

The Boxer Rebellion:
The Conflict that Shaped Modern China

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China is weak, the only thing we can depend upon is the hearts of the people.

-Dowager Empress Cixi¹

In Beijing, 1900, an estimated 100,000 Boxers stormed Beijing cutting rail lines, destroying churches and confining foreigners in the legations. The Yihetuan, or Boxers, arose from anger that foreign powers were exploiting China for their own economic gains along with the ignorant attempts of missionaries to convert the Chinese people to Christianity. Comprised of mainly peasants from Shandong Province, the Yihetuan quickly rose as a powerful force. With the slogan of “Support the Qing, Exterminate the foreigners”, the Boxers sought to reinstate the traditional way of life. Although some historians may argue that the Boxers were an ignorant right-wing nationalist group, in the conflict of the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, the Boxers were justified in the rebellion as foreign attempts of imperialism were destroying the Chinese economy and traditional ways of life. As the rebellion failed and led to the Boxer Protocol, the Boxer Protocol served as a failed compromise because it continued to weaken China and led to the fall of the last dynasty, the Qing, in 1912. By examining attempts of colonization and conversion before the rebellion, the Yihetuan involving chaos in Beijing, and the Boxer Protocol, one can begin to understand the failed compromise and the justification of the Boxer Rebellion.

Colonialism and Conversion

In the Mid 18th Century, European powers sought luxury Chinese goods, such as tea and porcelain. However, the Qing Dynasty of China saw foreigners as inferior to Chinese society and culture, therefore unwilling to open ports and cities for trade with the west.

¹ Laidler, Keith. *The Last Empress: the She-Dragon of China*. Chichester, Wiley, 2003.

Britain, with their colonial influence in India, had massive amounts of surplus opium. The British Empire started sending crates of opium into the 13 Canton Factories of Canton². An estimated 10 percent of Chinese people fell addicted to opium, causing China to fall weak to western influence. In military battles, the Chinese navy was thwarted by the superior British Navy. The result of the First Opium War was the Treaty of Nanking, which created an easier to access China, along with major land concessions such as Hong Kong. As a part of the treaty, European citizens no longer had to follow the rules and laws of the Chinese government³. The First and Second Opium wars came to be known as the beginning of China's century of humiliation.

However, throughout the 19th century, China was still seen as the dominant power of Asia. The Korean Peninsula had been controlled mainly by Chinese. But, Japan had begun to modernize their military by western standards. China, however, ignored calls for reform and modernization of the military. In the Sino Japanese War of 1894-1895, China and Japan fought over influence in Korea. China was expected to win⁴. However, with their strong military and navy, Japan won numerous battles against China. David Silbey, author of *The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China*, argues that as the Japanese won, this displaced China as the dominant power of Asia, and showed to Western Countries such as Britain that China was ripe for exploitation⁵. In the Treaty of Shimonoseki, China recognized Korea as free (open to Japanese influence) and gave massive land concessions

²Costly, Andrew. "BRIA 21 2 c Support the Dynasty, Destroy the Foreigners" : The Boxer Uprising in China." *Constitutional Rights Foundation*. Accessed 19 Dec. 2017.

³ Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement ." *Ebscohost.com*.

⁴ Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "First Sino-Japanese War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 20 Dec. 2017. Accessed 31 Dec. 2017.

⁵ Silbey, David. "Interview with Cornell Professor." 7 Dec. 2017.

such as Taiwan and a large share of Manchuria to Japan⁶. Japan's power continued to rise in Asia leading up to WWII.

In China, increased attempts of imperialization had been ever increasing since the Opium Wars. Western powers such as Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia attempted to gain colonies to increase their power. At the time, China had quite a weak military making them vulnerable. Led by Empress Dowager Cixi, the Qing dynasty formed the self strengthening movement, to advance China's military and technological strength. However, this ultimately failed as the military still could not defeat Japan. In a personal interview, historian David Silbey states that "Essentially the reason why was the Qing dynasty could not build a strong military that was strong enough to stop the militaries of the western powers."⁷ Western powers began to divide China into areas, designated for exploitation by European powers. Shown in Appendix A, this cartoon depicts a failing China, led by the Qing, being about to be overtaken by other countries. For example, Germany played a key role in trade and commerce of Shandong Province, a dense agricultural region with many poor peasants, who often couldn't read or write. These peasants played a vital role and served on the front lines of the Boxer Movement.

