		· ·			,
Date :.	Station	Position	Approx. Depth	Gear	Remarks
21 June	1	54°40.4'12°22.0'	2886 m	Epibenthic sledge	New 0.5 mm mesh net tested. Good sample.
		54040.7'12°17.0'		Box corer	Bottom sample ca. 30 cm deep. Supernatant water los during recovery.
		54°41.2'12°17.9'		Plankton net	Townet for decaped larvae. Towing for 1 minute at e of 50 m depth increments from 300 m to surface.
		54 ⁰ 40.6'12 ⁰ 18.0'		Epibenthic sledge	Original 1 mm mesh net used. Good sample.
21 June	2	55°03.7'12°04.2'	2,800 m	Plankton net	As for Station 1.
21 and 22 June		55°03.5'12°03.5'		Multiple corer	5 successful hauls. 2 empty due to failure of corestriggering mechanism on bottom. Fault rectified.
22 June	2	55°04.1'12°03.1'	2,800 m	Spade box corer	Fitted with 5 x 5 subsampling grid. No sample. Ver and spade damaged.
	3	56°38.0'11°11.0'	2,500 m	Spade box corer	2 hauls. No samples.
23 June			2,500 m	Multiple corer	1 haul, 4 core samples.
	4	57°07.5'12°08.5'	2,000 m	Spade box corer	1 haul. Good sample with little disturbance
-				Multiple corer	1 haul. 4 core samples.
				Shipek camera	Bottom photographs.
	5 (Anton Dohrn Sea-	57°28' 11°00'	610 m	Spade box corer	1 haul. Good sample but supernatant water lost.
	mount).				
				Shipek camera	Bottom photographs.
				Craib corer	3 hauls, 3 cores.
· •					

17-28 June 1976

Report of Proceedings

A. Main objectives

Investigations and sampling of deep sea demersal fish populations using a bottom trawl.

Studies of the deep sea and shelf benthos using an epibenthic sledge, spade box corer, multiple corer and Craib corer.

Plankton sampling for decaped larvae.

B. Geographical area.

Rockall Trough west of Ireland and West Scotland. Anton Dohrn Seamount. Hebridean Terrace. Station positions listed in Table 1 and shown in Fig. 1.

C. Scientific party.

				3.0
1.	P.R. Barnett	SMBA	17-28	June
2.	Mrs. J. Duncan	SMBA	17-28	**
3.	J.D. Gage	SMBA (joined in Dublin)	18-28	89
4.	J. Gordon	SMBA	17-28	19
5.	K. Hoare	SMBA (left ship in Dublin)	17-19	
6.	N. Jones	Marine Laboratory,Port Erin,I.O.M. (joined in Dublin)	18-28	, u
7.	R.H. Lightfoot	SMBA/University of Newcastle upon Tyne	17–28	. 16

Table 1 cont.

Table 1 cont	t.	``			
Date	Station	Position	Approx. Depth	Gear	Remarks
				Water bottle & thermometer	Bottom salinity and temperature.
23 June	5	57°28'11°00'	610 m	Plankton net	As for Station 1
24 June	Trawl No.	56°25.2'09°09.8' to 56°33.5'09°08.1'	750 m	Otter trawl	Successful haul Delay in recovery of net due to otter board knocking off winch emergency stop control box.
	6	56°36.9'10°14.0	2000 m	Spade box corer	No sample. Premature closure
25 June	6	56°36.9'10°12.0'	2000 m	Spade box corer	No sample. Closing pulley wire fouled. Damage to main wire and new soft eye spliced in end.
	6	56°37.8'10°11.0'	2000 m	Multiple corer	1 haul. 4 cores. Bottom salinity and temperature.
25 June	7	56 [°] 39.8'09 [°] 48.5'	1,800 m	Multiple corer	1 haul 3 core samples. 1 core tube lost due to failu of tube retaining clip during extraction from sedimer Bottom salinity and temperature.
		56°39.8'09°46.0'	1,800 m	Spade box corer	Excellent sample, ca. 40 cm deep and apparently undisturbed. Soft pelagic ooze. Main wire tension up to 5.5 tons on break-out.
	Trawl No.	56°22.6'09°19¦0' to 56°27.8'09°20.5'	1 '	Otter trawl	Successful haul.
	Trawl No.	56°25.1'09°25.2' to 56°31.8'09°28.5'	1,250 m	Otter trawl	Successful haul but delays in recovery of net due to problems of warping wire on winch drum.
26 June	9	56°38.2'09°29'	1,400 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
•••				Spade box corer	Excellent sample 40 cm deep. Soft pelagic coze. Breakout strain 3.75 tons.
			Į.		

