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

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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "MARA"

25th February-15th March 1963

The scientific staff joined "Mara" at Fraserburgh on 25th February 1963. Later that day "Mara" proceeded to Buckie where she was based for the rest of the cruise. Fishing commenced on 26th February on rough ground fairly close inshore between Buckie and Portsoy. This locality was kept to, on every fishing day bar one, March 13th when fishing was carried out off Tarbat Ness. On Thursday February 28th, Hislop was landed at Buckie at noon and Main carried on single-handed for the rest of the week, taking charge for the second week of the cruise. On 15th March the scientific staff returned to Aberdeen.

Catches were, in general, small although on one day 345 codlings were tagged from one haul. The fish were in good condition, and a total of 1037 cod and codlings were tagged (935 with yellow flag tags on nylon thread and 102 with American "spaghetti" tags). In addition 130 haddocks and 30 whiting were released after tagging with yellow flag tags on nylon thread.

J. R. G. Hislop

20th March, 1963.