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P.17/7

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IN CONFIDENCE: Not to be quoted without
reference to the Laboratory.

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "MARA"

December 2nd-17th 1963

The scientific staff joined "Mara" at Greenock on December 2nd 1963, fishing commencing on the following day. Hauls were made at many positions in the Clyde, from Loch Long to the Heads of Ayr. Catches for the first two weeks were very poor but improved considerably towards the end of the cruise.

In all, 828 whiting were tagged, 100 with spaghetti type tags and 728 with yellow flag tags on nylon thread. In addition 37 cod and two haddocks were tagged.

Due to the scarcity of fish, no attempts were made to catch whiting on lines. Four hauls were made using an experimental detachable codend. This proved to be unsuccessful in its present form.

The scientific staff left 'Mara' on December 17th, the ship meanwhile proceeding to Buckie to unload.

J. HISLOP

20.12.63