8. I. Macrae

Unit of Aquatic Pathobiology, University of Stirling.

17-28 June

9. G. Swinney

Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh 17-28 June

10. J. Watson

SMBA

17-28 June

D. Sea and weather conditions

Generally very good, the only interference with the work programme occurring on 27 June, towards the end of the cruise, when S.W. Force 8-9 winds, together with gear problems, prevented further spade box coring work on the Hebridean Terrace and delayed the start of the firral trawl by several hours. However, some of this time was used for water bottle and Craib core work on the hydrographic winch.

E. Conduct of the cruise and

F. Scientific equipment operation and handling.

Challenger sailed from Barry at 1000 hrs 17 June to make a courtesy visit to Dun Laoghaire, Eire, before continuing with the scientific programme.

During the passage to Dublin the scientific party was fully occupied in setting up demonstrations and exhibits in the scientific accommodation prior to the reception of visitors to the ship in Eire.

Challenger arrived at Dun Laoghaire at 0900 hrs on Friday

18 June. She lay at anchor in the harbour throughout the visit.

The visit was arranged as part of the Dun Laoghaire summer Festival

Table 1 cont.

10010 . 00.		`			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Date	Station	Position	Approx. Depth	Gear	Remarks
	8	56°39.2'09°40.1'	1,600 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
				Spade box corer	Excellent sample 35-40 cm deep. Soft ooze. Break-ostrain approx. 4.5 tons. Spade closing wire damaged
	10	56°39'09°23'	1,200 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
	·			Spade box corer	Excellent sample 30-35 cm deep. Sandy mud overlying sticky clay. Spade closing wire damaged.
26 June	Trawl No.	56°21.5'09°43.0' to 56°30.0'09°37.0'	1,500 m	Otter trawl	Net empty. Trial at this depth and trawl had not be on bottom - insufficient warp.
***************************************	11	56°38.5'09°13.0'	1,000 m	Spade box corer	Good sample but lost during deck handling.
				Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
	12	56°39.1'09°07'	800 m	Spade box corer	No sample. Pressure release safety catch not fired. Spadeclosing wire damaged. Further box coring aband due to gear failure and weather.
	13	56°39.5'09°02.1'	566 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
	14	56°39.5'08°58'	400 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
26 June	15	56°38.1'09°51.0'	160 m	Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.
27 June	16		160 m	Craib corer	5 hauls but only 1 core. Force 8 with heavy swell.
	Trawl No. 19	56°25.1'09°05.5' to 56°32.4'09°04.0'	500 m	Otter trawl	Good haul.
4 -			adilaridanina quantita una - un as- una againe de	Plankton net	As for Station 1.
	A3	56°01.6'07°39.3'	158 m	Craib corer	10 hauls but only 3 cores. Fault in corer.
	ŧ	1		Water bottle	Bottom temperature and salinity.

and was intended to provide an opportunity for the public and for Irish scientists to visit the ship and to see something of the research being carried out by NERC/SMBA. There were exhibitions on board of hydrographic, deep sea fishery and benthic research being carried out by SMBA in the Rockall Channel to the west of Ireland and Scotland. One exhibit described the role and activities of RVB, Barry.

We were received by the local organiser of the Summer Festival and by the Second Secretary of the British Embassy in Dublin.

Although the ship was open to public and scientific visitors
we: were disappointed particularly by the very small number of
scientists. We understand this was probably due to inadequate
publicity by the Irish authorities. Nevertheless, the visitors
who came on board were very enthusiastic and interested in the ship,
the facilities it provided and in the scientific programmes.

