In confidence: not to be quoted without

reference to the Laboratory

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. CIUPEA

9th - 20th December, 1963.

Objective:

To make a routine trawl survey of O+1 group herring in the Moray Firth

As there were contractors visits on the 9/12, Clupea sailed from Buckie on the 10/12. All but two stations of the survey were completed.

In general the fish catch was very poor. No large catches of herring were obtained, most of those caught being taken at stations 12, 14, and 17. These had a length range of 16-22 cms. There were very few sprats caught anywhere in the survey area.

The whitefish catch was composed of almost equal proportions of Haddock (24 cms mean length) and Whiting (22 cms mean length).

Mr. Wilkins spent one day aboard collecting herring blood samples, and Mr. Hemmings also spent a day aboard collecting live fish.

D. P. SHARMAN.

8th January, 1964.