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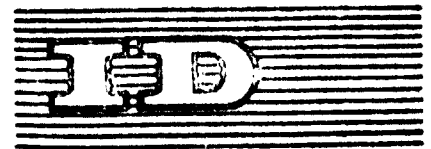
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MONOGRAPH ON THE CEMENT INDUSTRY IN TUNISIA<sup>1/</sup>

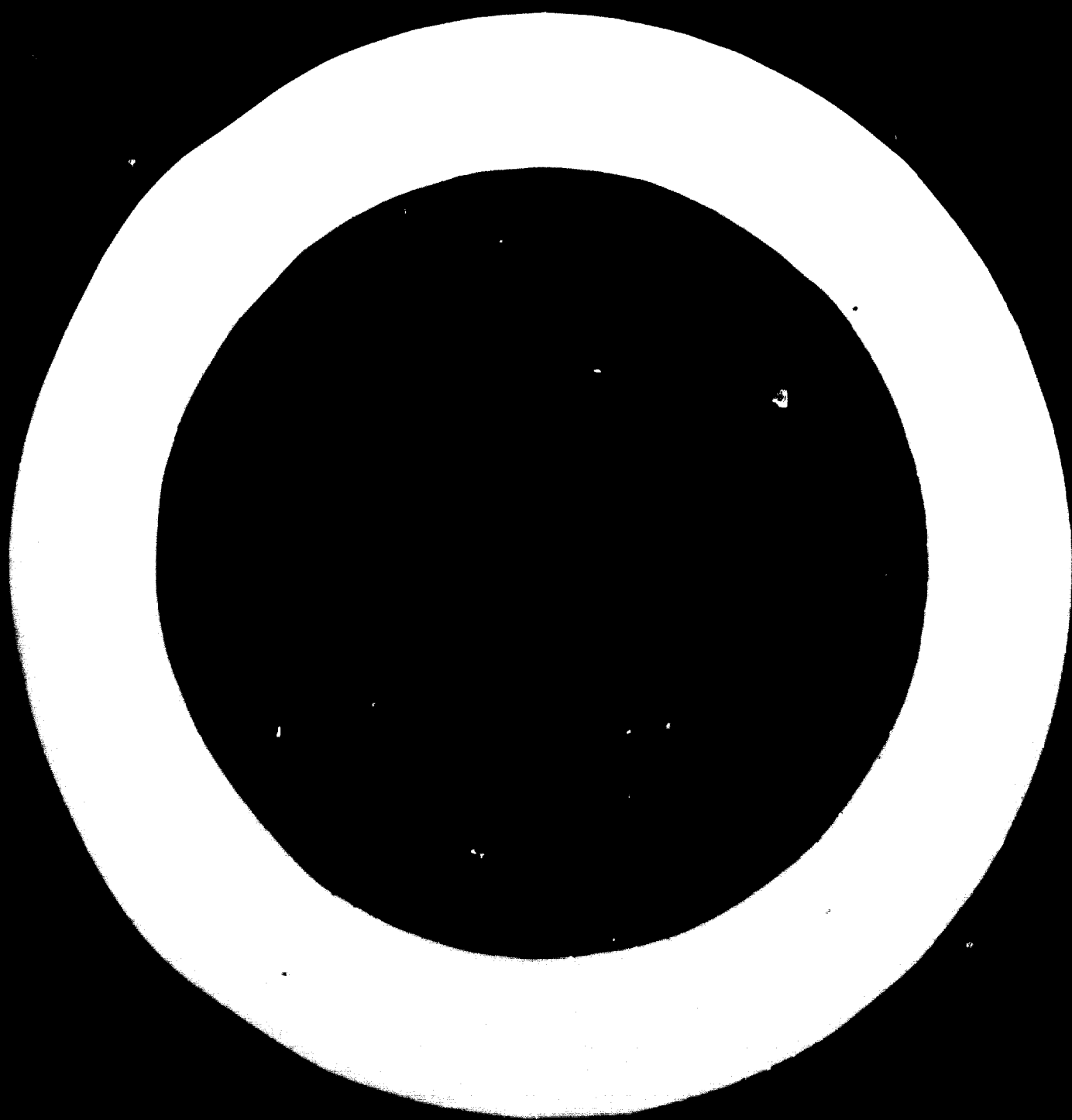
