<u>In confidence</u>: Not to be quoted without reference to the Laboratory.

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "SCOTIA"

26th March to 7th April, 1964.

'Scotia'sailed from Aberdeen at 1100 on the 26th March after a delay of one day due to bad weather, and proceeded to grounds 9 miles off Buckie. After three days in this area, the ship moved to the north coast off Holburn Head where good fishing was obtained before going into Stromness for water on the 1st April.

Work resumed off Strathy Point and Holburn Head on the 2nd until the 4th, followed by two days fishing in the outer Moray Firth. Mr. J. Hislop joined the ship at Peterhead on the evening of the 6th and the last day of the cruise was spent working with the experimental detachable codend. 'Scotia' docked at Aberdeen at 2145 on the 7th April.

## Results

A total of 2082 fish were tagged of which 1375 were cod (685 with yellow plastic flag and 690 with spaghetti tags), 666 haddock (all flag) and 41 whiting (all flag). A summary of the numbers released in each area is given below.

	Cod	Haddock	Whiting
9 miles off Buckie	226	52 <b>1</b>	41
North coast			
(Holburn Hd. & Strathy Pt.)	748	50	-
7 miles N.N.E. Clyth Ness	397	37	
15 miles N.E. Fraserburgh	4	58	

In addition gonads from untagged whiting and haddock were preserved, and, when possible, up to 50 whiting from each statistical square were deep frozen.

Daily samples from the pump were taken for salinity, phosphate, silicate and nitrate. Six carboys were filled with sea-water while cruising in the outer Moray Firth.

D.J. SYMONDS

14th April, 1964.