

INTERIM REPORT

NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NERC)

R.R.S. John Murray: CRUISE P13/12/80

Ship's Programme

R.R.S. John Murray to sail from Barry, S. Wales, on 21st October 1980 with members of the City of London Polytechnic for a geological cruise in the eastern approaches to the Dover Straits. To pick up personnel from Belgium and France in Dover on Thursday, 23rd October. To proceed to sea to carry out research programme. To disembark scientific personnel in Dover on Saturday, 1st November and the ship to proceed to Barry, S. Wales to arrive Monday, 3rd November.

Scientific Party - City of London Polytechnic

Dr. B. D'Olier	Principal Scientist
Mr. J. Venn	Research Assistant

- Laboratorium voor Aardkunde, Gent, Belgium

Dr. J. Henriët

+ 2 research assistants

- University de Caen

Mme Anne Quesney

Scientific Technicians - N.E.R.C. Research Vessel Services

Mr. A. Cumming - Geophysics

Mr. P. Taylor - Current meters

Ship's Master - Capt. M. Harding

Weather

Ship arrived late in Dover due to heavy weather on passage. Work begun Wednesday, 22nd October. Except for Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd October and Friday, 31st October the weather was inclement. Wind speeds were for the most part in excess of Force 5 up to Force 8 and 9 at times. Work however continued unabated.

Programme of Scientific Investigation

Wednesday 22nd October.	Laying and recovery of 7 self recording
Thursday 23rd October	current meters on the South Falls sandbank
Friday 24th October	position approximately 51° 18' N 1° 46' E.
Saturday 25th October	'Sparker' geophysical work in British, French

	and Belgian territorial waters	Fixes 615 - 678
Sunday 26th October	As above	Fixes 679 - 966
Monday 27th October	" "	Fixes 967 - 1254
Tuesday 28th October	" "	Fixes 1255 - 1542
Wednesday 29th October	" "	Fixes 1543 - 1830
Thursday 30th October	" "	Fixes 1831 - 2118
Friday 31st October	" "	Fixes 2119 - 2406
Saturday 1st November	" "	Fixes 2407 - 2458

Progress

The work is being divided between the main 3 centres of work

- a) City of London Polytechnic
- b) University of Caen
- c) University of Ghent.

To ascertain the spatial distribution and thicknesses of the main geophysical reflectors e.g.:-

Top Basement	-	London/Brabant Massif
Chalk		
Palaeocene		
London/Ypres Clay		
Lutetian		
Bartonian		
Oligocene		
Miocene		
Quaternary		

To relate the geophysical stratigraphy to the 'onshore' stratigraphy and to draw up map and diagrams illustrating these findings.

Conclusions

A great deal of data was collected over the British, Belgian and French sectors during the cruise 12/80 though some further sea work in the future will need to be done. The evaluation of this data is in hand but will require several more months of work to gather into sufficient shape for publication.

B. D'Olier.
Principal Scientist.
21.1.81.