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In confidence: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory.5
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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. GOLDSEEKER

21st June - 30th June 1967

The GOLDSEEKER sailed from Aberdeen at 1300 on Wednesday 21st June. She anchored at night in St. Andrew's Bay, and the following morning proceeded to Burnmouth arriving at 1430. Here 150 lobsters, previously ordered through the fishery officer, were shipped and the GOLDSEEKER put to sea again on the same tide. Marking, tagging and releasing began immediately, but the weather deteriorated (wind NE force 7-8) so that work had to stop after 90 lobsters (18 stations) were liberated. At 0300 on Friday 23rd the GOLDSEEKER berthed at Burnmouth, where she took the ground at low water. At 1500 the same day we went out, released the remaining lobsters and put into Eyemouth on the same tide.

Few lobsters were being landed at Burnmouth; e.g. the GOLDEN DAWN had 23 from 300 creels and the STARLIGHT 7 from 90 creels.

Arrangements were made to buy 200 lobsters a day from John Burgon, so that Eyemouth now became the port out of which we worked.

On Monday 26th the net was shot in 23 fathoms for shrimps. Towards the end of the trawl it fouled an obstruction (? wreck) and was lost.

The tagging programme was completed by the evening of Thursday 29th. In all 930 lobsters were released.

The GOLDSEEKER left Eyemouth at 0715 on Friday 30th and reached Aberdeen at 1930 the same day.

The success of the programme was dependent upon the availability of lobsters, the state of the tides and the weather. We were favoured generally with suitable weather. It was the active cooperation of John Burgon and Sons Ltd, who supplied lobsters well outwith the normal working day so that advantage could be taken of early morning tides, that allowed the work to be completed in good time.

ALLAN DUNTHORN
10th July 1967