

WARREN CAPTURES SPION KOP

Has Rendered the Boer Position Untenable

Enemy try hard to Re-Capture the Hill

LYDDITE USED WITH DEADLY EFFECT

The News Officially Posted by the War Office

Warren's losses, it is feared, are considerable—Boers firing on Stretcher Parties—Lord Methuen makes Reconnaissances—Enemy's Position at Magersfontein becoming unbearable.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

PRO BOER ALARMS.

BERLIN, Jan. 25.—The German press tacticians are almost unanimously of opinion that the situation of the British forces around Ladysmith is desperate.

The Berliner Tagblatt prints a Brussels despatch claiming that Sir Charles Warren has been signally defeated.

An artillery writer for the Kreuz Zeitung, says: "The movement to relieve Ladysmith has failed, rendering the British line of retreat in danger."

BRITISH GAINS—SLOW BUT SURE.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—Shortly after 11 o'clock the War Office announced that nothing further in the way of despatches would be given out during the night.

LONDON, Jan. 25, 6 a. m.—Nothing is yet known as to the result of General Buller's night attack on Spion Kop.

The latest news from the scene of operations in Natal is contained in a brief message despatched from Spearman's Camp at half-past nine on Tuesday night which says that General Warren was still attacking and the Boer position was being searched by a terrific fire from the British howitzers.

A party of stretcher bearers was fired upon and several wounded.

A Reuter correspondent despatched a telegram at the same time from Spearman's camp, showing that Tuesday's operations resulted in a distinct advantage to General Warren's forces.

The British field guns have been reinforced by howitzers which quickly made the effect of the Lyddite felt.

The Boers retired from the crest of the Kopje and it was at once occupied by the British troops.

Later, the Boers were also driven from a stone wall which they had held for hours and had to cross a ravine under the Lyddite and shrapnel fire of the British artillery.

BRITONS HOLD THEIR OWN.

LONDON, Jan. 25, 6.40 a. m.—A despatch to the Times, from Spearman's camp, dated Tuesday, 9.30 p. m. reports the Boers today had more guns and were prepared to fight almost interminably, having entrenched their ridge which stretches in an almost unbroken line from the Drakenberg many miles eastward.

Firing continued throughout the day. We have not advanced any further. But we threw up entrenchments during the night from which firing continued—from exactly the same position as yesterday.

METHUEN'S OPERATIONS.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—Advices from Modder River report that Lord Methuen made a reconnaissance on Monday towards the Boer position at Magersfontein.

The infantry retired at dusk, but the British big guns during the night and early morning of Tuesday fired a number of shells against the Boer position, blowing it up; and, it is also believed, a magazine of black powder.

The Times correspondent says: "All reports from deserters agree that the situation of the Boers at Magersfontein is becoming unbearable through the unsanitary condition of the camp."

DESPERATE BOERS.

LONDON, Jan. 25, 6.30 p. m.—The following despatch from Spearman's Camp dated Jan. 24, 9.30 p. m.—On Monday, Sir Charles Warren's force cannonaded and fusilled the Boer position west of Spion Kop near the Acton Holmes road. The Lyddite battery co-operated with the other batteries of Maxims. Certainly our fire was effective causing the enemy serious loss.

The Boers, however, cling desperately to their works from which they are only being very slowly driven away.

Today the enemy fired their guns oftener using also the captured 25-pounders with shrapnel.

Our casualties today were less even than those of yesterday.

The fighting began at 6 in the morning

and continued until dark, but there has been nothing like a general engagement. The naval big guns assisted from Potgieter's Drift in shelling the Boer positions.

SPION KOP TAKEN.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The War office has issued the following despatch from Spearman's Camp, dated, January 25th, 12.10. (morning) "General Warren's troops last night occupied Spion Kop, surprising the small garrison, who fled.

"It has been held by us all day, though we have been heavily attacked, especially by an annoying shell fire. I fear our casualties are considerable.

"I have to inform you, with regret, that General Woodgate was dangerously wounded.

"General Warren is of the opinion that he has rendered the enemy's position untenable.

"The men are splendid."

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