

hospital attendant, wounded. The Americans and Russians had no casualties. The Japanese lost 50 killed and wounded.

15. The Chinese lost 350 killed and the number of their wounded must have been considerable. As a result of the action, General Nieh, one of the best of the Chinese generals, is reported to have been killed or to have committed suicide.

I have, &c.,

A. R. F. DORWARD,  
Brigadier-General.

From the General Officer Commanding British Forces, Tientsin, to the Secretary of State for War.

SIR, *Tientsin, July 19, 1900.*

ON the afternoon of the 11th instant I arranged with General Fukushima, Commanding the Japanese Forces, to carry out as soon as possible the capture of Tientsin City. Owing to our heavy losses during the daily bombardment of the Settlements we considered this movement necessary.

2. The Russian General was approached on the subject and said he would co-operate in the movement by an attack on the Chinese batteries and fort to the north-east of the city. He desired to get his pontoon train in readiness and said that as soon as he had done so he would give me notice of his readiness to move. His Staff Officer gave me that notice at 5 p.m. on the 12th instant, and it was arranged that the Russian Forces, who had the longer march, should move in time to deliver their attack on the batteries about 10 A.M. on the following day and that the Japanese-British Force should deliver their attack on the city as early as possible, in order to attract the bulk of the Chinese troops to their side and so facilitate the capture of the batteries by the Russians.

3. I then called on Colonel de Pelacot, Commanding the French Forces, and Colonel Meade, Commanding the American Forces, and together with them visited General Fukushima to discuss the plan of operations.

4. It was decided that the Allied Forces would parade at 3 A.M. and move in three columns—about 500 yards apart—on the Western Arsenal.

5. The French force 900 strong was to form the right column and, crossing the Mud Parapet in the British Extra Concession, was to move on the south side of it and under its cover direct on the Arsenal, timing its movement to agree with that of the other columns. Two companies were detailed to advance from the French Settlement and clear the houses between it and the city of troops. They were unable, however, in the face of a heavy fire to make much headway.

6. The Japanese column 1,500 strong under General Fukushima was to move out from the Settlement by the Race Course Gate at 3.20 A.M. and move parallel to the Mud Parapet about 500 yards from it.

7. The left column, consisting of 800 British troops (500 military and 300 naval), 900 Americans and 30 Austrians, moved out of the Taku Gate at 3.30 A.M. under my command and marched parallel to the Japanese column and about 500 yards from them. About 500 yards on the left of the left column was the Japanese Cavalry 150 strong.

8. The left column was somewhat delayed in clearing villages of small parties of the enemy, and its head arrived at the road leading to the Arsenal and South Gate of the city about a quarter of a mile behind the head of the Japanese column.

9. The French column suffered a check at a bridge in the Mud Parapet about a quarter of a mile from the Arsenal, in crossing over which their troops were exposed to fire. The Arsenal was cleared of the enemy principally through the agency of the Japanese troops.

10. The advanced British troops, consisting of the detachment 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and the American Marines moved forward and lined the Mud Parapet west of the Arsenal, the 9th American Infantry being also brought forward under the parapet as support. The reserve, consisting of two companies Chinese Regiment and the Naval Brigade, were halted about 2,500 yards from the city and suffered some loss from long-range fire.

11. All the artillery of the combined force, consisting of mountain guns with the exception of three 3.2-inch guns belonging to the Americans, formed up a short distance south of the Mud Parapet and bombarded the city (5.30 A.M.).

12. One 4-inch gun three 12-pr. and a few 9-pr. and 6-pr., worked by the Navy from a position in the British Extra Concession, did excellent service in keeping down the fire from the city walls.

13. After about an hour's bombardment it was decided to attack. The French were to be on the right, the Japanese in the centre, and the British on the left, the centre of the attack being the south gate. Owing to the attack being pushed on somewhat too hurriedly in the centre the Fusiliers and American Marines had to move forward rather too quickly under a heavy fire to get into their position on the Japanese left (7.15 A.M.).

14. General Fukushima had asked me to give some support to the left of his line during the attack and the 9th American Infantry was directed by me to give this support and also to support the attack of the Fusiliers and Marines.

15. When the 9th regiment had crossed the Mud Parapet, a body of men estimated at 1,500 strong, made up of cavalry and infantry, appeared about 2,500 yards away from our extreme left. I directed the detachment of the Hong Kong Regiment, who up to this time had been acting as escort to the guns, to take up a favourable position at a bend in the Mud Parapet about one mile from the Arsenal to meet any attack. They had no difficulty in repulsing this threatened attack with the aid of two Maxim guns sent to assist them as soon as possible.

16. The Japanese attack extended considerably more to the left than had been intended, so that the Fusiliers and Marines were pushed more to the left than had been contemplated and brought close to heavy enfilade fire from the suburbs south of the south-west corner of the city. They faced that fire in the steadiest way, taking up a position under fairly good cover, and during the whole day prevented a large body of the enemy from making any forward movement.

17. Meanwhile seven or eight guns of the enemy's artillery were replying to our artillery fire from a fort about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of the West Gate of the city.

18. The reserves were ordered up to take cover under the Mud Parapet and the whole of the artillery moved inside the parapet and took up the best positions obtainable to continue the bombardment.

19. Moving back from the Hong Kong Regiment position I could see nothing of the 9th American Infantry, but when I reached the Arsenal I saw that only a few Japanese troops were extended on the right of the road, and that the French troops were all in compact bodies in