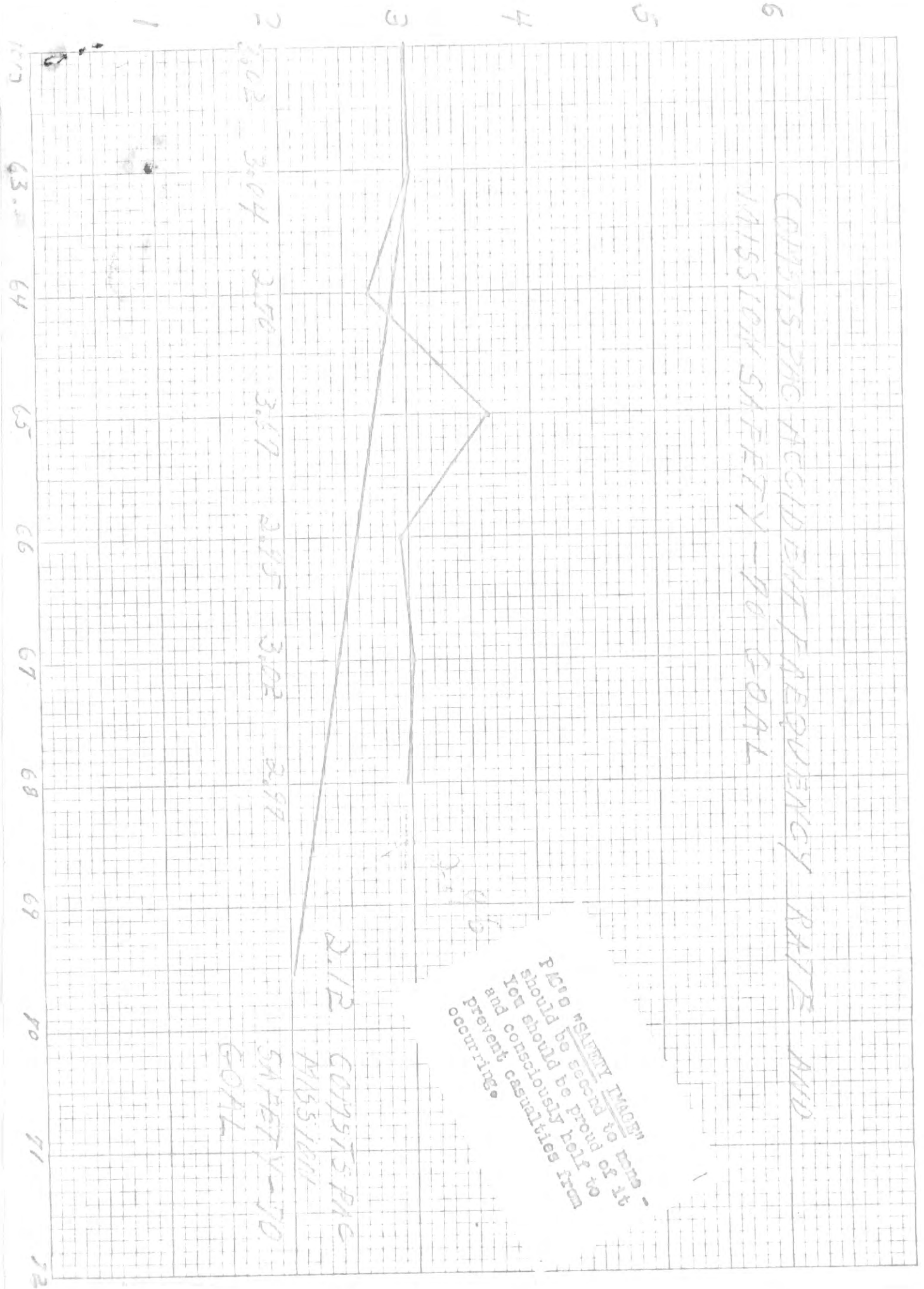




SAFETY PROGRAM LAGS--The government's Mission SAFETY-70 program, which was started with the objective of reducing on-the-job injuries of federal employees by 30 percent by 1970, is not doing as well as had been hoped.

At the halfway point in the program, the government injury rate has declined 8 percent--not enough progress to attain the 30 percent goal, Secretary of Labor George Shultz has informed President Nixon.

The Labor Department made a number of proposals for improving the program, including greater roles for the Federal Safety Council and for the General Services Administration, the government's "landlord" and "housekeeping" agency.

Nixon expressed concern over the lagging program and instructed Shultz to submit to him a supplemental report by Dec. 1 detailing what additional actions have been taken to implement proposals for greater safety measures.

During 1967, the last year for which statistics are available, there were 44,435 disabling on-the-job injuries among government employees and 245 deaths.