

A.D.C.), indicating the presence of enemy vessels. The direction of advance was immediately altered to SSE., the course for Horn Reef, so as to place my force between the enemy and his base.¹

'At 2.35 p.m. a considerable amount of smoke was sighted to the eastward. This made it clear that the enemy was to the northward and eastward,² and that it would be impossible for him to round the Horn Reef without being brought to action. Course was accordingly altered to the eastward and subsequently to north-eastward, the enemy being sighted at 3.31 p.m. Their force consisted of five battle-cruisers.

'After the first report of the enemy, the 1st and 3rd Light-cruiser Squadrons changed their direction, and, without waiting for orders, spread to the east, thereby forming a screen in advance of the Battle-cruiser Squadrons and 5th Battle Squadron by the time we had hauled up to the course of approach.³ They engaged enemy light-cruisers at long range.⁴ In the meantime the 2nd Light-cruiser Squadron

¹ Vice-Admiral Beatty's Report states that he was 'steering to the northward to rejoin your [Sir John Jellicoe's] Flag' when the enemy's advent was signalled, his light-cruisers being disposed in a screen ahead from E. to W.: the *Galatea* was on the eastern or starboard wing.

² The German semi-official communication locates the position at 'some 70 miles off the Skager Rack'. The *Hamburger Fremdenblatt's* semi-official 'explanation' defines it more closely as '70 nautical miles to south-west of the Skager Rak'.—*The Times*, June 28.

³ i. e. on an eastward course towards the enemy.

⁴ 'At 4.35,' [i.e. 2.41 p.m., G. M. T.] says the German semi-official account, 'four smaller cruisers of the *Calliope* class were sighted by our cruisers. The latter at once pursued the enemy, who ran away with all speed northwards.'