.

2 Q. And when we look at the preamble --

3 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish again, your
4 Honor? It's been published a few times.

11:38:41

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 MR. WISNER: It is Exhibit 166.

7 Q. All right. We're looking at page 9 of the
8 preamble.

9 Do you see that, Doctor?

11:38:55

10 A. Yes, I do.

11 Q. And it says, "Quality of studies considered."

12 Do you see that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And it reads: "It is necessary to take into

11:39:03

15 account the possible roles of bias, confounding and
16 chance in the interpretation of epidemiological studies.

17 Bias is the affect of factors in the study design or

18 execution that can lead erroneously to a stronger or

19 weaker association than, in fact, exists between the

11:39:21

20 agent and disease.

21 "Confounding is a form of bias that occurs when

22 the relationship with disease is made to appear stronger

23 or weaker than it truly is as a result of an association

24 between the apparent causal factor and another factor

11:39:35

25 that is associated with either an increase or decrease in

1 the incidence of the disease.

2 "The role of chance is related to biological
3 variability and the influence of sample size on the
4 precision of estimates of effect."

11:39:48

5 Do you see that, Doctor?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. This is talking about, sort of, the fact that
8 IARC, kind of, goes through all the biases and issues and
9 the epidemiology before it issues its opinion; right?

11:39:59

10 A. Right. If you read through the Monograph on
11 glyphosate, for example, essentially every study, they
12 kind of rate the quality of it. They might say, "This is
13 a weak study." "It's a very strong study." "This study
14 took into account possible other exposures to different
15 pesticides."

11:40:16

16 Their -- one of the things that IARC does, I
17 think, certainly better than any regulatory agency around
18 the world, is really critically evaluate the quality of
19 the individual studies so that they put the most weight
20 on the best studies.

11:40:32

21 Q. Let's look at the Monograph, Doctor, since you
22 mentioned it. It's Exhibit 169.

23 MR. WISNER: I assume I can still publish it,
24 your Honor?

11:40:42

25 THE COURT: Yes.

1 MR. WISNER: Old school here. All right. We're
2 back at 169.

3 Q. And I'm going to start flipping through this a
4 little bit to, sort of, give the sense of this. And the
11:40:49 5 jury will have this to look at, so I want to give them a
6 sense of what we're doing here.

7 So if you look at, for example, this is -- this
8 is a table, Table 2.

9 Do you see that?

11:41:02 10 A. Yeah, yes. I'm familiar with it.

11 Q. All right. And, for example, it's referring to
12 studies of carcinogenicity with glyphosate in rats.
13 We've talked about that already; right?

14 A. Yeah.

11:41:10 15 Q. And then it goes through all these comments, and
16 it says -- discusses the thing, and at the end it says,
17 "The Working Group concluded this was an inadequate study
18 for the evaluation of glyphosate carcinogenicity"; right?

19 A. Correct.

11:41:23 20 Q. So they actually have a study that they looked
21 at and said, "Hey, this isn't good enough. We're not
22 going to look at it."

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Is that cherry-picking?

11:41:36 25 A. No, no. Heavens, no. That's applying rigorous

1 scientific criteria to a -- the body of research so that
2 they can place the most weight on the most reliable
3 research and not be misled by a bunch of other studies
4 that really don't shed much credible light on the topic.

11:41:54

5 Q. And elsewhere in here it said -- I'll just give
6 you another example. Find epidemiology, since we talked
7 about that earlier. This is looking at bacteria. One
8 second. Let's look at another table, just to give a
9 sense of what they're doing. So here's page 13 from the
10 Monograph.

11:42:20

11 Do you see this, Doctor, page 13?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. All right. And then here's another table. This
14 is Table 2.1.

11:42:26

15 Do you see that?

16 A. Yes, yes.

17 Q. And this looks like it's talking about different
18 types of cancer. We've got childhood cancer, breast
19 cancer.

11:42:35

20 Do you see that?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. If you look at the right, it has comments;
23 right?

24 A. Correct.

11:42:41

25 Q. And it says, "Strengths: Large cohort, specific

1 assessment of glyphosate. Limitations: Based on
2 self-reported exposure, potential exposure to multiple
3 pesticides, limited power for glyphosate exposure."

