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A.K.

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

1988 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT : CHARTER VESSEL DAWN SKY : CRUISE 1

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

STAFF:

- A K Steele
- R J Read
- D J Allington
- T D Crane
- L A Goldspink
- A Cogan

DURATION:

Left Lowestoft 0730h 2 March  
 Arrived Lowestoft 2210h 19 March

LOCALITY:

Irish Sea, west and north of Scotland

AIM:

To collect surface seawater samples at all stations on the proposed track and at selected stations to collect midwater and near bottom seawater samples for radiocaesium analysis.

NARRATIVE:

DAWN SKY sailed on the morning of 2 March and proceeded southabout to the Irish Sea. At 15 stations between Lowestoft and the southeast entrance to the Irish Sea (Fig 1), 50 litre samples of surface seawater were collected and processed on board for the determination of the <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>134</sup>Cs concentrations.

Seawater sampling commenced in the Irish Sea (Fig 2) at 2030h 4 March, sampling surface seawater from the ship's clear seawater supply and nearbottom seawater using 30 litre Niskin bottles. The grid of stations was completed in the Irish Sea by 1840h 9 March. DAWN SKY then worked the stations in the western approaches to the Firth of Clyde before taking advantage of an adverse weather forecast to call at Stornoway at 1645h 11 March for fuel and water. DAWN SKY left Stornoway at 0650h 12 March and continued to work the grid of stations to the west and north of the Hebrides until bad weather caused the plan to be amended by omitting the stations between 59°N and 60°N, 5°W and 4°W. By 1300h 16 March the weather had improved sufficiently to allow two additional stations to be worked at 60°N, 3°W and 2°W before continuing the grid in the North Sea. DAWN SKY docked in Lowestoft at 2210h 19 March. Gear was unloaded by 0900h 20 March.

RESULTS:

With the exception of the six stations to the north of Scotland where work had to be abandoned all the planned work was completed. The following samples were collected and processed on board for subsequent analysis at Lowestoft.

AREA	NO OF STATIONS WORKED	NO OF SAMPLES PROCESSED
On passage to Irish Sea	15	15
Irish Sea	75	132
West and North of Scotland	37	88
North Sea	18	29

A K Steele  
23 March 1988

SEEN IN DRAFT : MASTER J P Stevens

INITIALLED : H W H

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list +

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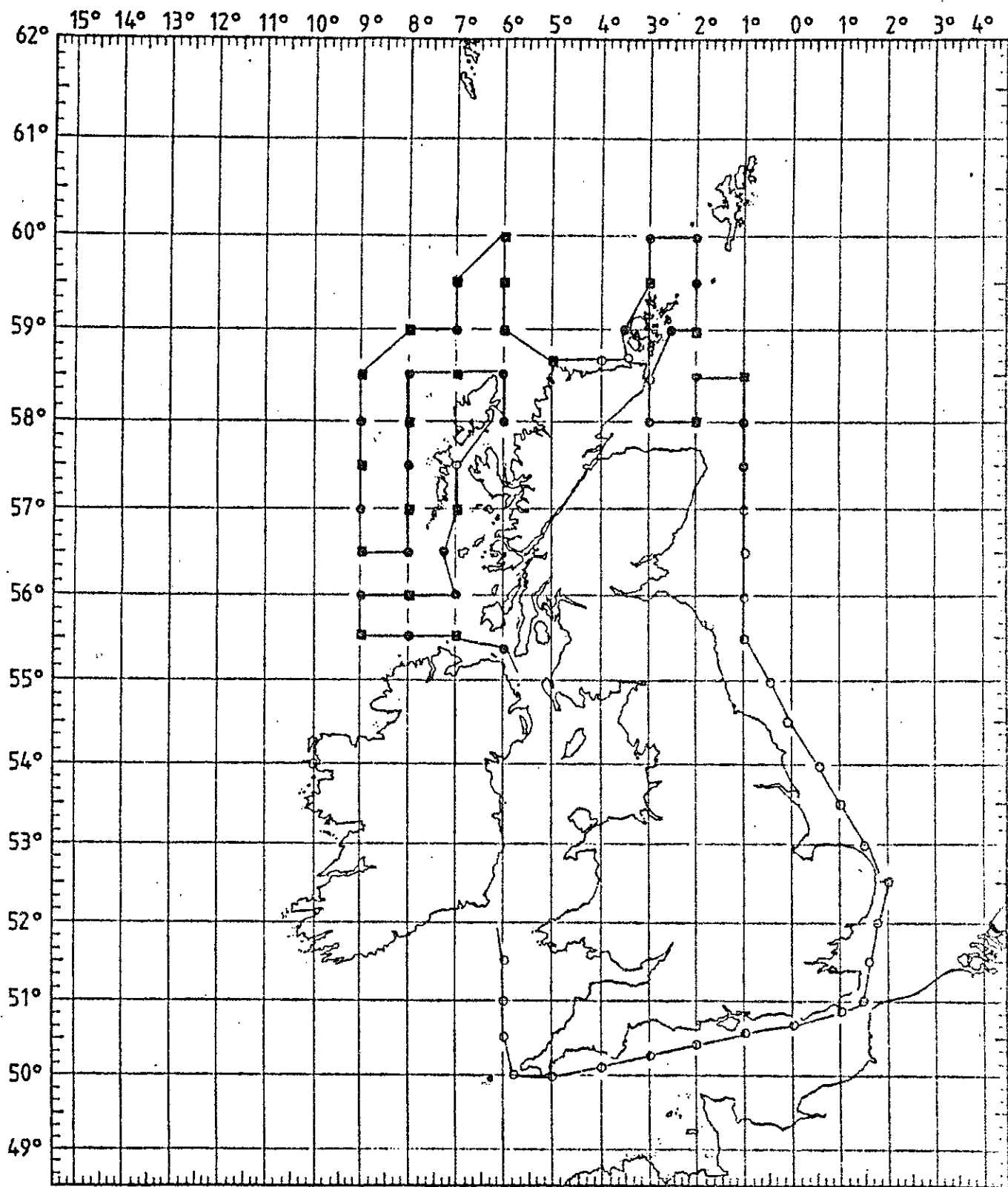


