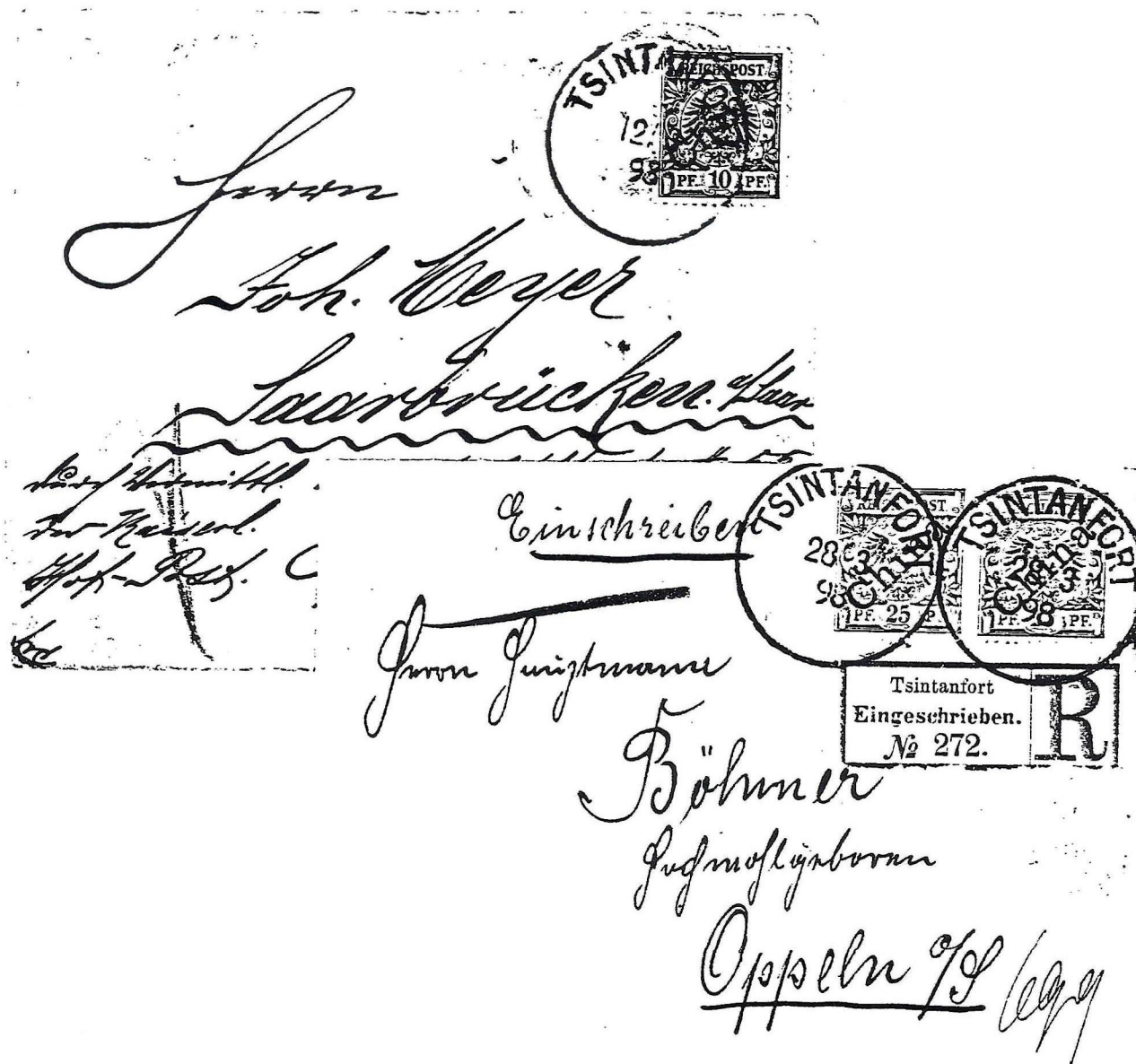


Kiautschou
Marine Inf. Bn. Kiautschou, 4th Co.

Civil Post Office Tsintaufort
12 March 1898
28 March 1898



On 6 March 1898 China and Germany entered into a treaty under which Germany was given a 99 year lease to, and sovereign power within, a small portion of land around Tsingtau and islands in the Bay of Kiautschou. There was also established a neutral zone extending for 50km from the high water mark around Kiautschou Bay, in which German, but not Chinese, troops had an unrestricted right of movement. This territory of "Kiautschou" was declared by Germany to be a protectorate on 27 April 1898, and placed under the Secretary of State of the Imperial Navy, with a naval officer as Governor.

Following execution of the treaty of 6 March, it was no longer necessary to maintain the Tsintaufort post office as a field post office. On 12 March 1898 "Marine Feldpost" was cut out of the cancel, which continued in use in this form through 15 May 1898.