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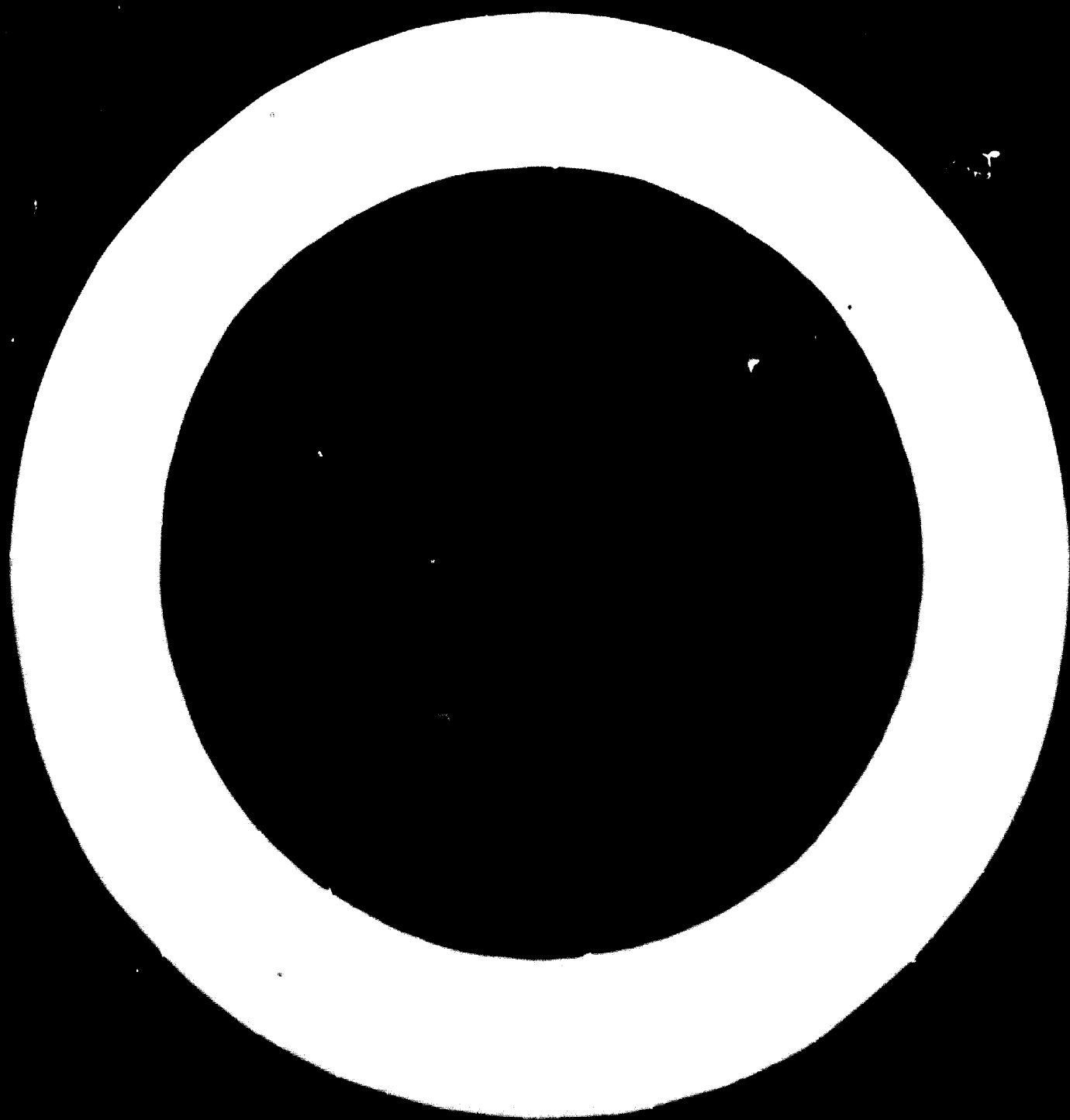
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<sup>1/</sup> The views and opinions expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the secretariat of UNIDO.

