

Announcement of dives made during 1963

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Scientists at the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography made 4,082 dives (not counting class training dives) in the course of their research during 1963, says James R. Stewart, Diving Officer.

Seventy-nine members of the staff, some of them professors, some graduate students, some technicians, have been certified as SCUBA divers, Stewart said. The dives have been between depths of 25 and 250 feet, with most divers working at 100 to 130 feet. Three divers made more than 200 dives. They were Richard F. Ford, graduate student in oceanography who made 299 dives in his studies of flatfish, Bert N. Kobayashi, graduate student in oceanography, who made 244 dives, and Stewart, who made 211.

Diving at Scripps is strictly controlled. Persons who wish to use diving gear in the pursuit of their research are required to take a training course, run by Stewart. Upon completion of the course, they are issued permits allowing them to dive to prescribed depths.

The scientists are interested in many aspects of marine research, in the nature of the sea floor, sedimentary processes, animals that live in the water and those that live on the sea bottom, in physical processes, and in instrumentation. Their work has contributed to numerous scientific papers which have appeared in technical journals.