4 Do you see that?

11:42:56

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And so what the Monograph participants are doing
7 is they've actually looked at each study and they look at
8 the strengths and the weaknesses, and then they've told
9 people who are reading it what those are?

11:43:09

10 A. That's exactly right. The virtue of IARC is
11 that they're completely transparent in the studies that
12 they reviewed and their sense of the validity or
13 relevance of the studies. Very clear. And there's a
14 table like that in all of the different sections.

11:43:24

15 Q. So in light of the things that we've been
16 talking about, when Dr. Goldstein told this jury they
17 cherry-picked data they wanted to focus on rather than
18 looking at the broader weight of evidence, is that a
19 correct characterization of IARC?

11:43:40

20 A. I would definitely disagree with that
21 characterization.

22 Q. Now, Doctor, the scientists that participated in
23 IARC, there was about 17 of them; is that right?

24 A. I believe that's the number.

11:43:52

25 Q. And they didn't work for any pesticide

1 companies, did they?

2 A. I doubt any of them did, no.

3 Q. But some of them did work for regulatory
4 agencies; right?

11:44:01 5 A. Or during -- part of their career, yes.

6 Q. And there were a couple people from the EPA that
7 were there?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. The Director of the California EPA was there;
11:44:10 10 right?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. And all those participants, they unanimously
13 classified glyphosate as a Class 2 -- 2A carcinogen;
14 right?

11:44:22 15 A. That was the final classification of the Working
16 Group, correct.

17 Q. I want to, kind of, contrast it with the EPA for
18 a second, because you studied the EPA; right?

19 A. Yes.

11:44:34 20 Q. And the EPA looked at it in the '70s, and they
21 concluded that glyphosate -- they didn't think it caused
22 cancer; right?

23 A. They didn't have any valid studies in the '70s,
24 so they didn't reach a judgment.

11:44:47 25 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection. Your Honor --

1 THE COURT: Sustained.

2 MR. GRIFFIS: -- violation of the orders.

3 THE COURT: Sustained.

11:44:53

4 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Let's start with the '80s;
5 right?

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. Well, actually, we can't; right? If I say -- if
8 I ask: "In the '80s, did the EPA find that it was a
9 carcinogen," what would your answer be?

11:45:03

10 A. There's what they did.

11 Q. Yeah. So in the '90s, they concluded it wasn't
12 a carcinogen; right?

13 A. The conclusion was changed in 1991, correct.

11:45:15

14 Q. All right. So in 1991 to the present -- what
15 year are we in 2018? Do you know how many years that is?

16 A. Seventeen -- twenty-seven.

17 Q. So for 27 years, the EPA has been telling
18 people, "Hey, this stuff doesn't cause cancer"; right?

19 A. That's been their -- their conclusion, correct.

11:45:30

20 Q. And if they were to come out tomorrow and say,
21 "Hey, actually, it does," they'd have to admit they've
22 been wrong for 30 years?

23 A. I think that they would -- they would
24 communicate to the public that science has moved on.

11:45:43

25 There are more effective studies, and, you know, since

1 the EPA is -- they're not just concerned about evaluating
2 studies. They're responsible for dealing with the risk
3 to the American public, and so they would clearly take
4 into account the huge change in exposure that had
11:45:59 5 occurred, and that -- they could change their mind.
6 Sure.

7 Q. But when IARC got together in March of 2015,
8 they didn't have a dog in the fight, did they?

9 A. Not really, no.

11:46:12 10 Q. IARC hadn't ever assessed glyphosate; right?

11 A. I don't believe they had, no.

12 Q. They hadn't said, "Hey, it's safe"; right?

13 A. They hadn't evaluated it.

14 Q. And IARC had no interest one way or the other of
11:46:25 15 looking at the science as it existed in 2015 about
16 whether or not it caused cancer?

17 MR. GRIFFIS: Leading, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Well, overruled.

19 You may answer this question.

11:46:36 20 THE WITNESS: No, they hadn't. Your description
21 they had no dog in the fight, they were a group of
22 scientists with long experience in the evaluation of
23 animal carcinogenicity studies, genotox studies,
24 epidemiological studies, environmental fate studies, and
11:46:55 25 among them, across all the disciplines that they were --

1 some of them internationally well-recognized experts,
2 they reached their independent judgment.

3 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Was it unanimous?

4 A. Pardon me?

11:47:08 5 Q. Was it unanimous?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. I understand you've spoken to Dr. Blair about
8 the IARC meeting; is that right?

