**MR4/25/64 Diary of Anglo-Boer War 1899 (written in the same hand)**

October 9th Transvaal ultimatum presented

October 10th British agent instructed to apply for his passport

October 11th Ultimatum expired. War proclaimed

October 12th Natal invaded by the Boers, armoured train de-railed and shelled by Boers at Kraaipan. Newcastle occupied. Fighting north of Mafeking. Boers suffering heavily. Boers make push on Kimberley.

October 19th Transvaal flag hoisted at [Freiberg]

October 20th Battle of Dundee. 4000 Boers engaged; General Lymons mortally wounded/died 25th. Klipdam occupied by Boers

October 21st Sir George White moves out force under French to drive enemy from Elandslaagte.

October 22nd Position of a squadron of the 18th Hussars mounted infantry and Dublin Fusiliers captured at Dundee arrive as prisoners at Pretoria

October 23rd General Yule abandons Dundee to join Sir George White; Boers occupy Dundee and bombard Mafeking.

October 24th Sir George White met and repulsed Free State force at Reitfontein; sharp fighting outside Kimberley.

October 26th Junction of Yule and White at Ladysmith; Plumer engages enemy at [?]

October 27th Enemy closing around Ladysmith

October 30th General sortie from Ladysmith; naval guns silence Boer siege artilleries. Boers capture part of two battalions of a mountain battery at Nicholson’s Nek.

October 31st Ladysmith shelled; Mafeking attacked. Enemy concentrate at Bethulie; General Sir Redvers Buller lands at Cape Town

November 1st Boers invade Cape Colony

November 2nd Ladysmith isolated and bombarded; Colenso evacuated by British; Free Staters occupy Colesberg; British capture Besler’s Camp

November 4th [?] evacuated by British garrison

November 6th Cavalry action near Dewdrop

November 9th Boers attack Ladysmith and are defeated with heavy losses

November 10th Skirmish with enemy at Belmont

November 14th Free State flag hoisted at [?]

November 15th 15 Boers wreak armoured train near Chieveley; 100 British troops captured

November 18th Attempted Boer attack on [?]

November 19th Methuen’s column for the relief of Kimberley concentrates at Orange River

November 22nd Railway at Noor Bridge destroyed by enemy

November 23rd Lord Methuen defeated the enemy at Belmont; Hildyard engaged enemy at Estcourt and destroyed communication with Estcourt and destroyed communications with Magersfontein. Natal troops repulsed enemy at Tugela Drift

November 25th Metheun dislodged enemy at Enslin; General Buller arrived in Natal

November 27th [?] occupies Busman’s flock

November 28th Metheun engages a 1000 Boers at Modder River to defeat them. Colenso Bridge blown up by the infantry.

December 3rd Plumer enters the Transvaal

December 8th Sortie from Ladysmith undertaken

December 10th Gatacre attempted night attack on Stormberg but is surprised and forced to retire; Metheun’s artillery shelled Boer position to north of Modder River Camp

December 11th Battle of Magersfontein: Highland Brigade lost heavily; General Wauchope killed

December 13th Boer attack on Noupoort frustrated by Colonel Parker

December 14th Enemy engaged and repulsed by mounted infantry near Orange River

December 15th General Buller met with [?] losing 11 guns whilst endeavouring to cross Tugela

December 18th Lord Roberts appointed Commander in Chief with Lord Kitchener as Chief of Staff

December 20th Boer positions at Magersfontein shelled

December 23rd Departure of Lord Roberts from Southampton

December 24th Detachment from Gatacre’s force occupied Dordrecht; Boers defeated with loss

January 1st 1900 French attacked enemies positon at Colesberg inflicting heavy loss and cut off their retreat; Colonel Pilcher captured Boer lagaar at Sunnyside

January 2nd Surrender of a British garrison at Kuruman

January 3rd Boer attack on British camp between Moltano and [?] repulsed; Moltano evacuated by Boers; Dordrecht by British

January 4th Boer attack on French’s left flank repulsed – 6th Company of 1st Suffolk Regiment captured at Colesberg; White’s position at Caesars Camp attacked – 8th successful reconnaissance from [?] towards [?]; 9th British troops invade Free State Territory near Jacobsdal

January 10th Lord Roberts and Kitchener arrive at Cape Town

January 11th Buller seizes fort on the Tugela at Potgieters Drift

January 17th Tugela river crossed by Gens. Lyttelton and Warren

January 18th The Tugela bridge crossed by a Battery and brigade fighting near Acton Holmes

January 20th Sir C. Warren moved towards Spion Kop

January 23rd Spion Kop captured. General Woodgate markedly wounded

January 25th Spion Kop abandoned

January 27th Warren’s force withdrawn to south at Tugela

January 28th General Kelly-Kenny occupied [Thebus]

January 30th British occupied Prieska

February 3rd Telegraphic communication restored between Mafeking and [Gaberones]

