

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

1975 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 16 Part B

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

STAFF

J W Ramster
G C Baxter
S Rusby) Institute of Oceanographic Sciences (IOS),
D Gaunt) Wormley
G Philipps)
J Currie * : Hawker-Siddeley Dynamics
T Sellers *

* Part time

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 0800h, 1 December

Docked Lowestoft 0720h, 2 December

LOCALITY

Benaère Ness area

AIMS

1. To strengthen the lashings holding down the deck cargo on Data Buoy I (DBI).
2. To lay the remote current meter and water level sensors.

NARRATIVE

The ship sailed as scheduled in spite of a poor forecast in the hope that the expected gale would hold off until the end of the day at best and mid-day at least. In fact once the region off Kirkley had been left waves 1-2 feet high were encountered. Such conditions ruled out the required small boat work but once the vessel had reached the Data-buoy it lay for some time so that the behaviour of the buoy in an open sea-way could be observed. Just as the ship turned for home the upper section of the buoy's glass-fibre aerial was seen to break off.

After a final run past the Buoy during which the nature of the damage was assessed the ship sailed to Gorleston Roads. Captain Sellers and Mr Currie went ashore at 1130h in the Zodiac which was not able to return to the ship because of the prevailing tide and gale-driven waves at the harbour entrance. Consequently the ship moved to Corton Roads and anchored.

Even in the lee of Lowestoft Ness upto 50 knots of wind were measured in the southerly gale that blew throughout the rest of the day. The ship could not get into port in these conditions and had to lie at anchor until the morning tide of the next day.

RESULTS

1. Weather conditions prevented either of the stated aims being fulfilled.
2. It was noted that in a rising sea DBI appeared to have a sharp "roll-and-pitch" motion but no apparent rotary movement.

J W Ramster
31 December 1975

SEEN IN DRAFT: G S
W G

INITIALED: A J L

DISTRIBUTION: Basic list +

J W Ramster
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