



Hoey Position Plotter

Rapporteur Hoey

HOEY POSITION PLOTTER

The plotter is composed of a semi-circular celluloid disc, marked in squares and a division of 180° ; a central metal piece forming a brake bearing a jointed arm in celluloid, the bevelled edge of which passes through the centre.

In using the Position Plotter to plot on a MERCATOR Chart, the principle employed is that all true courses or true bearings are simply an angle made with the meridian.

The markings of the northern and southern half of the compass rose are made on the semi-circular disc, so that the arm may be set for any given course or bearing, without performing a mental or any other calculation, to get the proper angle. The markings of the Plotter eliminate all calculation as to proper setting for the course angle.

To orient the Plotter a number of parallel lines forming squares are marked on the underside of the semi-circular disc. Any one of the vertical lines may be used on a meridian or any one of the horizontal lines on a parallel of latitude for orientation. These parallel lines may be used for orientation and centering of the Plotter is not necessary.

Once the arm has been set for any required course or bearing the Plotter may be used in the upright position or the *inverted* position and the proper relation will hold true. It is then slid along until the inner edge of the Plotter is by the given point on the chart. A line is drawn through a given point which will be the required course line. In plotting the bearing of a lighthouse or other terrestrial object, the same procedure is followed.

In plotting a line of position the arm is set for the given azimuth and a line drawn from the given position on the chart, which is the required bearing line. The value of "a" is then measured off. The method is to turn the Plotter through 90 degrees, without changing the setting of the arm and then to draw the required line of position through the computed point. Another method is to use one of the parallel lines on the disc and the base edge to draw a line perpendicular to the given line.

The Plotter may be used in place of a parallel ruler to move lines to other parts of a chart. In this case the parallels of latitude or the meridians are used as the base of the parallel movement.

The advantage of the Position Plotter is that all work on the chart is done on the part of the chart where the line is desired, without making any transference across the chart. The compass rose given on the chart is not used at all, as the Plotter gives all the information required.

After using the Plotter a few times other uses will suggest themselves, showing the handiness of the instrument in all chart work.

By setting the arm on 90 degrees, the rear edge of the arm and the edge of the disc, which can be extended, may be used as a straight edge for drawing longer lines.

The inner edge of the arm has been roughened in order to take a pencil mark impression. By marking on it the minutes of latitude in the area in which one is working, it may thus be used to measure distances. In this way the arm may be used as a pair of dividers.