Challenger sailed from Dun Laoghaire at 1400 hrs Saturday

19 June and arrived at the first station in the Rockall Trough at

0400 hrs Monday 21st June.

The cruise was generally very successful. The station: positions, gear worked and success at each station are summarised in Table 1.

The two epibenthic sledge hauls at Station 1 were both very successful and provided a great deal of material. A new 0.5 mm finer mesh main bag was tested successfully for the first time on the first haul. For the second haul, the original 1.0 mm mesh net was used. This haul aroused particular interest since it contained a large specimen of a deep sea spiny crab, subsequently identified by Dr. D. Williamson at Port Erin, I.O.M., as

Station No HALLENGER SMBA976 Date 28.6.76 Decca. 36/m/.

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Paralithodes grimaldii. On both sledge hauls the newly modified door closing and locking mechanisms worked perfectly.

The large spade box corer generally worked successfully at most of the stations sampled with the gear. A total of 14 hauls were taken at 12 stations. These provided 8 samples from 8 stations. No samples were obtained from 4 stations (2, 2, 6 and 12). The empty hauls were due to the spade closing wire fouling parts of the gear and preventing closure of the spade (Stations 3 and 6); damage to the top flap valves (Station 2); premature closing, before penetration, on the bottom (Station 6); and to the pressure release safety catch on release hook failing to operate (Station 12).

The cruise provided an opportunity to test the various modifications that had been made to the box corer since September 1975. In particular, it appeared that the addition of considerably more lead weight greatly improved the penetration of the sampler into the harder, deeper clay layers of the deep sea sediments. This clay formed a very effective 'plug' to the bottom of the sampling box and frequently prevented supernatant water from draining out of the sampler during recovery between the sea surface and deck. On previous cruises this had sometimes been the cause of the loss of material from the surface layers of mud samples. On the present cruise this happened occasionally when the sampler failed to penetrate the bottom adequately (e.g. Station 1).

The <u>multiple corer</u> generally worked well. At the routine seasonal deep sampling station 2 the first two hauls were empty due to a fault in the core valve release mechanism. Once

this had been rectified the sampler was used for five successful hauls yielding 20 undisturbed core samples. The corer also provided four good cores at each of the other stations sampled (Table 1), with the exception of Station 7 when one core tube was lost during extraction from the core sediment due to failure of the core tube retaining clip.

The Craib core sampler gave very variable results. On the coarse sand of the Anton Dohrn Seamount (Station 5) it provided three excellent cores from three hauls. By contrast, at Station 16, on the edge of the continental shelf it provided only 1 core from 5 hauls. It was thought at the time that this was due to the bad weather conditions and heavy swell (Force 8) but in the calmer conditions at the routine Station A3, where the corer had worked well previously, it continued to give many blank hauls and there was considerable difficulty in obtaining only three sand cores here. Subsequent examination revealed a slight leak in the top valve mechanism which has now been rectified.

The otter trawling was very successful with good catches of fish at four of the five fishing stations (500, 750, 1000 and 1250 m), At the 1500 m deep trawl Station 18 the trawl was tested for the first time at this depth. However, it was clear that the trawl did not reach the bottom and that the problem was due to the trawl warps on Challenger not being long enough. However, the successful trawls at shallower depths provided further material for the successful seasonal series of samples taken during 1975-76.

The four plankton tows were taken during the cruise (Stations 1, 2, 5 & Trawl No 19, Table 1) by Dr. Jones on behalf of Dr. D.

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Williamson of Port Erin in an attempt to find an unidentified decapod larva which has previously been taken in the waters off western Britain. Subsequent examination of the material revealed one such larva from the Station 1 plankton sample.

The <u>IOS-water bottle</u> samples taken at a number of stations were for temperature and salinity determinations to provide environmental data from the bottom sampling stations.

The Shipek camera, mounted on the multiple corer provided photographs of the multiple corer taking samples on the bottom, It was also used to take photographs of the seabed and to record the bottom current direction as indicated by nylon cord streamers and a magnetic compass. This work continued until Station 6 when failure of the battery plug connection prevented further camera work during the cruise.