9 A. Yes, correct.

11:47:16 10 Q. What did he tell you?

11 MR. GRIFFIS: Hearsay.

12 THE COURT: Sustained.

13 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Do you understand personally
14 whether or not IARC actually considered putting it in
11:47:28 15 Group 1?

16 A. I'm aware of that --

17 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection. Calling for hearsay.

18 THE COURT: Sustained.

19 Q. BY MR. WISNER: When is the last time you talked
11:47:42 20 to Dr. Blair?

21 A. I talked -- I sent an email and had a short
22 phone conversation with him maybe in November or early
23 December, because I had read in one of the many media
24 stories --

11:48:01 25 Q. Don't -- don't disclose that.

1 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection. Your Honor.

2 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Don't disclose this. I just
3 want to know the last time you spoke to him.

11:48:13

4 A. I would say either November or early December of
5 2017.

6 Q. That's after the classification; right?

7 A. Correct.

11:48:26

8 Q. Now, you have -- last topic. We're almost done
9 here. I understand you've actually looked at the rise or
10 change of glyphosate in pesticides use in the United
11 States for some time; is that right?

12 A. Yeah, it's one of the things I've been active in
13 for many, many years.

11:48:36

14 Q. You've actually published an article about that;
15 right?

16 A. Yes, I have two papers on the trends and the use
17 of glyphosate-based herbicides in the US.

18 Q. And I understand one of them -- how many times
19 has the first one been downloaded?

11:48:49

20 A. Almost 300,000 times. It's kind of a very
21 unusual phenomenon for a scientific paper to be accessed
22 that many times.

23 Q. Wait. Hold on. Do you get royalties on that?

24 A. Unfortunately, no.

11:49:03

25 Q. I understand you prepared a demonstrative to

1 discuss the change in pesticide use?

2 A. Yeah, I did.

3 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish
4 Exhibit 1043?

11:49:15

5 THE COURT: Any objection?

6 MR. GRIFFIS: No objection.

7 THE COURT: Very well. You may proceed.

8 Q. BY MR. WISNER: All right. Doctor, this is the
9 demonstrative that you've prepared; right?

11:49:40

10 A. Yes.

11 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission for him to
12 come down and walk us through what this says?

13 THE COURT: Yes, that's fine.

14 THE WITNESS: Is that all right?

15 THE COURT: Yes.

16 Q. BY MR. WISNER: Doctor, before you go, if you
17 want to mark it, here's a marker. And use this one
18 (indicating). And stand on this side, so you don't block
19 her view. Okay?

11:50:07

20 Doctor, what is this document? Explain it to
21 the jury.

22 A. So over the years, the EPA puts out every few
23 years a report on pesticide use in the United States. So
24 just the volume. So scientists can understand what
25 pesticides are widely used, which ones are being used

11:50:18

1 more or less.

2 And they put this information out in a ranking.
3 They rank the top -- they list 25 pesticides that account
4 for the highest volume of use in agriculture. And they
11:50:36 5 put out reports in '87, '93, '95. All of these years.

6 So the -- this is the first one they did. And
7 glyphosate, in 1987, which is fairly early in the history
8 of glyphosate use, it ranked number 17. And this is 6 to
9 8 million pounds used by US farmers and ranchers. All of
11:50:59 10 these numbers are the range that EPA reported in
11 agriculture.

12 In the first year they did it, this is a --
13 atrazine's a corn herbicide. It has been, you know, way
14 up in the ranking all throughout, as you can see. I mean
11:51:15 15 it's still -- it's still number 2 all the way to there.

16 So you see the use of glyphosate, it climbed up
17 the ranking fairly quickly, from 17 to 11 to 7 to 5th.
18 And then we see a much -- pretty big jump here to number
19 2, where it's only about 10 million pounds behind
11:51:38 20 atrazine, 1999.

21 In the 2001 ranking, it reached the number 1
22 spot. It might have happened in 2000. It certainly
23 happened by 2001.

24 And as you see, it passed atrazine. Atrazine
11:51:56 25 was used -- there was 74 million to 80 million pounds of

1 atrazine used and 85 million to 90 million of glyphosate
2 used.

