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

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "MARA"

17th - 21st August, 1964

Personnel: Mr. A. Corrigall S.S.A.
Mr. C. Robb S.A.
Mr. W. Duncan S.A.

Objective

To make preliminary trials with the purse seine without power blocks.

The scientific staff joined Mara at Fraserburgh on Monday 17th August. Unfortunately the weather was poor with gale force winds blowing from the East, and it was not until 20th August that conditions were satisfactory for an attempt to be made to shoot the purse seine.

The net was first shot in daylight in deep water to the north west of Rattray Head. Hauling was done by hand and no snags were encountered. The catch consisted of approximately six baskets of salps and several hundred Onos of about 30 mm long. During the night an echo search for herring shoals was made over the outer reaches of the Moray Firth, but none were located. Therefore, to give the crew further experience in handling the gear, the net was shot the following morning. Again, no snags were encountered.

Mara berthed in Buckie at noon on Friday 21st.

A. CORRIGALL
8th September, 1964