The scientific programme ended at Station A3 at 0100 hrs 28 June and Challenger berthed at Dunstaffnage at 1100 hrs.

G. Ship performance.

This was generally excellent. For all the vertical wire work we were very impressed, again, by the abilities of the ship's officers to maintain a vertical wire with the ship on station. Purthermore, the station keeping was extremely good. This was, perhaps, made more difficult by the breakdown of the satellite navigator. Nevertheless, the officers provided good Decca fixes, even in difficult areas.

During the fishing programme the skill and experience of the fishing skipper, Mr. Frank Dunning, was again greatly

Date 21-6-76

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appreciated. For the fishing, particularly, there was a marked improvement in the standard of the new Bosun compared with some predecessors. There was also an improvement in the crew during the fishing work.

At the end of the first trawl (Trawl No. 15, Table 1) there was a delay in the recovery of the net when the port otterboard knocked off the emergency winch stop control box. After a short delay this was rectified by the engine room staff. However, it does raise the possiblity of resiting the control in a less vulnerable position on the after deck bearing in mind that it must be in a very accessible position.

The new blocks for the new inner brackets on the sides of the 'A' fraome have still not arrived and this makes the handling of the otter boards more difficult. The new wire, for use with these blocks was provided by SMBA for a cruise in April last. We hope that these blocks will be provided very soon.

Out biggest criticism of Challenger for this cruise was the siting of the additional winch on the after deck for a cruise as far in advance as October. We realise the problems of not being able to berth Challenger where adequate crane facilities would be provided before that cruise. Nevertheless, we ask that this situation be avoided for future S.M.B.A. biological cruises where so many different pieces of gear have to be handled over the stern. That winch makes the interchange of gear extremely awkward, inconvenient and at times rather dangerous. There was a tendency for people to get caught between the winch and the heavy gear being moved and people frequently

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tripped over parts of the winch whilst handling other gear.

It would be greatly appreciated if the sanitary seawater supply in the fish laboratory could be restored. This is an extremely useful facility when people want a small quantity of seawater, without having to ask the engine room to turn on the deck supply.

During the spade box corer work it became necessary to make up new spade closing wires. The efforts of various members of the crew, particularly the bo'sun and Mr. Vik are gratefully acknowledged.

Once again we would like to acknowledge the loan of the Shipek camera from I.O.S. Barry. It is proving a very useful aid to the development of the final design of the multiple corer, for photographing the seabed of the Rockall Channel and for recording the direction of bottom currents. During the passage to Dublin it became clear that a fault had developed in one of the camera batteries. We are grateful for the way in which I.O.S. Barry arranged for replacement batteries to be flown to Dublin.

The provision of facilities for showing feature films on board is greatly appreciated and provides excellent relaxation during off-duty periods. We hope this facility will continue.

Again, we wish to express our thanks to the Chief Engineer and officers for the invaluable help they gave at various times during problems with gear and in carrying out modifications.

Catering on board was, as usual, excellent and we are grateful to the chief steward and staff for their efforts and

HALLONGER CFLISE 9 Date 27/6/76 DEEP STM 2 70/MP.

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kindness and for providing facilities for meals during night watches.

It is a pleasure to record with thanks the helpful advice and cooperation of Captain MacDermott. It was always a pleasure to discuss and plan the programme with him and we are conscious of the role he played in making the cruise so successful.

Finally, we wish to record our gratitude to RVB for the help and co-operation in the initial planning of the cruise and for the provision of two extra days at the end of the cruise to allow for cruise time lost because of the visit to Eire.