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Raw materials: The raw materials used in the production of cement, such as limestone, clay, sand and gypsum, are found in very large quantities in Tunisia.

These deposits exist throughout the country, in the north, the centre of the south.

At the moment, two limestone quarries are being worked, one in Tunis, where the CAT (Ciments artificiels tunisiens) cement works is located and the other in Bizerta, where the Bizerta Cement Works (SCPB) is established. There are very large deposits at Hammam Lif (20 km from Tunis) and Gabès (400 km from Tunis). The latter deposit will be used to supply the needs of the third cement works, which will go on stream in 1975.

Output: There are two cement works in Tunisia, one in Tunis and the other in Bizerta (60 km from Tunis). Their respective clinker capacities are 470,000 tonnes and 180,000 tonnes per annum.

The clinker is used in the manufacture of cement and artificial lime.

In 1971 Tunisia's cement production was 610,000 tonnes. It was just sufficient to satisfy the country's needs. The cost of production per tonne of cement is 6,500 dinars. The selling price per tonne of cement, not including tax, is 7 dinars.

Study of production problems: Tunisia has been producing cement since 1933. This industry is very well known in the country. There are no technical difficulties.

Imports: Tunisia is not a cement-importing country. Before 1970, Tunisia exported cement. The Bizerta Cement Works, located in the port area, exported all the surplus cement.

Since 1970, the country's needs have increased and at the moment production is scarcely sufficient to satisfy local consumption.

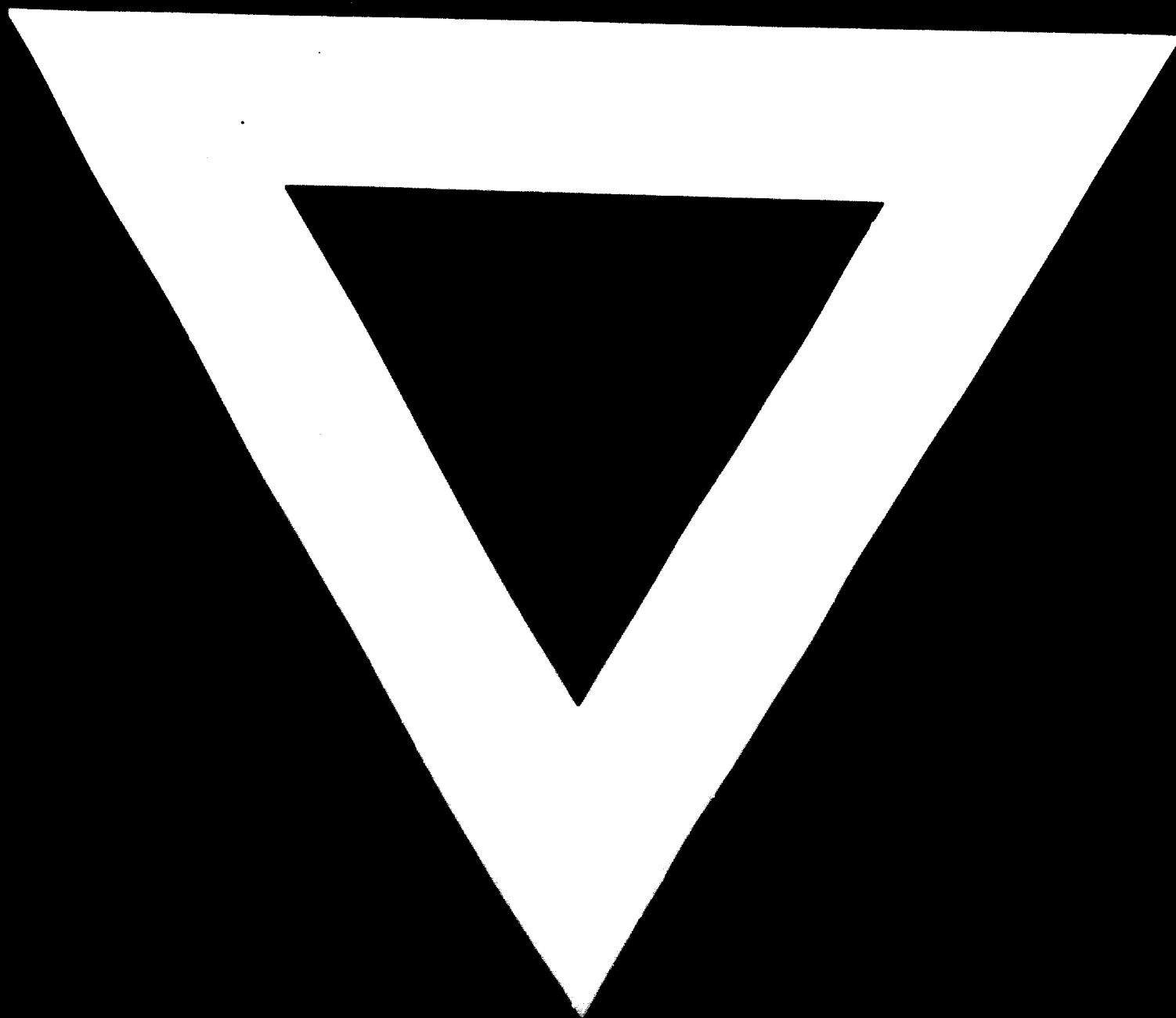
There is a project for the establishment of a new 330,000 tonnes/year cement works in the south.

According to forecasts, the new cement works will go on stream at the beginning of 1975.

Planning and construction activity: Tunisia is a tourist area. The Government is investing in the promotion of the tourist trade. Hotels with a total of 10,000 beds are constructed every year. In addition to the hotels, there are companies that build housing by large-scale production methods and sell them to private individuals. The extent of need is not accurately known.

According to the study made by the National Centre for Industrial Studies, cement requirements in the coming years will be as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cement consumption</u>
1975	664,000 tonnes
1976	705,000
1977	750,000
1978	800,000
1979	845,000
1980	900,000
1981	955,000



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