The United States, recently in 1898 had acquired the Philippines as a result of the Spanish-American War, along with Guam and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the United States had interest in the matter of China. The Open Door Notes, drafted by US Secretary of State, John Hay, supported the equal trade for all nations involved in China. Although the documents

⁶ Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "First Sino-Japanese War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 20 Dec. 2017. Accessed 31 Dec. 2017.

⁷ Silbey, David. "Interview with Cornell Professor." 7 Dec. 2017.

had no legal holding, other countries supported them such as Britain, France and Japan because it was in their best economic interest⁸. The Open Door Notes played a vital role regarding US involvement in Asian foreign policy for a major part of the 20th Century.

Foreign Countries sent merchants, engineers, and diplomats to China to build economic activity. These diplomats are often painted as cruel foreigners who had no regard for the people, culture or language of China⁹. However, China was regarded as home to these people: they often respected the culture and people of China. But, the Chinese still had low regard for these people for they brought new technology that brought devastating impacts on the Chinese people. The building of railroads played an important role in the Boxer's frustration. Railroads were able to efficiently spread low cost foodstuffs and goods across China. The Qing Dynasty thought railroads would put China on the track to modernization, but didn't have the money to build them. The solution to the problem for China was to let foreign powers build railroads, but with it, have access to China. But, in China, commerce had traditionally been carted around by hand. The Grand Canal, which spanned from Hangzhou to Beijing, was the main way to bring grain across the country ever since its construction during the Sui Dynasty¹⁰. Millions of Chinese workers lost employment and ways of living through the railroads. Another damage that the railroads caused was to villages; foreign countries building railroads put little thought into the damage to the local people. Railroads often went through villages and towns, shown by the Wusong Track in Appendix B, disrupting the lives of many rural Chinese people. Another

⁸ "Secretary of State John Hay and the Open Door in China, 1899–1900." *U.S. Department of State*, history.state.gov/milestones/1899-1913/hay-and-china. Accessed 6 Dec. 2017.

⁹ Silbey, David. *The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China*. New York, Hill and Wang, 2013.

¹⁰ Costly, Andrew. "BRIA 21 2 c Support the Dynasty, Destroy the Foreigners: The Boxer Uprising in China." *Constitutional Rights Foundation*. Accessed 19 Dec. 2017.

example of technological disruption caused by foreigners was that of female cotton workers. In an already declining Shandong Province, thousands of women worked to produce cotton and the fabric made from it¹¹. Britain, from advances in the industrial revolution, was able to supply mass amounts of cotton fabrics for a much lower price. Therefore, the thousands of female cotton workers and those who transported it lost their jobs to foreign products. The exploitation and unnecessary introduction of new technology greatly disrupted the local Chinese and justified their need for rebellion against foreigners.

Along with the new technologies came another intrusion that disrupted the Chinese way of life, the European missionaries. The western world saw it not only their responsibility to modernize people with new technologies, but also to bring Christianity into their lives. Although China did want to modernize, many rural Chinese did not want to change their religion. To start, it was a tradition in China to honor ancestors with respect and dignity. However, in the 17th century, western churches mistook this for ancestor worship. Emperor Kangxi expelled Jesuit missionaries from preaching in China due to their ignorance. After Emperor Kangxi died, missionaries demanded that they have the rights to convert and ignore the culture of Chinese.¹² This angered many Chinese as missionaries did not respect the culture of Chinese. Yet, the Extra-territoriality rule protected the missionaries from Chinese law. This rule prevented China and its Provinces from prosecuting foreigners, for they were not subject to the law. Although many Christian missionaries had a great deal of respect for the traditions and people of China, such as decreasing poverty in areas or building schools to educate young girls, a large number of missionaries did not. Malicious behaviors and crimes were committed on behalf of the

¹¹Ibid.

¹² Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement." *Ebscohost.com*.

missionaries. Chinese Christians often joined in on the schemes, given that the missionaries gave them legal protections. These rules made Chinese citizens feel like foreigners in their own country. An example is in the British concession of Shanghai, where a sign in a park supposedly said “No Chinese or Dogs”¹³. The special rights given to foreigners led to abuse and furthermore angered the Chinese people. These abuses regarding the attempt to modernize and change Chinese culture justified the Boxers right to rebel.