Peter Barnett

26 July 1976.

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Time in Dublin	28
Epibenthic sledge	10
Spade box corer	18.75
Multiple corer & camera	19.75
Craib corer	5.50
Water bottle work	4.75
Plankton tows	2.00
Fishing	23.00
Time lost due to warping problems	4.50
" " " weather	2.50
Steaming between stations	74.25
Total scientific work	165.00 165
Total cruise time	265

Time from Station No. CAMPLESCE SUBA 976 Date 23-6-76 TEMPERATURE CLOUD WAVES Corrected **POSITION** WIND Weath. REMARKS AND GEAR USEL Barometric and Dry Bulb Wet Bulb Time Period Height Туре Log Amt. Press. mbs. Dir. Speed Method of Long. Lat. Determination from 6,00 2033 7040 7040 G 56-20 AHH-10 10000 ...2.1.05. ...24(6) OFF 1005-4 150 2122 444 04 2144 Moure 4157 656.50 5727.6 ...**2υ**Ω 1101.6 200 223 2230 A44-01 4 56-41 57 28.7 10 58.0 ...22.34 57 28.0 10 S6.0 2254

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STATION POSITION LOG

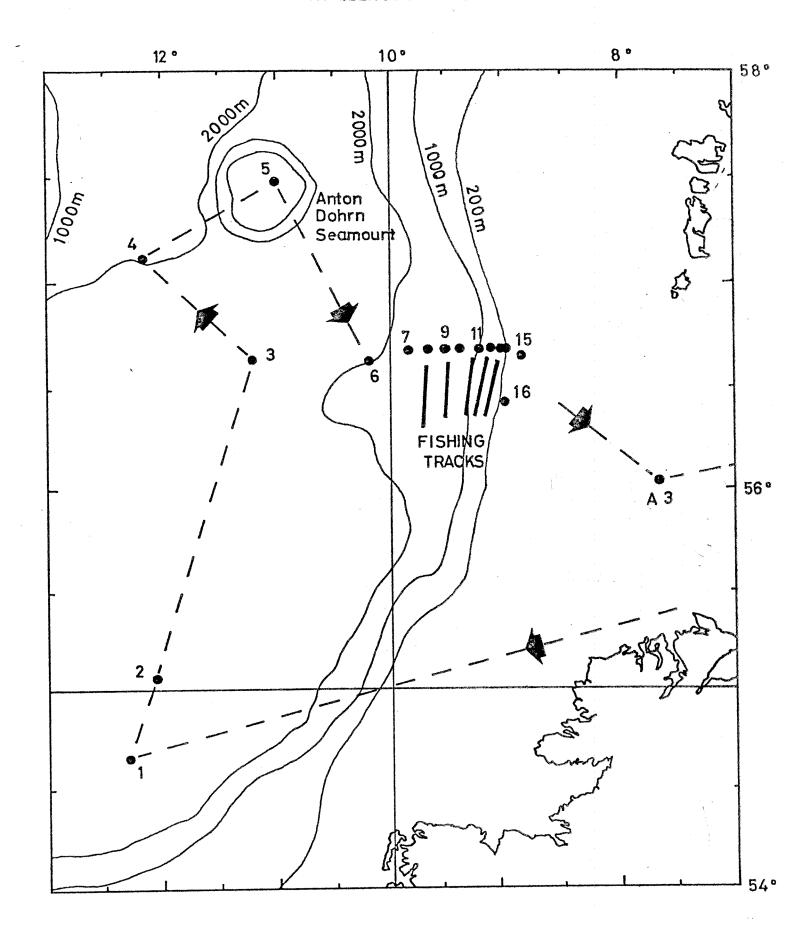
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CHALLENGER CRUISE 9-76



John Coyen

Reference P12/9/76

R.V.B. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

R.R.S."CHALLENGER" : CRUISE 9/76 : 17 - 28 JUNE 1976

To the Master

1. Ship's Programme

- (a) RRS "CHALLENGER" is to sail from Barry on Thursday 17 June with members of the Scottish Marine Biological Association; the University of Stirling; the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh; and the Marine Laboratory, Isle of Man on passage to Dun Laoghaire, Eire, where the ship will make a courtesy visit in connection with the Dun Laoghaire Summer Festival. On Saturday 19 June RRS "CHALLENGER" is to sail from Dun Laoghaire for a benthic cruise in the north-eastern Atlantic as required by the Senior Scientist.
- (b) The outline programme is given below:

