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CRUISE REPORTF.R.V. " M A R A "9th-13th July, 1962

Prior to the start of the trip inquiries revealed that there were no great concentrations of commercial vessels in any one place, fishing being spread over a wide area mostly at distances too great for the time at our disposal. It was decided to try a spot 50 miles S.E. of Aberdeen and "Mara" sailed at 21.30 hours on the 9th July. Catches here proved inadequate for mesh selection and a move was made to Marr Bank. Unfortunately, a heavy swell accompanied by thick fog developed during the night making seining impossible and the ship proceeded to the Firth of Forth for shelter. On the 12th July, although the fog persisted during the early part of the day, fishing was started on Marr Bank, but, results were poor and it was difficult to secure a clear haul. The "Mara" then steamed to Findon Ness and made one haul before darkness. This yielded a catch of 28 baskets, mostly whiting of 20 - 30 cms. Work continued in this area the following morning, and several successful hauls were made. These hauls were made in 28 - 30 fms. of water and six coils of rope were used each side.

"Mara" docked in Aberdeen on the afternoon of the 13th July.

A. CORRIGALL
1st October, 1962