

hit, as a heavy underwater explosion was observed. The Third Light-cruiser Squadron then gallantly attacked the heavy ships with gunfire, with impunity to themselves, thereby demonstrating that the fighting efficiency of the enemy had been seriously impaired. Rear-Admiral Napier deserves great credit for his determined and effective attack. *Indomitable*¹ (Captain Francis W. Kennedy) reports that about this time one of the *Derfflinger*² class fell out of the enemy's line.'

[*The Battle Fleet arrives*]

Meanwhile, at 5.45 p.m., the report of guns had become audible to me, and at 5.55 p.m. flashes were visible from ahead round to the starboard beam,³ although in the mist no ships could be distinguished, and the position of the enemy's battle fleet could not be determined. The difference in estimated position by 'reckoning' between *Iron Duke*⁴ (Captain Frederic C. Dreyer, C.B.) and *Lion*,⁵ which was inevitable under the circumstances, added to the uncertainty of the general situation.

Shortly after 5.55 p.m. some of the cruisers ahead, under Rear-Admirals Herbert L. Heath, M.V.O.,

¹ Battle-cruiser, 17,250 tons, 530 ft. long, 26 knots, 12-inch and lesser armament.

² Battle-cruiser, 26,200 tons, 689 ft. long, 26½ knots, 12-inch and lesser armament.

³ i. e. over an angle of 90° on the line of course.

⁴ Battleship, 21,000 tons, 645 ft. long, 22 knots, 13.5-inch and lesser armament. Admiral Jellicoe's flagship.

⁵ Battle-cruiser, 26,350 tons, 660 ft. long, 28½ knots, 13.5-inch and lesser armament. Vice-Admiral Beatty's flagship.