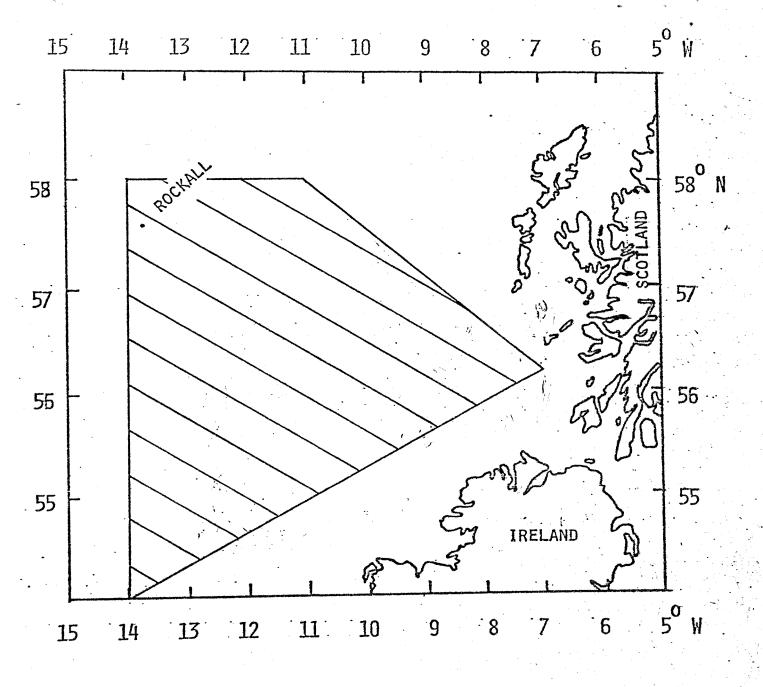
Tuesday	15 June	a.m.	: Load bunkers (MFO) from road tankers.
		1700	: Complete maintenance work
Wednesday	16 June		: Load scientific equipment.
Thursday	17 June	0930	: Sail Barry. Proceed on passage to Dun Laoghaire.
Friday	18 June	0900	: Arrive Dun Laoghaire.
Saturday	19 June	1300	: Sail Dun Laoghaire. Proceed wast of Scotland as required by the Senior Scientist.
Monday	28 June	a.m.	: Arrive Dunstaffnage.

2. Scientific Equipment

- (a) It is required to continue sampling deep sea demersal fish populations and deep sea and shelf benthos in the north eastern Atlantic. Equipment used will include a bottom trawl, an Epibenthic Sledge, a large box corer, a Craib corer, a multiple core sampler, and a Deep Sea Camera for taking photographs of the surface of the sea bed.
- (b) SMBA and IOS Barry equipment will be loaded in Barry on Wednesday 16 June and unloaded in Dunstaffnage on Monday 28 June.

Station No. CHARLENGEL STEA 476 Date 25-6-76 Decea Go Ma

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PROPOSED WORKING AREA CHALLENGER CRUISE 9 \(\frac{1}{76} \)

