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

1989 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORYSTES: CRUISE 3a

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

STAFF:

A K Steele

R S Read

C J Gough

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DURATION: 21 February-4 March

ATMS:

- 1. To carry out propulsion trials.
- 2. To collect surface seawater samples at all stations on the proposed track and at selected stations to collect midwater and/or near bottom seawater samples for radiocaesium analysis.
- 3. To collect surface seawater at selected stations in the vicinity of UKAEA Winfrith to determine cobalt speciation and suspended particle load.

NARRATIVE:

RV CORYSTES sailed from Lowestoft at 0955h 21 February and after completion of the propulsion trials at 1400h proceeded south about to the Irish Sea, sampling surface seawater at 16 stations en passage.

In the vicinity of UKAEA Winfrith 9 stations were worked, sampling surface seawater for subsequent cobalt speciation and suspended load determinations. Seawater sampling in the Irish Sea commenced at 1745h 23 February sampling surface seawater from the ships clean seawater supply and nearbottom seawater using 30 litre Niskin bottles. Sampling at the grid of stations in the Irish Sea was completed by 0845h 28 February.

CORYSTES then worked stations in the Western approaches to the Firth of Clyde, until 45 knot winds and a heavy swell caused sub-surface sampling to be abandoned at 1330h 28 February. CORYSTES sheltered at anchor overnight under the lee of Jura before continuing the grid of stations. At selected stations to the west of the Hebrides, CTD profiles were made and midwater and nearbottom samples collected using 30 L Niskin bottles on a rosette array. Two stations were omitted because of shortage of time. CORYSTES docked in Workington at 0815h 4 March.

RESULTS:

With the exception of the grid to the West of the Hebrides where the two southernmost stations were not worked and at one station where the sub-surface sampling was abandoned, all the planned work was completed.

The following samples were collected and processed on board for subsequent radiocaesium analysis.

Area	No of Stations worked	No of Samples processed
On passage to the Irish Sea	16	16
Irish Sea	74	132
West of Scotland	16	38

A K Steele 16 March 1989

SEEN IN DRAFT: M.J Willcock

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INITIALLED: RJP

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