3 Pretty impressive increase in the popularity
4 and -- and use of Roundup-based herbicides. And this
11:52:17 5 applies by glyphosate -- it's a glyphosate-based
6 herbicide. It could be a subjective herbicide. It could
7 be Roundup. Or any other company that had a -- had a
8 label.

9 But I really want to direct your attention to
11:52:29 10 what happened, you know, after 2001. So glyphosate
11 is -- this is just -- this is being repeated here.
12 Glyphosate stays at the top. It's ranked number 1 in
13 2001, between 85 million and 90 million pounds.

14 Look what happens. It rises 40 million pounds
11:52:49 15 in two years. So just think about that. It rises
16 40 million pounds. That's half as much of what atrazine
17 was used at in a year. This is the rise in glyphosate.

18 By 2007, only six years later, the use had more
19 than doubled, to 170 million to 190 million pounds.

11:53:13 20 By 2007, no pesticide in the history of the US
21 has been used that heavily that much in one year. And
22 the use continued to go up.

23 And by 2012, according to the EPA, 270 million
24 pounds to 290 million pounds were applied by US farmers.
11:53:34 25 Let's just wrap our minds around this growth from 2001 to

1 2012. So 11 years.

2 So there was -- let's just say 90 million pounds
3 applied in 2001. Eleven years later, three times as
4 much. So that's --

11:53:53 5 You know, the other pesticide most heavily used,
6 atrazine, throughout this whole period, it went from 70
7 to 80 million pounds. The increase in Roundup use --
8 glyphosate use, from 2001 to 2012, was double that
9 amount.

11:54:13 10 So there's never been a pesticide really in the
11 US or globally whose use has gone up as dramatically as
12 the case with glyphosate-based herbicides.

13 And you've heard a lot about different studies
14 that have assessed -- say, the epidemiology. Well, there
11:54:41 15 are very few epidemiology studies that -- that take into
16 account the uses and exposures to glyphosate-based
17 herbicides in this part of the history of the use of that
18 product.

19 So we -- scientists will be continuing to study
11:54:59 20 glyphosate-based herbicides and their impacts on the
21 environment and the public health for years to come. And
22 one of the major reasons is how much is used.

23 This -- so American farmers harvest about 310,
24 315 million acres of crops a year. So this is wheat,
11:55:19 25 corn, soybeans, potatoes, et cetera. You know, the

1 harvested crops. About 310 billion acres. 290 -- well,
2 today, it's higher than that. 290 million pounds.

3 So there's really over three quarters of a pound
4 of the glyphosate-active ingredient applied on every
11:55:42 5 cropland acre in America if you spread it out equally.

6 Now, that's not the way it is. Not every crop
7 gets treated with a glyphosate-based herbicide, but it's
8 a volume of use that we've never had any experience with.
9 EPA hasn't had any experience with something used that
11:56:01 10 widely. And it -- the change came so fast that we're
11 still playing catch-up.

12 Q. Thank you, Doctor. That was really helpful.
13 Please take a seat.

14 I'm going to ask a few follow-up questions to,
11:56:16 15 sort of, explore some aspects of this. All right,
16 Doctor?

17 A. Yeah, sure.

18 Q. The first issue is -- you know, I want to get a
19 sense of how glyphosate use has changed in the real world
11:56:28 20 between 1987 and 2012.

21 So in 1987, what was the general distribution of
22 Roundup use amongst the world? In the US, sorry, I
23 should say.

24 A. Well, there were -- at that time, there was
11:56:47 25 about two-thirds of it were applied by farmers to control

1 weeds and agricultural weeds in the fields. And about
2 one-third in home, industrial weed control along roads
3 and right-of-ways. So the non-agriculture. That was a
4 split, about two-thirds and one-third.

11:57:06

5 And in 1987, I would say there were probably,
6 maybe, 60 crops, 50 crops, that Monsanto had --

7 Q. Don't talk about that.

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. Continue -- I just want to know how it was used.

11:57:20

10 A. Oh, okay.

11 Q. 60/30. Okay. All right.

12 So -- and then by 2012, what's the distribution
13 between the farmers and then everyone else?

14 A. It's about 90 percent of the use is agricultural
15 and 10 percent are the other uses.

11:57:33

16 Q. And I want to ask you a little bit about -- you
17 know, since you're an agricultural economist, you'll have
18 some insight into this. When you're using glyphosate or
19 Roundup on a farm, how is it typically applied?

