

R1/12

IN CONFIDENCE - not to be quoted without prior reference to the laboratory

FRV "SCOTIA"

12SR84 MB

CRUISE 12/8411-31 OCTOBER 1984REPORTObjectives

- 1 To participate in the ICES coordinated herring larval survey in ICES Division VIa.
- 2 To recover the current moorings deployed to the west of the Outer Hebrides.
- 3 To collect water samples for radio caesium monitoring.
- 4 To collect herring larvae for biochemical studies.

NARRATIVE

FRV "Scotia" left Aberdeen at 1630 on 11 October and commenced sampling at Stn 33 on the 12th. Stations were then sampled as indicated in Figure I. Current meter moorings were recovered and hydrographic work carried out on the 15th, 16th and 17th. A Dutch Gulf III plankton sampler was damaged in a collision with an underwater peak at Stn 59 on the 17th. "Scotia" docked in Stornoway on the morning of 22 October. Mr Rankine and Mr Copland joined the vessel and Mr Morrison left later on the same day.

"Scotia" left Stornoway at 1100 on 23 October and steamed south to STN 117 where sampling commenced on the 24. Stations were then sampled as indicated in Figure II. Extensive trials of a "Scanmar" depth monitoring system were carried out on the Irish grid and also at STN 92. "Scotia" then steamed for Loch Dunvegan where engine repairs were carried out on the 28th. "Scotia" then resumed the survey at 2141 the same day and continued sampling as in Figure II. Seventy knot winds caused the abandonment of stations off the North Coast of Scotland and the ship dodged overnight in very heavy weather conditions before setting off for Aberdeen the following morning. "Scotia" arrived in Aberdeen at 2100 on 30 October.

RESULTS

A total of 209 plankton hauls were carried out, 60 of these being on the Irish spawning grounds. Herring larvae were removed and counted from all plankton samples collected during the survey. In general, larvae were more abundant to the West of the Hebrides and less abundant in Irish waters than in the previous year's survey.

Due to adverse weather conditions and to constraints on time, no metre net hauls were carried out.

Water samples for radio-caesium analysis were collected at Cape Wrath, in the Pentland Firth and off Aberdeen.

Normal contacts were maintained with the laboratory.

Paul Rankine
J A Morrison
5 November 1984

SEEN IN DRAFT: O I C W Findlay

FIG I

FAS SCOTIA

CRUISE 12/84

11-31 OCTOBER

PART ONE

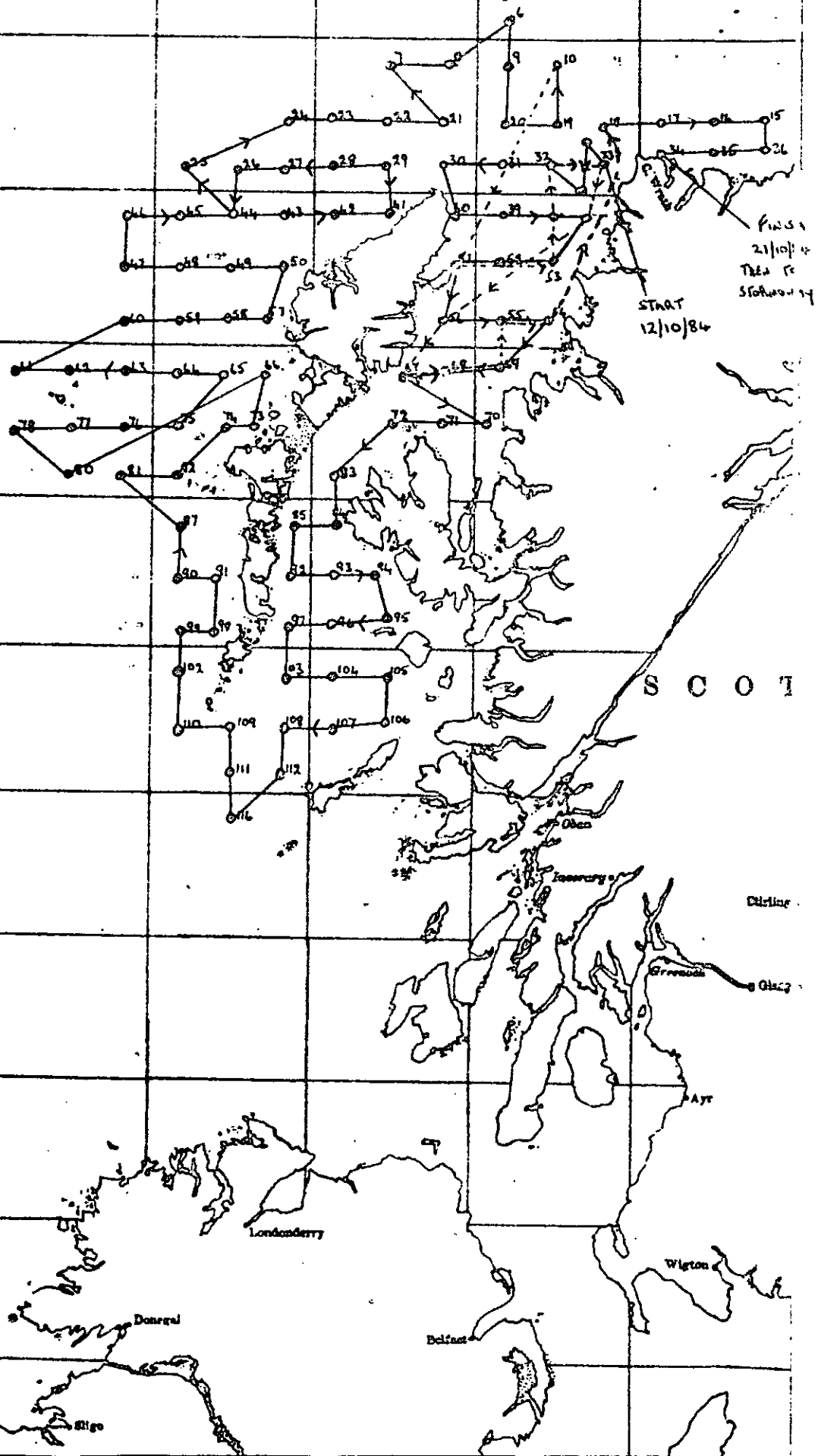


Fig II

F.R.S. "SCOTIA"

CHOISE 12/84

11-31 OCTOBER

PART TWO