The Rebellion

All during the attempts of exploitation and conversion, severe flooding and droughts began to occur in northern China. Although crop yields were in decline, tensions grew quickly. The Yihetuan, or the Society of Righteous and Harmonious Fists and other secret societies arose. Since the Qing government and the court system could not prevent foreign intrusions, these secret societies rose. The Yihetuan appealed to uneducated, peasants who often couldn't read or write the complicated character system. Appendix C shows a typical Boxer, garbed in weathered clothes, but ready to support the cause. In population-dense areas, such as Shandong province, the Yihetuan quickly reached tens of thousands of members who were angry at the impact of foreign intervention. The members of the Yihetuan were called Boxers by Westerners due to the fact that many participated in shadow boxing. The Boxers believed in practices and potions that would make them invulnerable to foreign attacks. A propaganda piece from the Boxers encouraging able-bodied men to attack Chinese Christians read,

This forces us to practice the I-ho magic boxing so as to protect our country,
expel the foreign bandits and kill Christian converts, in order to save our

¹³Ibid.

people from miserable suffering. After this notice is issued to instruct you villagers, no matter which village you are living in, if there are Christian converts, you ought to get rid of them quickly. The churches which belong to them should be unreservedly burned down.¹⁴

Angry Boxers began to march through the countryside, on their way to Beijing. On their way, they massacred thousands of Chinese, in atrocious manners.

Regarding the Boxers, Dowager Empress Cixi saw a conflict to keep her throne. She knew that if she supported the foreigners, her position would be overthrown by the angry Boxers. But, if the Qing Dynasty were to support the Boxers, chaos would arise in Beijing. As Boxers entered the city, she decided to support them with Qing troops. On June 21st, 1900 as the Boxers began to cut railways, and burn down churches Empress Dowager Cixi declared war on all foreign powers in China¹⁵. Chaos broke loose for roughly two months In the Foreign Legations, Europeans were imprisoned and forced to wait 55 days until the 20,000 allied forces arrived freeing Beijing from Boxer Rule. Luella Miner, an American trapped in the Foreign Legations for 55 days said,

A horde of Boxers going through their rites, burning incense, crying, "Kill the foreign devils! Kill the secondary foreign devils! (Christians). Kill! Kill! Kill!" They called other things, but I could only distinguish the "kill!" There may have been from twenty to fifty thousand voices¹⁶.

¹⁴ "The Hundred Days And The Boxer Rebellion, 1898-1900." *Clio Journal*, doi:10.1515/9781400878840-005.

¹⁵ Costly, Andrew. "BRIA 21 2 c Support the Dynasty, Destroy the Foreigners: The Boxer Uprising in China." *Constitutional Rights Foundation*. Accessed 19 Dec. 2017.

¹⁶ "A Prisoner of the Boxer Rebellion, 1900" EyeWitness to History, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com (2008).

The Boxer Protocol

As the 20,000 troops from the Allied Powers made their way through Tianjin to Beijing, it became clear that the rebellion would be put down. Empress Cixi disguised herself and fled to Xi'an. As the Allied troops reached Beijing, they easily put down the Boxers and freed the prisoners in the Foreign Legations. As western history books are quick to mention the Boxer's atrocities, they often lack how once the Boxers were put down, the Allied troops began looting. Seeing the beauty of ancient works of art and treasures, the troops began to steal classic Chinese works, rape women, and destroy buildings. Once they were done looting in Beijing, the Allied troops went into the countryside. An estimated 300,000 Chinese were displaced from their homes¹⁷.

On September 7th, 1901, the Boxer Protocol was signed by the Qing and the Allied forces. In the Boxer Protocol, China gave up rights to defend Chinese cities, along with 330 million dollars. While Empress Cixi still held onto the Chinese throne, the power of the Qing was decreasing. In a personal interview with historian David Silbey, he argues that the conquest of Beijing and the punitive terms of the protocol did serious damage to the dynasty¹⁸. As Cixi's heir was a young child, the Qing Dynasty, in part because of the fail compromise in 1901, fell to the Chinese Nationalists. After the conflict of the rebellion had ended, the failed Boxer Protocol led to the Qing's fall soon after.

