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### 1. Effort

In 1978, a total of 227 longliners operated in the Atlantic Ocean for tuna fishing. The numbers of vessels by size, in 1974-1978, are shown in Table 1. The total hooks used in the whole area were 62,052,000 hooks; of which, 11,206,000 hooks were distributed in the area north of 5° N and 50,846,000 hooks in the south, and 37,433,000 hooks in the area east of 30° W and 24,619,000 hooks in the west. The numbers of hooks in the previous year, 1977, was 62,526,787; of which, 19,259,118 hooks in the north and 43,267,669 hooks in the south.

### 2. Catch

The total catch was 37,802 MT in 1978 (Table 2); the total catch in the previous year, 1977, was 36,670 MT. The catch of albacore was 29,791 MT and made up 78.8 % of the total catch; the albacore catch in 1977 was 29,815 MT. The catch of bigeye was 2,628 MT in 1978, shared 7 % of the total catch; the catch of bigeye in 1977 was 2,978 MT. The yellowfin catch was 340 MT in 1978; the catch of the species in 1977 was 329 MT. The swordfish catch was 506 MT in 1978; the catch in the previous year, 1977, was 622 MT.

### 3. Statistics

#### (1) Sources of data:

- (a) landing reports made at the baseports in the Atlantic;
- (b) daily position reports made to Kaohsiung Fishery Radio Station from the vessels at sea;
- (c) logbooks.

#### (2) Processing and compiling:

- (a) the landing reports were collected and compiled by Taiwan Fisheries Bureau; based on these reports, the quick estimate on Task I catch statistics for 1978 was made.
- (b) the daily position reports were processed and compiled by Tuna Research Group; based on these, the numbers of sets and hooks by month, quarter and year and by 5° square for 1978 were estimated.
- (c) the logbooks collected by the TFB were processed by TRG. To compile the monthly catch and effort statistics by 5° square, the monthly numbers of hooks by 5° square which calculated from the daily position reports were used as the raising factors. And, to estimate the yearly catch and effort statistics by 5° square, the yearly numbers of hooks by 5° square, obtained from the daily position reports, too, were used as the raising factors.

## (3) Coverage rate:

The coverage of logbooks for the whole Atlantic was 30.3 %, in terms of hooks, for 1978; it was 14 % and 20 % for 1976 and 1977, respectively.

## 4. Biological Data

Length measurement on-board started in 1977. More than 30,000 fish, mostly albacore, were measured. However, the quality of the data obtained is not quite adequate. A new form for measurement on-board was designed and delivered to all the vessels at sea in March 1979.

## 5. Document Submitted to ICCAT

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Distribution of fishing effort and catch of albacore by Taiwan's tuna longline fleet in the North and South Atlantic Ocean, 1972-1978.

Table 1. Number of Taiwan's tuna longline vessels in the Atlantic Ocean, 1974-1978.

size class*	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
100-200	25	20	41	45	45
200-500	191	141	187	186	181
500-1000	1	2	1	2	1
1000-	1	2	1	1	
total	218	165	250	254	227

\* in gross tonnages.

Table 2. Catch(in MT) of tunas and tuna-like fishes by Taiwan's tuna longline vessels in the Atlantic Ocean, 1977-1978.

	Total	Bluefin	Yellowfin	Albacore	Bigeye	Swordfish	Others
1977	36,670	3	329	29,815	2,978	622	2,923
1978	37,802	30	340	29,791	2,628	506	4,507