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In Confidence: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory

CRUISE REPORT

FRV CLUPEA

13-23 December 1971

"Clupea" left the Upper Dock at Aberdeen at 0930 hours on 13 December, fuelled at Point Law, and proceeded to sea at noon.

Gales to storm force south westerly winds blew continuously during the cruise. Advantage was taken of short lulls in the weather to fish just off Aberdeen but no offshore work was possible.

During the six days in which work was possible 12 hauls were made using live-fish canvas cod-ends. Catches varied considerably and the condition of the fish was frequently influenced by the numbers of dogfish present. Altogether 112 haddock, 36 cod and 32 lemon soles were tagged. In addition, 84 haddock, 2 cod, 12 plaice, 1 witch, 1 conger eel, 3 whittings, 3 R. naevus and 3 squalus were taken back alive for aquarium studies. Of particular interest was a catch of 15 anchovies taken on 17 December.

The Marconi prototype digital sonar ceased to function on 14 December.

Captain Squair of Robert Gordon's School of Navigation sailed during the first week to observe techniques used aboard research vessels whilst trawling.

"Clupea" finished work on 22 December and off-loaded on the following day.

J GAULD
30 December 1971