February 4th General Macdonald occupied Koodoos Drift

February 5th The Tugela crossed at Manger’s Drift by General Buller

February 6th Vaal [?] captured by Buller

February 7th Vaal [?] evacuated and the Tugela re-crossed

February 9th General Macdonald retired to Modder; Lord Roberts reached Modder river

February 13th Klipdrift forced and three laagers captured by General French

February 14th Lord Roberts proceeded to [?] Drift

February 15th After being besieged for 123 days, Kimberley is relieved by General French who captured Boer laagers and routed enemy

February 16th General Roberts occupied Jacobsdal; flight of General Cronje’s force. Magersfontein occupied by the guards

February 17th Cronje’s lagaar bombarded; General Macdonald wounded; Dortrecht occupied by Brabent; Monte Cristo taken by Buller; General Cronje asked for an armistice but was refused and an immediate surrender demanded

February 20th General Hart crossed the Tugela and occupied Colenso; Lord ‘Bobs’ defeated enemies reinforcements at Paardeberg

February 26th General Buller returned to south of Tegula

February 27th General Cronje with 4000 officers and men surrendered to Lord Roberts; Pieters Hill stormed and enemy’s main position taken

February 28th Ladysmith relieved by Dundonald after 128 days siege; Colesberg occupied by General Clements

March 2nd General Cronje arrived at Cape Town; Lord Roberts visited Kimberley

March 5th Gatacre occupied Stormberg

March 6th General Brabent defeated the enemy at Dortrecht and Labuschagnes Nek

March 7th Lord Roberts dispersed Free Staters at Poplar Grove; Gatacre reached Burghersdorp; the Queen ordered the Irish troops to wear the shamrock on St Patrick’s Day

March 8th Clements occupied [Narval’s Point]

March 10th Lord Roberts dispersed the enemy at Driefontein

March 13th Blomfontein Rail. Flat entered by French

March 14th Lord ‘Bob’ entered Blomfontein

March 15th Gatacre occupied Bethulle

March 16th Lord Methuen’s Mafeking relief force reached Warrenton

March 17th Gatacre arrived at Springfontein

March 19th Lord Kitchener occupied Prieska and received the submission of rebels

March 20th Lord Roberts received a protest from ex-president Steyn and replied thereto; Rouxville occupied by British

March 21st The Boers massed round Kroomstadt to check the British advance in the Free State

March 23rd Colonel Plumer engaged the enemy at Lobatse and was forced to retreat before an overwhelming force

March 27th General Joubert died at Pretoria from Peritonitis; Colonel Pilcher entered Ladybrand but was forced to retire

March 28th Commander Oliver [retreats] from the Cape Colony with 6000 Boers; Lord Roberts defeated 3000 Boers at [Karee Sidings] near Brandfort

March 31st British convoy and 7 guns captured Sannaspo

April 4th Five companies captured by the enemy near Reddersberg

April 5th General de Villebois-Mareuil killed near Boshof and 70 Boers captured by Lord Metheun

April 9th Colonial Division attacked at Wepener

April 11th General Gatacre recalled to England

April 18th Lord Roberts dispatches on Spion Kop disaster

April 20th Boer positions captured at Dewetsdorp

April 23rd Carrington arrived at Beira

April 24th Wepener relieved

April 27th Thaba Nchu occupied by the British

April 30th Sir Ian Hamilton captured [Hautnek]

May 5th Lord Roberts marched to Vet River; British occupied Brandfort

May 6th Lord Roberts captured Smaldeel; Hamilton occupied Winburg

May 8th Ladybrand deserted by the enemy; Lord Roberts proceeded to [?] River

May 9th Capture of Welgabegan; Mafeking relief force reached Vryburg

May 10th Boers taken at [?] River; Ventersburg occupied

May 12th Kroonstad occupied without opposition; Boers attack on Mafeking repulsed with loss

May 14th Buller occupied Dundee

May 15th Buller occupied Glencoe

May 17th Buller occupied Newcastle

May 18th Mafeking relieved by Mahon and Plumer after 216 day siege

May 25th General Hamilton occupied Vredefort; the Boers re-entered Heilbron; Taunga garrisoned by the British Pomegranate

May 26th Lord Roberts advance force crossed the Vaal; General Rundle occupied Senegal unopposed; Flicksburg occupied by Brabent; General French crossed the Vaal Lindignes Drift

May 27th The main body under Lord ‘Bob’ crossed the Vaal at Vereeniging; Lord Roberts announced the annexation of the Orange River Colony ; British positions at Ingagane killed by the Boers

May 30th Flight of President Kruger from Pretoria

May 31st Lord Roberts entered Johannesburg; Boers captured 500 Imperial Yeomanry at Lindley

June 4th Enemy defeated at six miles [sprint]

June 5th Fighting at Pretoria; Lord Roberts dislodged the enemy and entered the city