As the United States accidentally bombed the Chinese Embassy of Belgrade in 1999, thousands of Chinese activists took to the streets. In order to protest the injustices of NATO's bombing, signs were created with slogans such as, "Get out Yanks!" and "Stop

¹⁷ Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement ." *Ebscohost.com*.

¹⁸ Silbey, David. "Interview with Cornell Professor." 7 Dec. 2017.

Nato!"¹⁹. Nearly a century after the Boxer Rebellion, Chinese people stood up regarding the involvement of foreign intrusion. Similarly, China still is skeptical of foreign religions such as Christianity. Last year, ²⁰the People's Republic of China banned party members from participating in Christmas related events. For reasons of limiting Western influence pertaining to the culture of customs in order to protect Chinese beliefs, China seeks to isolate itself from the Western World in this way. From the Boxer Rebellion to now, China's view on foreigners and religion evidently hasn't changed. In the Conflict of the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, the Boxers were justified in their attempts to rid foreigners as their intrusion in the Chinese economy and attempts to convert Chinese were destroying traditional ways of life. The Rebellion led to the failed Boxer Protocol, which drastically decreased China's power and led to the Qing's fall in 1912. If one looks at the exploitation and conversion leading to the uprising, the 55-day siege and the Boxer Protocol, the justification for the conflict and failed compromise becomes evident. In the summer of 1900, thousands of Boxers marched to Beijing, unaware of the chaos to come. These Boxers did not know it, but they would dramatically impact China's path, from causing the fall of the last Dynasty in 1912, inspiring Mao Zedong and to changing China's view of culture and customs for decades to come.

¹⁹ Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement ." *Ebscohost.com*.

²⁰ Staff, RFA. "China's Ruling Communist Party Bans Christmas, Calling It 'Spiritual Opium'." *Radio Free Asia*, 20 Dec. 2017. Accessed 31 Dec. 2017.

Appendix A



Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement." Ebscohost.com.

The dragon represents the weak Qing Dynasty being overtaken by other "predator" countries seeking economic influence and land in China.

Appendix B



Harrington, Peter, and Frederic A. Sharf. *China 1900: The Eyewitnesses Speak*. London: Greenhill Books, 2000.

Railroads were not popular among Chinese people, they caused loss of jobs for millions of Chinese, promoted bad Feng Shui, and led to increased foreign exploitation.

Appendix C



"The Boxer Rebellion: The West and the Rebels." OpenLearn. September 25, 2008. Accessed December 11, 2017.

Shown above, a typical Boxer. Most Boxers originated from the peasant dense Shandong Province, were illiterate and poorly garbed.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

"Boxer Rebellion Observations by Future First Lady, Lou Henry Hoover." Lou Henry Hoover to Evelyn White. August 8, 1900. Accessed January 01, 2018.

I encountered this source from the National Archives. This source was helpful because future First Lady, Lou Hoover, describes her encounters in the Boxer Rebellion in this several page letter. She compares the Rebellion in China to the Boer War in South Africa. Clearly, there was a trend around the world with opposition against foreign exploitation.

Ch'i-hao, Fei. "The Gathering of the Storm." Sourcebooks.fordham.edu. Accessed January 03, 2018.
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1900Fei-boxers.asp>.

Fei Ch'i-hao, a Chinese Christian of Shansi Province explains his perspective of the situation in China. His writing was important to my research because it had shown that not everyone in China was falling to the influence of the Boxers, but instead showed me that many people were skeptical. This source allowed me to continue in changing my view of the Boxer Rebellion.

"Drawing Depicting Boxer Encampment." Digital image. National Archives. Accessed December 29, 2017.

This simple sketch and short description of the events entails the detail of the takeover on the Boxer's behalf. The author notes that the Boxers were very young, from young teens to young adults. This short writing and sketch helped the course of my research by increasing my understanding of Tianjin and battle that occurred here.

"General Tung by Means of Strategy Badly Defeated the Western Troops." Digital image. National Archives. Accessed January 4, 2018.

As many historians argue that the Boxers were uneducated therefore causing them to be poor soldiers, David Silbey told me that if you look at the strategy used by Qing Soldiers and Boxers in several battles, it may not be true that the Boxers were so uneducated. In this drawing, General Tung is shown to be badly defeating the Western Troops. This perspective changed my belief about the boxers, who are often portrayed as very weak and uneducated in secondary sources.

