RI/6 <u>In confidence</u>: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory.

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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "CLUPEA"

18th-29th April, 1966

The objective of this cruise was to study the effect on selectivity of using a large mesh Ulstron cover over a Courlene cod-end.

Various grounds in the Moray Firth were fished - South Deep, off Lossiemouth, Smith Bank and off Clythness. The frequent changes of grounds were made because of the general scarcity of roundfish, and at no time during the cruise were there any substantial catches of commercial sized roundfish.

Nineteen one hour hauls were made, the catches comprising mainly of 1965 brood whiting (modal length 15 cm) and herring (modal length 19 cm). The cod-end used after the first two hauls had a mean mesh size of 66.5 mm and it was possible to draw selection curves from the aggregated data.

The selection factor for the single cod-end for whiting was 3.1 and for the cod-end with the Ulstron cover 3.0. A more detailed statistical report has been prepared.

W. B. HALL M. H. AKHTAR

16th May, 1966.