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In Confidence: Not to be quoted without  
reference to the Laboratory.

## CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "Explorer"

17th July - 8th August, 1968.

Mr. Craig left the ship on 31st July, and Mr. Forbes assumed charge of the operation thereafter.

The first part of the cruise was spent in testing the equipment, and measuring and adjusting acoustic and electrical characteristics. It was found necessary to "blank off" the lowest 3 metres of the water column to avoid spurious counts from the leading edge of the sea-bed echo. Other means can be devised to reduce this blank section probably to about 30 centimetres.

The second part of the cruise was devoted to a survey, using the counter in association with the standard MS 29 gear. These results are being studied and a full report on the technique is being prepared. These results provide a foundation for further detailed field work on (a) Target strengths and (b) Attenuation, at 400 Kc/s.

R. E. CRAIG  
S. T. FORBES

18th September, 1968