Kiautschau

Civil Post Office Tsintau
19 June 1898
29 April 1899

Herrn Dr. L. Wacker

München (Bayern)

Prof. Dr. Winkler's chem. Laboratorium

Türkenstrasse 52.



Deutsche Reichspost
Postkarte

An

Herrn Dr. Wacker

%o. Sup. Ch. Post Office

in

Shanghai

Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

An Konrad v. Türring



Correction of the official mis-spelling of Tsintau was ordered on 30 March 1898, and resulted in 2 new datestamps: as shown above used from 16 May 1898; and with code letter "a" (first reported use 1 July 1898). As Kiautschou had not been declared a protectorate when these cancels were ordered, they were properly inscribed "China" at the foot.

Kiautschou

Civil Post Office Tsintau
5 December 1898
21 April 1899

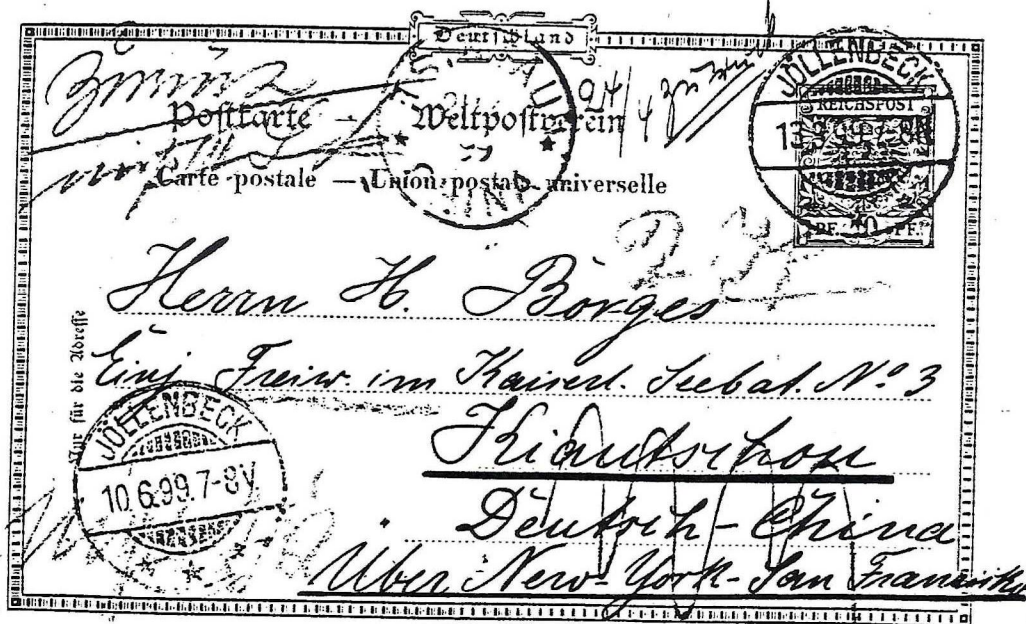
Marine Postbureau Berlin C.



*Herrn v. der Leyde
Kaiserlicher Hauptmann mit Chef d. IV. Comp.
des III. Seebataillon*

Tsintau

Ad. H. H. H.



Incoming mail to military personnel in Kiautschou is many times scarcer than outgoing military mail.

The Berlin Navy Post Office was responsible for correctly routing mail of navy personnel. Use of this address in Germany did not entitle the sender to German domestic rates, however.

Inbound Mail
30 October 1898
November 1900



An

An
Herrn Stabsarzt Dr. Velde.
commandant zur Deutschen Gesandtschaft.



in

Wohnung.....
(Straße und Hausnummer).

22910 Trincom
China. Postl.

3. ~~J. J. Fuchs~~ ^{Wittling} Mammalzucht

Deutsche Reichspost

Postkarte



26n

An
Herrn Landmann Otto Diemel

↓

3²⁵ *Leucosticte*



Kingtan
Kiautschau
Wohnung
Lappasant Berlin.
(Straße und Hausnummer)

Top card rated for international mail as it was initially addressed to China. Bottom card sent at domestic rates, then in effect for mail to the German colonies and protectorates.

3rd Seebataillon, 1st. Co.

1899 Postal Rate Change
22 April 1899
15 June 1904



UPU Rate		Domestic Rate
5pf.	Printed Matter	3pf.
10pf.	Post Card	5pf.
20pf.	Letter (15 gr.)	10pf.
20pf.	Registration	20pf.

From conversion of the Tsintaufort post office from Navy Field post to civilian status in mid-March 1898 until 30 April 1899 both German military personnel and civilians in Kiautschou had to pay UPU rates for mail to Germany and its colonies. On 1 May 1899 German domestic rates were extended to all mail posted through German post offices to, from and between Germany and her colonies. Aside from the period of the Boxer Uprising military free frank (13 July 1900 - 31 August 1901), these rates continued in effect until the surrender of the Protectorate in November 1914.