11:57:51

20 A. It's -- it's applied by -- some sprayers or
21 pulled behind a tractor. But much commercial farms now
22 there's dedicated machines that just are built and
23 designed to apply pesticides. And herbicides account for
24 almost three-quarters of all pesticide use.

11:58:11

25 So the application equipment is very much

1 designed to accommodate large-acreage use, rapid
2 spraying. And the operator is inside a cab with glass
3 and a sophisticated air filtration system. And the
4 industry's done a great job of really minimizing
11:58:33 5 exposures for people applying it with -- with modern
6 equipment.

7 Q. Now let's talk about that other portion of
8 users, right, the people that aren't using it on a farm.

9 A. Right.

11:58:47 10 Q. What, sort of, use --

11 MR. GRIFFIS: Objection, your Honor. No
12 foundation for this. And it's cumulative of Dr. Sawyer.

13 MR. WISNER: It's on the first page of his
14 report.

11:58:56 15 THE COURT: Overruled. He may answer.

16 THE WITNESS: Applicators that aren't farmers
17 that are using glyphosate-based herbicides to control the
18 weeds around their house and park, around a school, would
19 use either a backpack sprayer or a hand-held sprayer.

11:59:13 20 And sometimes there's a unit that gets put in the back of
21 a pickup truck. It's kind of like a power washer.

22 Q. BY MR. WISNER: And when application is being
23 done that way, is there, like, a -- I guess the exposures
24 are different. Is that fair?

11:59:29 25 A. Oh, most definitely.

1 Q. Now, you said that, you know, 30 percent in '87,
2 10 percent in 2012, are these other uses. What's the
3 vast majority of those other uses? What is that for?

4 A. So the other non-agricultural uses, the
5 high-volume ones, would be railroads. Spraying them on
6 railroad right-of-ways. Power lines. They've got to
7 control weeds in power lines. We've got a lot of power
8 lines. Pipelines, industrial right-of-ways. And those
9 uses, a lot of them are -- most of them are applied with
10 larger-scale equipment, where the applicator has the
11 comparable level of protection like the farmer that's in
12 an enclosed cab.

13 Of this 10 percent of glyphosate-based
14 herbicide use roughly today that is nonagricultural,
15 just a small percent, maybe a couple percent, of total
16 glyphosate-based herbicide use is this backpack
17 hand-held -- or if you go into Lowe's Hardware or Home
18 Depot and buy a -- you know, a half gallon bottle of
19 Roundup to control weeds in your driveway, those -- the
20 actual volume of that use is 2 percent, 1 percent of
21 total sales of glyphosate-based herbicides measured by
22 pounds of active ingredient.

23 Q. Now, Doctor, if you're looking at the
24 epidemiological literature on glyphosate in Roundup, the
25 majority of that literature is about the farmers; right?

1 A. Well, certainly the agricultural health study
2 was almost exclusively about certified agricultural
3 applicators, yes.

4 Q. And to be clear, have you actually ever seen an
12:01:23 5 epidemiological study of non-farm use, like people who
6 are using backpack sprayers in the real world?

7 A. Well, one of the things that distinguishes the
8 different results in the epidemiological literature is
9 actually the proportion of cases that have, you know, a
12:01:42 10 disease, a cancer, that did apply a herbicide or
11 glyphosate-based herbicide using a backpack sprayer or
12 hand-held sprayer. One of those other methods of
13 application that have a much higher typical exposure.

14 Q. So that's kind of what I want to get at. Now,
12:02:04 15 the jury's heard about cohort studies, and they've heard
16 about case control studies; right? Don't explain those.
17 They know.

18 But the cohort study and the agricultural health
19 study, that's following a group of, basically, farmers
12:02:14 20 for 30, 40 years; right?

21 A. Well, certified applicators. Many of them were
22 farmers.

23 Q. Okay. And then when we look at the other side
24 of the data, the case control studies, that's actually
12:02:24 25 pulling people who got cancer from cancer registries;

1 right?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. That doesn't necessarily mean farmers, does it?