Fig 1 Dawn Sky 1/88 Cruise Track

- Surface water sample
- Surface & nearbottom water sample
- Surface, midwater & nearbottom water sample

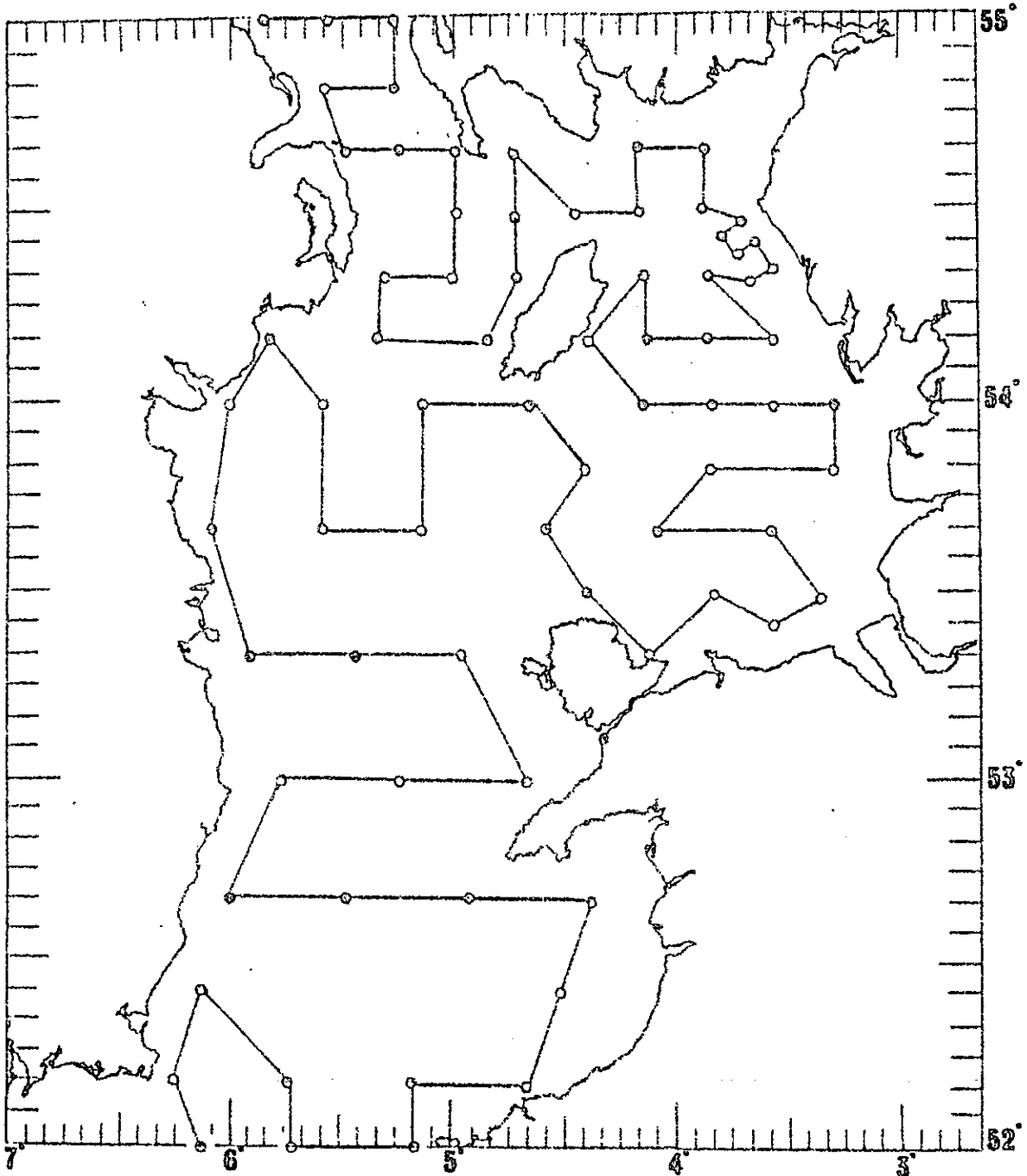


Fig 2 Down Sky Cruise Track

75-103