

basket, making that defense air-tight. It is very much better to have the entire team located within a radius of twenty-five feet of the basket than to cover areas out on the floor which would draw the defense out, and thereby open up holes that are very hard to cover. Should the team on the offensive place a goal-shooter back of the defensive forward and along the side line, the defensive forward should drop diagonally backward from five to seven feet to cover this man. This position of the defensive forward will generally force the player on offense back into guard-territory. In this case the offensive forward will be well taken care of either way he moves.

However, here is one situation which should not be overlooked. If the team on offense should spot a man with the ball out in front of the defensive forward, and another man behind him and near the side line, a new situation would arise and should be met in the following way. Diagram 3:

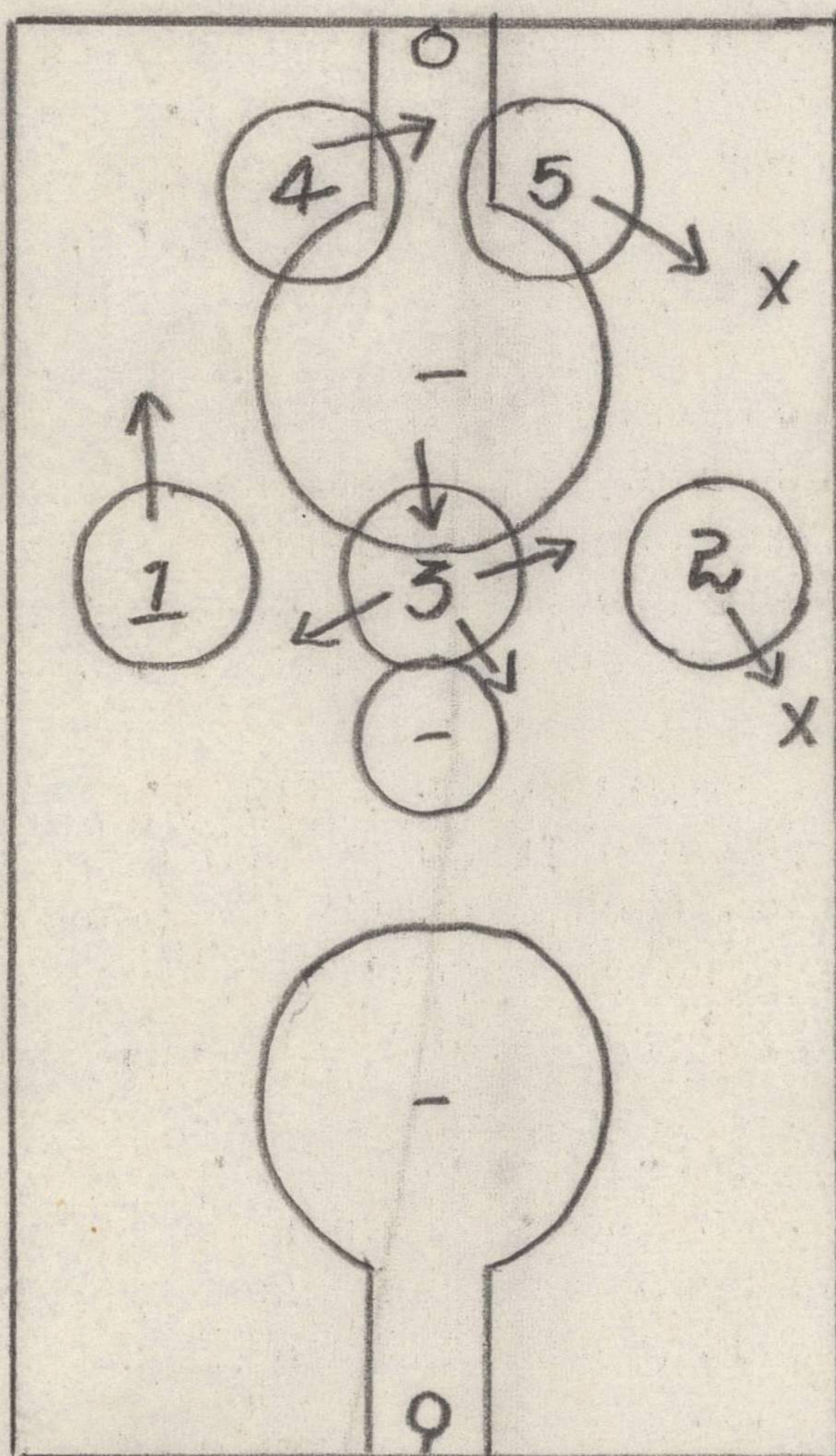


DIAGRAM No. 2.

The defensive forward on the strong side (where the ball is) must come out and meet the man with the ball. He will not need to rush him. An advance to within ten feet should suffice. In such an advance, the player should always use the boxer's stance. This will enable him to be ready always to block a shot, if one should be attempted. The defensive guard on the same side as the defensive forward who moved out should advance at the same time that his forward advances. He should move laterally and forward to prohibit the other offensive man, stationed on the side line and back behind the defensive forward, from obtaining a pass and a consequent shot.

The second defensive guard should now move laterally across the court and in the same path as did the previous guard. He should station himself in the free throw lane a few feet in front of the basket. Here he will be ready to cover the danger area should a pass be attempted to one of the offensive men under the basket or near it. The defensive forward on the weak side should move backward and inward toward his own guard, thereby stopping any possible pass over in the partially covered area. The defensive center, during this maneuvering, should scarcely change his position. He should fight back and forth in an antero-lateral plane, shaping his movements by the varying po-