4 A. Correct.

12:02:33

5 Q. It could be regular people spraying in the
6 backyard.

7 A. Or people that didn't spray any pesticides.

8 Q. And I know some of those --

9 MR. GRIFFIS: May I approach, your Honor?

12:02:41

10 THE COURT: Yes. Perhaps this is a good time
11 for the lunch recess, in any event.

12 MR. WISNER: Yeah.

13 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and Gentlemen,
14 we're going to break now for the lunch recess. Please

12:02:53

15 remember: Do not discuss the case, and we'll resume
16 again at 1:30.

17 (Jury leaves courtroom.)

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

12:03:25

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

12:03:40

25 [REDACTED]

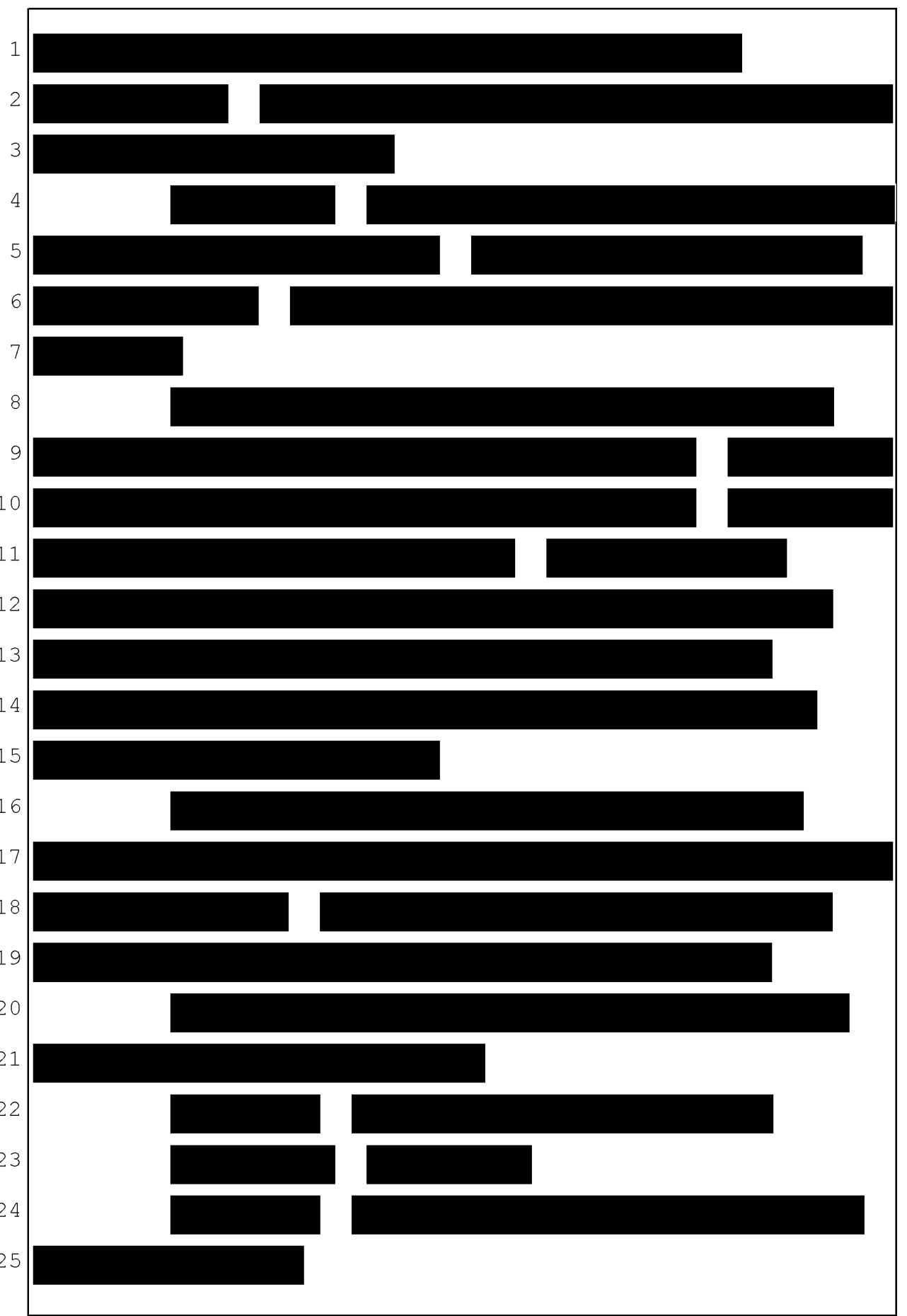
