

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN EXPEDITION

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COORDINATOR
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BRIEF SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENTS AS OF 15 SEPTEMBER 1962

CABLES
SCORINDOC - NEWYORK

Almost twenty-three ship years (275 months) of expedition investigation have been completed or specifically planned. About a quarter of this work was done prior to 1962. It is reasonable to expect that several nations already deeply involved will make additional specific plans in the future.

Thirteen ship operating nations with thirty-eight ships and seven other nations are now involved in the Expedition. Although preliminary work has been going on since 1958, the major effort can be said to have started in mid-1962. During the final six months of 1961 five vessels carried out investigations. During a similar period in 1962 twenty vessels will be operating. By the end of 1961 Australia had completed 3/5 of her presently scheduled work, France 1/3, Japan 1/8, South Africa 1/6, U.S.S.R. 2/3, United Kingdom 1/5 and U.S.A. 1/5. Other nations planned to start after 1961. Seasonal distribution of investigation appears adequate.

Coordination meetings for both the southwest and northwest Indian Ocean have enabled participants to exchange ideas and make specific plans for detailed coverage in terms of time, disciplines and region. A meteorological meeting laid overall plans for the basic meteorological network. A substantial shipboard, land based and airborne meteorological program has been organized and an International Meteorological Center for the Expedition is being established in Bombay.

Track charts of completed and proposed cruises have been drafted and published for the Coordinator by the U. S. Navy Hydrographic Office and should be available for distribution by mid-September.

Of the total ship operating time completed and presently scheduled each country's share is approximately as follows: Australia 10%, France 5%, Germany 2%, India 6%, Indonesia 1%, Japan 6%, Pakistan 4%, Portugal 1%, South Africa 5%, Thailand 1%, U.S.S.R. 7%, United Kingdom 12% and U.S.A. 40%. Over one fourth of the total effort is being undertaken by the seven ship operating nations in the Indian Ocean.

Work specifically planned for the Expedition is now virtually double the total effort estimated in early 1960. By the end of 1962, ship operating time in the Indian Ocean will almost have equalled that originally envisioned for the entire Expedition.

RGS/jas