

R1/4

8ER83

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

FRV 'Explorer'

### REPORT

Cruise 8/83

17 August - 1 September

### PERSONNEL

J H A Martin	SSO
R Payne	HSO
D C Moore	HSO
R D Adams	SO
D J Basford	SO
G Slessor	SO

### OBJECTIVES

1. To perform a hydrographic, chemical, planktonic and benthic survey in the Fair Isle area.
2. To work hydro sections in the Faroe-Shetland Channel and over the Wyville-Thomson Ridge.

### NARRATIVE

"Explorer" sailed on the afternoon of 17 August and made passage to the Wyville-Thomson Ridge where hydro sections were worked along and across the Ridge and then towards the Faroe Shelf. The Munken-Fair Isle hydro section was worked on 20-21 August. "Explorer" then proceeded to the Fair Isle area where the Jonsis Line was worked until 26 August, samples of hydrographic, chemistry, plankton and benthos were collected.

On 27 August an attempt was made to rework the Faroe-Shetland Hydro Line but very windy conditions restricted the work and it was abandoned on the evening of 28 August. The survey around the Fair Isle was resumed but it too was restricted by gale force winds. On passage towards Aberdeen a benthic survey in the Moray Firth was worked on 30-31 August. The ship docked in Aberdeen 1700 on 31 August.

### RESULTS

Preliminary results are confined to the hydrographic work. These showed cold water present on top of the Wyville-Thomson Ridge and rather unusual conditions in the Faroe-Shetland Channel where a bolus of very cold and less saline water than normal filled the northern half of the Channel.

J H A Martin  
13 September 1983

seen in draft  
N E McInnes OIC

# F.R.S. EXPLORER CRUISE 8 1983 17-31 AUGUST 1983

• Hydrographic Stations  
x Benthos Stations