Harrington, Peter, and Frederic A. Sharf. *China 1900: The Eyewitnesses Speak*. London: Greenhill Books, 2000.

Arguably the find of my research, this book compounded dozens of encounters during the Boxer Rebellion. As well, this book includes several pictures of the Boxers and related material. This book contained accounts of families trapped in the Foreign Legations to military generals. However, this source has its downfalls such as failing to include several sources from the perspective of Chinese people and leaders. Yet, this book greatly helped me because it helped me understand the perspective of many Western people at the time.

Holcombe, Chester. "The Missionary Enterprise in China." Theatlantic.com. Accessed December 26, 2017.

Published in 1906 by an American man, he talks of how ever since the Boxer Movement, the missionary enterprise in China has remained weak/broken. He regards that one of the reasons the missionary presence was broken was that ever since the Opium Wars, the Christian establishment had been fraught with corruption and crime. For example, Christian Pastors of Canton would pass out samples of Opium along with bible verses. He remarks that in order to restore trust and peace between the US and China, the United States must apologize. Also, he adds that the missionary

enterprise, if strengthened and well maintained, could be a strong link between the two countries.

This account helped me understand the views of many Americans regarding the Missionary Enterprise.

Miner, Luella. "The Diary of an American Woman during the Siege." *The Outlook* 66 (September 1, 1900): 641.

Luella Miners accounts helped my research by allowing me to understand the lives of the people living in the Foreign Legations. They were forced to endure horrendous conditions such as starvation and attacks. These accounts help me understand the pure evil perpetrated by the Boxers.

"Open Door Notes." John Hay to Mr. Buck. September 6, 1899.

The Open Door Notes by John Hay even after the Boxer Movement proved to be a key part of American foreign policy regarding Asia well into the 20th century. It is important to note that the United States was not innocent in the Boxer Movement; we were the cause of much exploitation and conversion. The literal wording of these notes made me understand the American desire for economic influence in China.

Price, Eva Jane. *China Journal 1889-1900: An American Missionary Family during the Boxer Rebellion:*

With the Letters and Diaries of Eva Jane Price and Her Family. New York: Collier Books, 1990.

Eva Jane Price's letters played an important role in teaching many Americans about the Boxer Rebellion. These letters, along with Luella Miners, were instrumental in providing me education on the American views on the Rebellion.

"Qing China's Internal Crisis: Land Shortage, Famine, Rural Poverty." Qing China's Internal Crisis:

Land Shortage, Famine, Rural Poverty | Asia for Educators | Columbia University. Accessed January 08, 2018.

As flooding and severe droughts made their way throughout Northern China, the Chinese anger rapidly increased shown by the rise of the Yihetuan. In this, a Chinese woman describes her experience of starvation and need to beg from others in the town. By reading this, I can see why the Chinese people were angered at foreigners: they needed a scapegoat.

Secondary Sources

"The Boxer Rebellion: The West and the Rebels." OpenLearn. September 25, 2008. Accessed December 11, 2017.

I used this source in the advanced stages of my research. This was helpful because it had many quotes from the rebellion. Surprisingly, it was harder to find information of the rebellion itself compared to the causes and events leading up to it. This source provided much information on the rebellion and the looting perpetrated by the Allied Powers after the rebellion.

Costly, Andrew. "BRIA 21 2 C Support the Dynasty, Destroy the Foreigners: The Boxer Uprising in China." Constitutional Rights Foundation. Accessed December 19, 2017.

This source was very helpful, for it talked about who the Yihetuan were and how they formed. Also, this source talked of the role that Empress Dowager played in the lead up to the rebellion. Empress Cixi also played a key role in the creation of the Boxer Rebellion, which many argue was one of the reasons for the Qing's collapse in 1911.

Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "First Sino-Japanese War." Encyclopædia Britannica. December 20, 2017. Accessed December 31, 2017.

The Sino Japanese was not a direct cause to the rebellion, but it was important because it had shown the world that China was open and available for exploitation. This source, at the beginning of my research gave me the thought that there were more than just a few causes to the rebellion.

Gady, Franz-Stefan. "When Americans Ruled Beijing." *The Diplomat*. June 04, 2015. Accessed December/January 2017/2018.

