

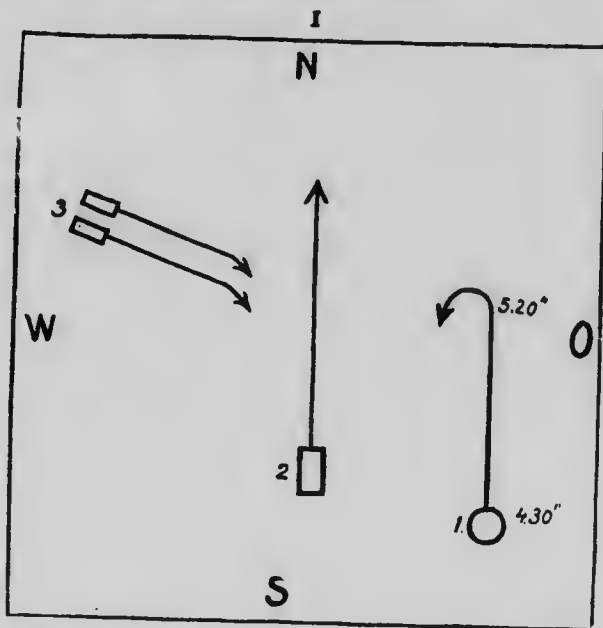
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ward, and subsequently the mean direction was SSE., the enemy steering a parallel course distant about 18,000 to 14,500 yards.¹

[*The Queen Elizabeths come into action*]

'At 4.8 p.m. the 5th Battle Squadron came into action and opened fire at a range of 20,000 yards. The enemy's fire now seemed to slacken. The

¹ The German semi-official communication in the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* offers a diagram of the situation at this point: (1)=Hipper's cruisers, (2)=the British light-cruisers in their alleged northward flight, (3)=Beatty's battle-cruisers:



The plan represents Hipper (1) as turning to meet Beatty. Cf. Map II. The semi-official 'explanation' states that on sighting Beatty (3) 'our cruisers take a course towards the new opponent, this becoming a course towards the south', at 5.20 p.m., i.e. 3.26 p.m., G. M. T.