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4SER(II)73

In Confidence: Not to be quoted without reference to the laboratory

CRUISE REPORT

FRS EXPLORER

8 JUNE - 10 JUNE 1973

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Narrative

A fractured crankshaft in one of the main generators and the subsequent delay due to its repair reduced the original programme 21-30 May by some 7 days. During this two day period the following parts of the original programme were achieved.

1. The current meter mooring near the Isle of May was successfully recovered.
2. Samples of sediment, for biological and chemical analyses, were collected at a series of stations near the Isle of May and one station off Cockenzie.
3. An abridged hydrographic survey, consisting of some 23 stations, was conducted in the Firth of Forth. These samples will be examined for salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, chlorophyll and carbon content.
4. A number of water samples were also collected for mercury, heavy metals and organochlorine analyses.

It is hoped that any omissions in the original programme, eg plankton survey of the Forth and underwater television observation near the Isle of May may be corrected in the very near future.

G TOPPING
25/6/73