

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

Dr. B. E. ✓

1971 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 12B

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

STAFF

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LOCALITY

Northern North Sea

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1000 h 19 November

Arrived Lowestoft 1230 h 24 November

All times are Greenwich Mean Time

AIMS

To service the ICES current meter Stations A and B, and to re-lay the current meter Station on C.

NARRATIVE

CLIONE sailed from Lowestoft at 1000 h 19 November and proceeded to ICES Station C, arriving at 0340 h 20 November. The current meter rig was laid here by 0645 h, and the ship went on to Station B in deteriorating weather. The buoy on Station B was observed at 1835 h, but a south-westerly gale prevented any work on it, and forced CLIONE to 'dodge' until 0700 h 21 November, when a slight moderation in wind strength allowed her to move into Bridlington Bay for shelter from a forecast north-westerly storm. Buoy A was sighted at 0720 h and appeared to be in good order. For the next 48 h, CLIONE sheltered from north-westerly winds averaging 45 knots and during this time an extension of the cruise was applied for and granted.

Moderating winds on the afternoon of 22 November allowed the northerly swell to decrease sufficiently for work to start on Station A at 0945 h 23 November, and the rig was lifted, serviced and replaced by 1100 h in marginal conditions. Course was then set for Station B, but with a north-easterly gale forecast, which materialised when the ship arrived at Station B. CLIONE remained hove to on Station B until 2300 h, 23 November, when it became apparent that with no moderation of the north-east wind, and with no southerly winds forecast, the northerly swell would prevent work on the rig for the next 24 hours. The ship returned to Lowestoft, docking at 1230 h 24 November.

RESULTS

A current meter rig was moored at Station C, and that on Station A serviced. Weather conditions prevented any work on Station B.

G C Baxter
1 December 1971

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