SMBA - Barnett

17 - **28** JUNE 1976

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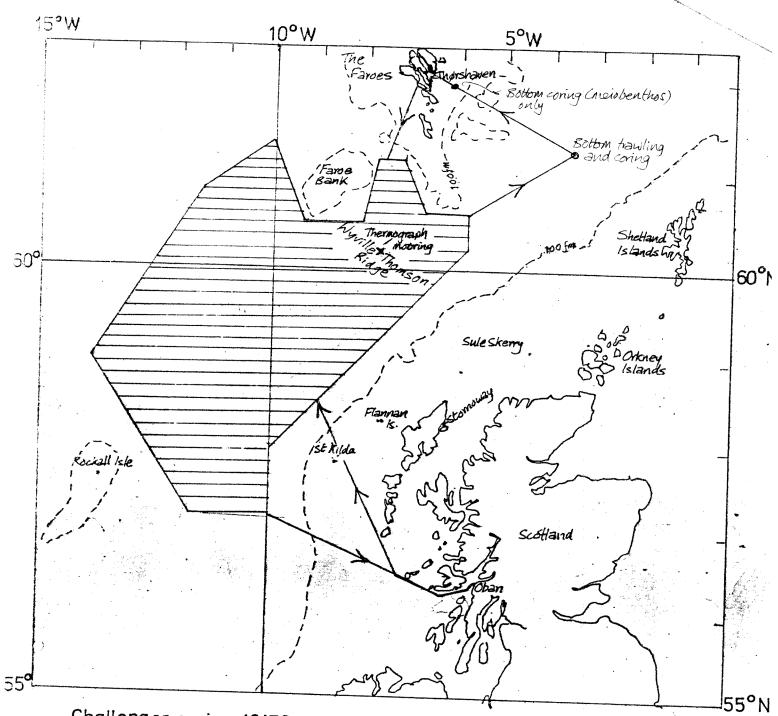
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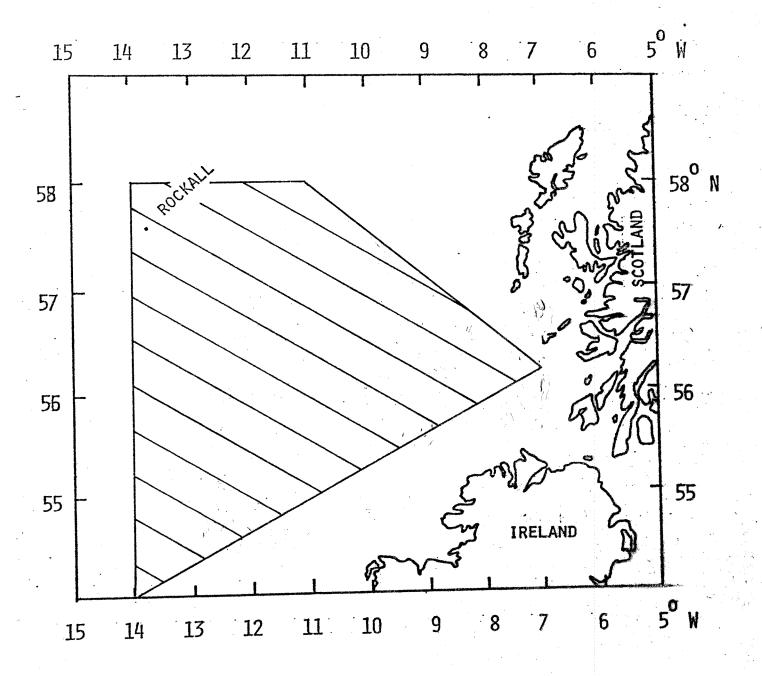


Challenger cruise 10/76, 29 June- 12 July. Proposed working area hatched.

STATION POSITION LOG

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PROPOSED WORKING AREA CHALLENGER CRUISE 9 - 76

17 - 26 JUNE 1976

The STATIO SMIRA Date 26-6-76 TO 27-6-76

Decca Go Mp

Speed Vis.	Dir. from	Period secs.	Height ft.	Barometric Press. mbs.	Dry Bulb	Wet Bulb	Туре		REMARKS AND GEAR USEI
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Chatherger Cruices 9 e 10/76.

CRUSE 9_

Steading times (lus) assuming speed of 9 kts.

	OBAN	05	Heb 7.	Pon. SB.
	05		18.5	13.5 - 33.5
	146 T.			30 - 50
	Pou. 58			
1	4	CATALOGUE AND		

PRION A.
CORING TRANSECT ON HEB TERR.

stations. @ 200 m depth increments starting @ on 2000 M. steaming time (For is 60 miles (oy) = 12 hrs. Collowing time ta repositioning)

sanding kno. (DOBOODS) cores = 300 tos.

