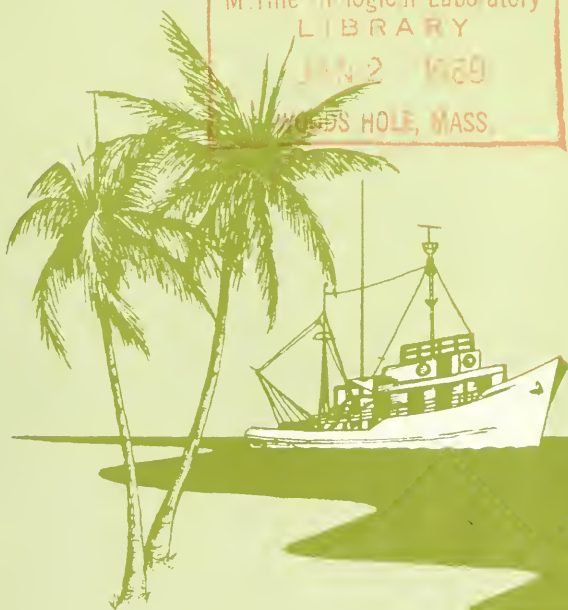
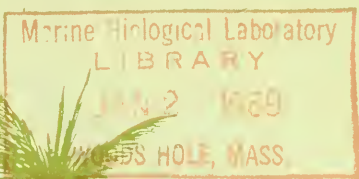


# TROPICAL ATLANTIC BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY



MIAMI, FLORIDA

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Bureau of Commercial Fisheries



The Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Tropical Atlantic Biological Laboratory, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Fla. 33149, dedicated in November 1965, occupies a 5-acre tract of land on the shores of Biscayne Bay. The laboratory (TABL) is near the Virginia Key Campus of the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Miami; the site of a new U.S. Department of Commerce Environmental Science Services Administration facility; and the Miami Seaquarium. There are 75 employees of whom 26 are scientists. The Laboratory's 143-foot research vessel *Undaunted*, a converted Navy tug, operates in the Caribbean Sea and the tropical Atlantic Ocean.

Laboratory facilities include specially designed aquaria for rearing fish, a nontoxic dual sea-water system, a serological laboratory, a photographic labora-



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tory, hard and soft X-ray capabilities, a modern library of 1,500 books of which 700 are current periodicals from all parts of the world, and an ichthyological museum containing thousands of marine specimens. The staff also has access to the excellent library of the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Miami.

The Laboratory was first established in 1959 at Washington, D.C. The staff was transferred to Miami in 1965 when a new building was constructed on land donated to the Federal Government by Dade County. The Laboratory was founded as a result of the U.S. Government's participation in ICITA (International Cooperative Investigations of the Tropical Atlantic)—a 2-year synoptic survey of the fishery resources of the waters off West Africa from the Congo River north to the Cape Verde Islands, under the sponsorship of



The *Undaunted*, BCF research vessel operating out of Miami, Fla. for TABL, as she departs on one of her frequent cruises in tropical

UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. The finding of potential commercial quantities of tuna and other fishery resources made it feasible to continue investigations in the area of the Gulf of Guinea.

The broad objectives of the Laboratory are: (1) to obtain and make available to U.S. fishermen the knowledge needed to increase the total fishery yield at reduced costs; (2) to assist the developing nations bordering the tropical Atlantic to increase the yield of marine protein food resources from adjacent oceanic areas; and (3) to provide the knowledge needed to develop and apply sound conservation policies, particularly for Atlantic tunas.

The Laboratory has made several significant contributions during the short period of its existence. They include participation with other nations in the discovery of the Guinea Undercurrent and the Atlantic Equatorial Undercurrent; participation in the first transmission of oceanic data from a research vessel on station via communications satellite (NASA's Syncom II) to a shore-based receiving center (the National Oceanographic Data Center, Washington, D.C.) and return of corrected data to the vessel; coordination of a statistical and biological sampling program with West African countries; preparation of an atlas of the mean monthly sea surface temperatures in the tropical Atlantic between Africa and South America from about 3 million observations; and the preparation (either published or



Atlantic waters. The 143-foot, twin diesel-engine ship has a cruising range of 9,500 miles and carries 27 people.

in press) of more than 80 scientific papers. The atlas is scheduled for publication by the American Geographical Society.

Visiting investigators are welcome. Limited space is available for observers on research cruises. Arrangements should be made by correspondence with the Laboratory Director.



A deck sample of 25 skipjack tunas caught by *Undaunted* fishermen off St. Vincent Island, B.W.I., winter 1966.



The area under investigation by TABL marine scientists.



The beginning of a Niskin cast on the *Undaunted*. Several of these bottles are lowered to record water temperatures and chemical components of sea water at different depths.



ists and some of the research operations.

The national objectives of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries are to:

Increase the net contribution of aquatic, living commercial resources to the Nation's economy;

Increase efficiency so that the economic status of those engaged in the fishing industry is improved;

Provide for the growing and diversified demands of the American people for fish and shellfish products whether in the form of edible foods or other products, from efficient and economical sources;

Seek means of bringing more of the world's aquatic resources into economic, commercial production for the benefit of all mankind;

Contribute to man's understanding and control of aquatic living resources and their environment.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States — now and in the future.

Washington, D.C.  
October 1968