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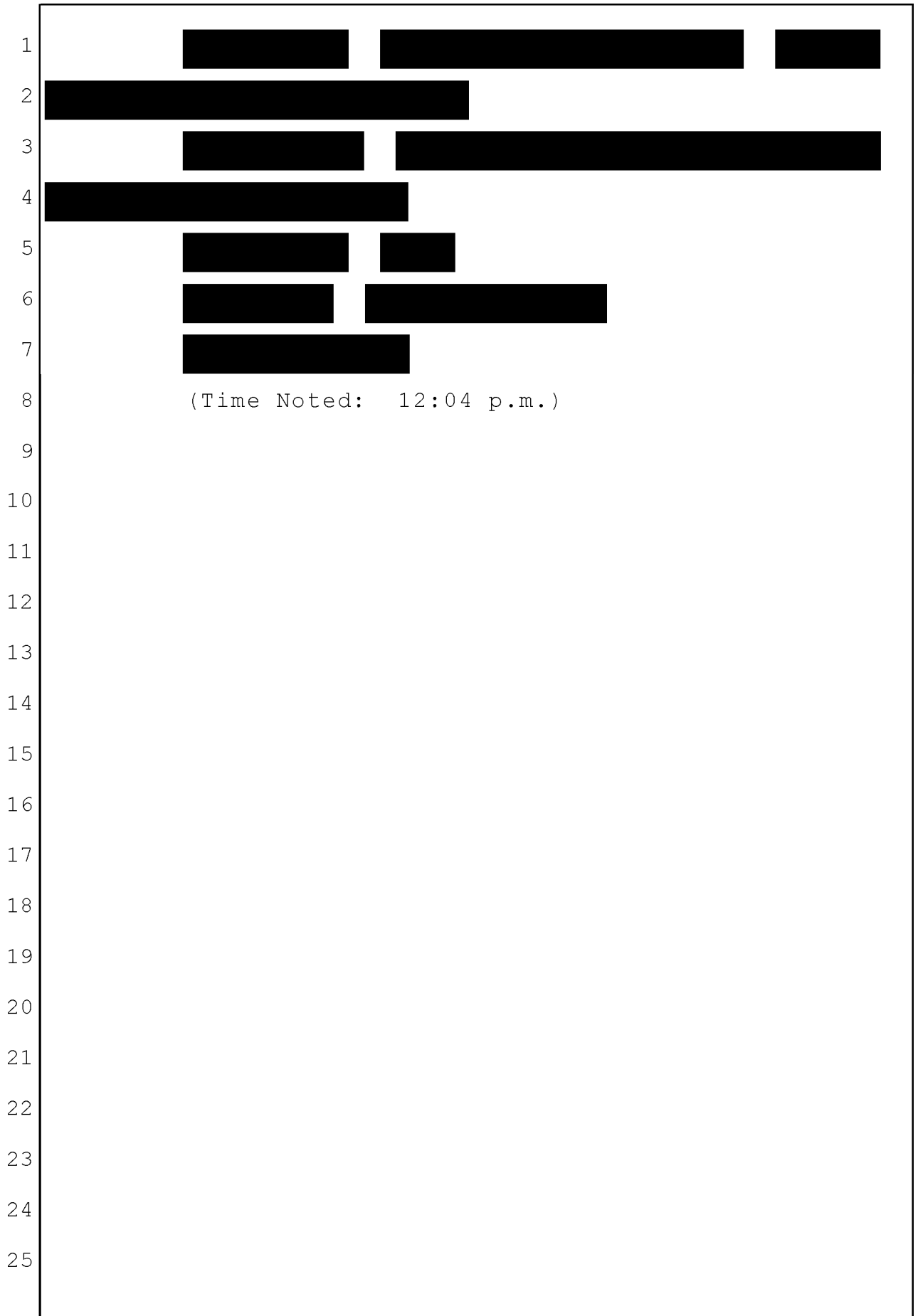
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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I certify that the proceedings in the within-titled cause were taken at the time and place herein named; that the proceedings were reported by me, a duly Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California authorized to administer oaths and affirmations, and said proceedings were thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or Attorney for either or any of the parties to said Proceedings, not in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand:
July 27th, 2018.

<%signature%>
Leslie Rockwood Rosas
Certified Shorthand Reporter
State of California
Certificate No. 3462