DTIAN R

Decca 30 Mp N. Berrist Time from Station Nolume Course SMIA 9/76 Date 27-6-76 TEMPERATURE CLOUD **WAVES** WIND Corrected POSITION Weath. REMARKS AND GEAR USEI Barometric Time Log Period Height Type Amt. Speed Dir. Press. mbs. Method of Dir. Lat. Determination Conto. SHEAF STATION ((reit over in - no son PURRE 2247 1639 I 20.458 · - overside 2306 I 200.01 I 688 2304 " 1/13 ra sample 23 14 1 20.03 1 68.75 1/2 - O.K. 2.7. 33. 35. 20.05 68-6 4.0 1 2100 3 685 45 1/13 - 10 smyst. 1 T 21.0 + 69.0 0005 (, D1. 34 (, 69.05 000] 116,01 0014

	WEDNES DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
p.m. Marlow - Gler			
N	R. Summers - a.m. Run Workshop - p.m. Run		ade salari kerinan dapa kerina dalah perumunan dalam perumuna dalam salari salari salah perumuna perumuna dala Baran salari kerina dalam dalam dalam salari sa
Creran	L. Feochan Tralee Bay	P. Landless - Jura R. Campbell	C. Comely - Port
Creran	R. Gibson L. Feochán Tralee Bay	P. Landless - Jura R. Campbell	C. Comely - Port
ucknish	Lelle	a.m. M. Picken - Firth of Lorne	
- Hunterston			
Tett	Dr. Stanley		Sir Frederick R
terston			
och Creran	a.m. Dr. Gibson p.m. L. Feochan Tralee Bay	P. Landless Jura R. Campbell	C. Comely - Port
Sandbank	Collect Dr. Wilson from Crianlarich at 08.00	Crewbus at Regent Hotel 09.30 Dr. Wilson to Crianlarich 17.	co Crianlarich
	Collect Dr. Wilson from Crian	Dr Wilson to Crian. 17.00	Prov. Crea Crian. 18.
	at 08.00	SCIENTIFIC MEETING	COUNCIL MEETIN

3:	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNES DAY
		ROAD —	
I		a.m. p.m. J. Watson - J. Marlow - Glen Sandbank Noo	
II		Calanus Crew - Sandbank	
III		MAIL RUN	R. Summers - a.m. Run Workshop - p.m. Run
ver		C. Comely - Loch Creran	R. Gibson L. Feochan Trale a.m. p. R. Gibson
	Plankton daily) Blaxter Water samples)	C. Comely - Loch Creran	L. Feochan Trale
egginnesse periodici and the sea efficient		a.m. M. Picken - Ardmucknish	a.m. M. Picken - Dunstaffnag Char
520	c purpos qualifornità del della managementa del proprio del propri		
g		Dr. P. Barnett - Hunterston	
ara		Dr. Barnes/ Dr. Tett	Dr. Stanley _
		A. Gale - Hunterston	
	Plankton daily) Blaxter Water samples)	C. Comely - Loch Creran	a.m. Dr. Gibson L. Feochan Trale
ın	water sembres)	Calanus crew to Sandbank	Collect Dr. Wilson from Crianlarich at 08.00
Sscort			Collect Dr. Wilson fr at 08.00

Challenger Cruise 9/76

Macrobenthos Sampling

- Continuation of time series at deep station 2
 Position: 54°40'N 12°16'W, 2886 m.
 Approx. time required on station 10 hrs (2 epibenthic sledge hauls), and 2 spade corer drops (3 hrs). Total time 13 hrs.
- 2. Barra Fan/Hebrides Terrace SBC transect. Single hauls from 11 stations; target depths at 2500, 2000, 1800, 1600, 1400, 1200, 1000, 800, 600, 400 and 200 metres. Total estimated sampling time 12 hrs, total steaming time* from 2500 m stn. on 56°36'N 11°11'W to 56°36'N 08°58'W estimated at 8.5 hrs plus 6 hrs for ship manoevering in order to locate correct depth. Total time 26.5 hrs.
- 3. Feni Ridge and Anton Dohrn SBC stns. on approx, 57°10'N

 12°10'W (Feni Ridge) and 57°28'N 11°06'W (Anton Dohrn)

 total time required on station, 8.5 hrs (including depth
 seeking time). Extra steaming time (assuming Feni Ridge and
 then Anton Dohrn are sampled between the 2500 and 2000 M

 stations on the BF/HT transect) is 16 hrs. Total time
 therefore 21.5 hrs.
- * based on steaming at 9 knots. J.D. Gage 12 May 1976.