

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1974 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CIROLANA: CRUISE 7B

(PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author)

STAFF

R B Mitson
A J Burridge
S M Baynes
A R Pratt, Loughborough University
R H Holmes, Heriot-Watt University
R S Ramshaw, " " "
R N Schooling, " " "
P C King, " " "
M G Walker, 15 Sep and 18-19 Sep.

DURATION

Left Aberdeen 2000 h, 15 September

Arrived Grimsby 0700 h, 19 September

All times Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY

Moray Firth and Aberdeen Bay

AIM

To participate with CLIONE in trials of ANGUS (A Navigable General purpose Unmanned Surveyor) with the Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

NARRATIVE

The Heriot-Watt University equipment was loaded on board during the afternoon of 15 September. Dr M G Walker arrived at 2000 h en route to CLIONE and CIROLANA sailed immediately. At 0730 h, 16 September Dr Walker was transferred to CLIONE by rubber boat in the working area off Spey Bay. ANGUS was launched at 0930 h and kept under observation by CLIONE until 1145 h. Recovery was effected by 1220 h in poor weather conditions. A fault in the navigation system on ANGUS delayed work for a time. A further run was made without the navigation system whilst CLIONE made observations with the ARL scanner. On 17 September CIROLANA moved to deeper water whilst CLIONE joined MARA to continue their work. A steadily increasing S.W. wind and swell made work impossible so CIROLANA moved to Dornoch Bay. No effective shelter could be found from 45 knot winds. It was decided that Dr Walker would be returned to CIROLANA if conditions allowed when CLIONE reached Dornoch Bay, her own work having been stopped

by the weather conditions. With the transfer completed by 1530 h CIROLANA set course for Aberdeen Bay arriving to anchor there at 2300 h. On 18 September preparations were made to lay the navigation beacons for ANGUS as soon as possible after dawn. They were placed 1 km apart and good signals received. With an increasing wind recovery was made and ANGUS launched again without its underwater navigation system. Work ceased at 1100 h and CIROLANA docked in Aberdeen at 1200 h where the Heriot-Watt University equipment was unloaded. The ship left at 1330 h for Grimsby where she docked at 0700 h, 19 September.

RESULTS

ANGUS was launched and recovered 3 times in depths of water from 19 to 38 m. No difficulty was experienced in launching but one recovery was extended because of squalls. Operation and control in currents of 0.75 kt to 2.25 kt was excellent, many descents and ascents from top to bottom of the water column were made during the 6 hours ANGUS was in the sea. Fish, crabs and starfish were seen clearly through the television system. It was possible to view the seabed by hovering above it or putting ANGUS on to it. The stability was very good at all times.

R B Mitson
23 Sept 1974

SEEN IN DRAFT: TF
GA

INITIALLED: AJL

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List

R B Mitson
A J Burridge
S M Baynes
A R Pratt, Loughborough University
R H Holmes, Heriot-Watt University
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