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MARINE CORPS HISTORICAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

An Annotated Bibliography Of
THE UNITED STATES MARINES
in the
BOXER REBELLION



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AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED
STATES MARINES IN THE BOXER REBELLION

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Introduction

In putting down the Boxer Rebellion, the great antiforeign upheaval that shook China in 1900, the United States Marines played a vital role. As early as November 1898, in the face of the outbreak of violence against Westerners in China, Marine guards were established at the American Legation in Peking and the Consulate in Tientsin. These were withdrawn in March 1899, but worsening conditions in May 1900 required the re-establishment of the guard at Peking. In June, July, and August 1900 this Marine guard fought valiantly in concert with the troops guarding the other legations against Chinese attacks on the foreign quarter in Peking.

Marines of the Asiatic Squadron formed part of the American contingent in the so-called Seymour column, which attempted to force its way from Tientsin to the beleaguered legations in the early part of June only to be turned back and itself besieged near Tientsin. The first American reinforcement to arrive in China, after it was obvious that strong military action on the part of the great powers would be necessary, was a Marine battalion from the Philippines. These Marines joined with an allied force which occupied the foreign quarter of Tientsin and relieved Seymour. They later formed part of a Marine regiment in the Battle of Tientsin (the taking of the Walled City) and marched with the China Relief Expedition to Peking. In that concerted international move to relieve the legations, Marines--serving alongside U. S. Army and Navy forces as well as troops of Great Britain, Japan, France, Germany, Russia, Austria, and Italy--took an important part in the final fight for the Chinese capital. The Marines remained in China as part of the allied occupation force until the latter part of September 1900 when they were withdrawn to the Philippines.

The list which follows contains the better secondary accounts of Marines in the Boxer Rebellion as well as a number of private eyewitness accounts and official reports. In addition, a number of general works useful for contextual reference have been included. The annotation "notes" indicates that the publication is documented as to research sources; "bibliog." indicates that a bibliography of research materials is appended.

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