This source entails the story of conflict when the Americans and troops of the other countries made their way into Beijing. On their way, they committed many war crimes. This source is an example of how when wars are ended, the enemy forces often take advantage; shown by the raping of women, looting and displacement of village people.

History.com Staff. "Boxer Rebellion." *History.com*. 2009. Accessed December 30, 2017.

As this source included a video, it was very helpful. When I encountered this article, I had no clue what the Boxer Rebellion was. I had read the article, but I had not grasped the importance of the event yet.

"The Hundred Days And The Boxer Rebellion, 1898-1900." *Clio Journal*.

doi:10.1515/9781400878840-005.

This source talks about the showdown in Beijing 1900. Along with the chaos of Beijing, this source talks about battles and gives information along with it. As a secondary source, this was a source that was critical in my middle of my research.

"Interview with Cornell Professor." Telephone interview by author. December 7, 2017.

Throughout my research, I had emailed perhaps a dozen professors. David Silbey was the only one

who was gracious enough to reply. I had heard about him in my book of his, The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China. Over the phone, we discussed many things he wrote about in his book such as the strength of the railroad and the fall of the Qing Dynasty to the inspiration of Mao Zedong.

Ko, Walter. "The Boxer Movement." Ebscohost.com.

In this Ebsco Host article, Walter Ko argues that the Boxer Rebellion was justified. Similar to my thesis, Walter Ko sees the rebellion as a event caused by foreign attempts of imperialism and conversion. Also, this article talks about the people caught in the crosshairs of the rebellion, such as Chinese Christians and Foreigners.

Laidler, Keith. *The Last Empress: The She-Dragon of China*. Chichester: Wiley, 2003

I ordered this book though an ILL; it talks of the Qing Empress, Dowager CiXi. The source talks about how she was one of the main forces that held China together. Also, it talks about the historical debate of her standing on the Boxers. This book inspired the beginning of my essay, in which I used her quote.

Martin, Christopher. *The Boxer Rebellion*. London: Abelard-Schuman, 1968.

Along with The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China by David Silbey, this book by Christopher Martin's book also aided in my research. This was the first book I read; it provided much insight and perhaps the backbone of my research.

Meyer, Karl E. "The Chinese Want Their Art Back." *The New York Times*. June 20, 2015. Accessed January 06, 2018.

From the first Chinese Dynasty (Xia Dynasty) to the late Qing, China had been gathering relics and works of art in Beijing. In the Boxer Rebellion, many of these relics were taken from Beijing to museums around the world. As the Cultural Revolution in the 60's and 70's led to the destruction of more Chinese Art, less and less is in China. Today, Chinese people seek the art that has been taken generations ago from museums across the world.

Schiavenza, Matt. "How Humiliation Drove Modern Chinese History." The Atlantic. October 25, 2013. Accessed December 31, 2017.

This article explained China's century of humiliation (1840s to formation of PRC). It was interesting to learn about how so many events led to the further weakening of China such as the Taiping Rebellion. The use of the term century of humiliation by the communist party surprised me as well.

"Secretary of State John Hay and the Open Door in China, 1899–1900." U.S. Department of State. Accessed December 6, 2017.

As I had to link my topic to American History in some way, I found the Open Door Notes. This source, provided by the US Department of State provided information on their intent and effect. This source allowed me to tie my topic to American History and further understand foreign intent in China.

Silbey, David. *The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2013.

I ordered this book through an ILL at my school library. Most books about the Boxer Rebellion were from the 20th century. I liked how this book went against the typical historical thinking. This book went very in-depth when talking about the causes of the rebellion. David Silbey did not jump to conclusions based on simple facts.

Staff, RFA. "China's Ruling Communist Party Bans Christmas, Calling It 'Spiritual Opium'." Radio Free Asia. December 20, 2017. Accessed December 31, 2017.

Interestingly, the Chinese called Christmas “spiritual opium”. This shows how the attitude of Chinese people has been shaped many years ago, such as from the Opium Wars. This article just proves how China’s view on the world has not been changed greatly since the Boxer Movement.

Wert, Hal. "Hoover's Brush with the Boxers." Ebscohost.com. Accessed November/December 2017.

Near the beginning of my research, I started off with library databases. This Database, Ebsco Host was very helpful for me in the act of starting my research. I found it interesting that Herbert Hoover, a future president of the United States, happened to be in China during the rebellion.

