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

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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "MARA"

5th-25th November 1964

Objective: To get operational experience in the use of the modified
purse-seine using power-blocks.

Because of delays in fitting the power blocks the cruise did not begin until 5th November, when the scientific staff joined "Mara" at Troon. Thereafter bad weather prevented operations on several days and other days were occupied repairing the net.

On each of the six occasions the net was shot snags were encountered. The main difficulties were in:

- a) the handling of the purse rings after the net was pursed,
- and b) the fouling of fittings and rigging by bights of netting.

The cruise was necessarily ended on 25th November, in bad weather, to enable "Mara" to reach Loch Linnhe for the start of her next cruise.

A. SAVILLE
G. McPHERSON

15th December, 1964.