Kiautschou

Adjutant to Adm. Pr. Heinrich v. Preussen

Civil Post Office Tsintau

30 June 1899

30 September 1899

29 November 1899

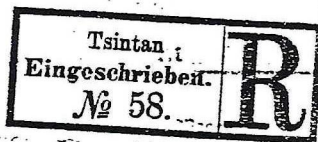
Einschreiben

Deutsche Reichspost

Kartenbrief

An

*General
Otto Rudolph*



Deutsche Reichspost

Postkarte

An

*General
Leutnant Korb.
Tsintau*



in

Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

Dr. Knappe

Changrao

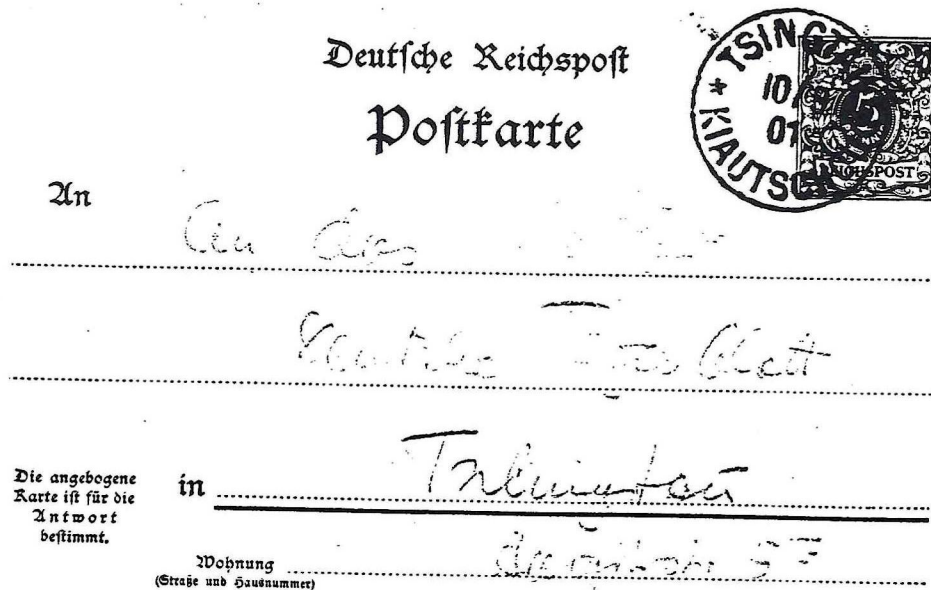
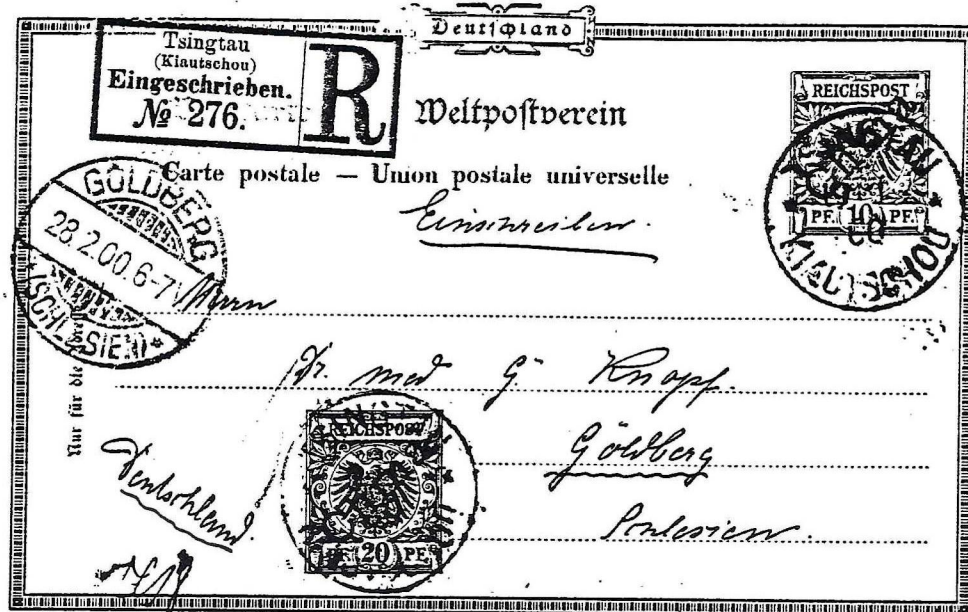
Leutnant General Rudolph

While Kiautschou was declared to be a German protectorate on 27 April 1898, this new status was not reflected in the Tsintau postmark for over a year. Two new datestamps (distinguished by either a star or an "a" at right) were introduced in May 1899 and continued in use for about 8 months.

Mail from Kiautschou to other German post offices in China, and to Chinese post offices, was carried at German domestic rates from 26 January 1898. These rates also applied to mail within Kiautschou.

Kiautschau

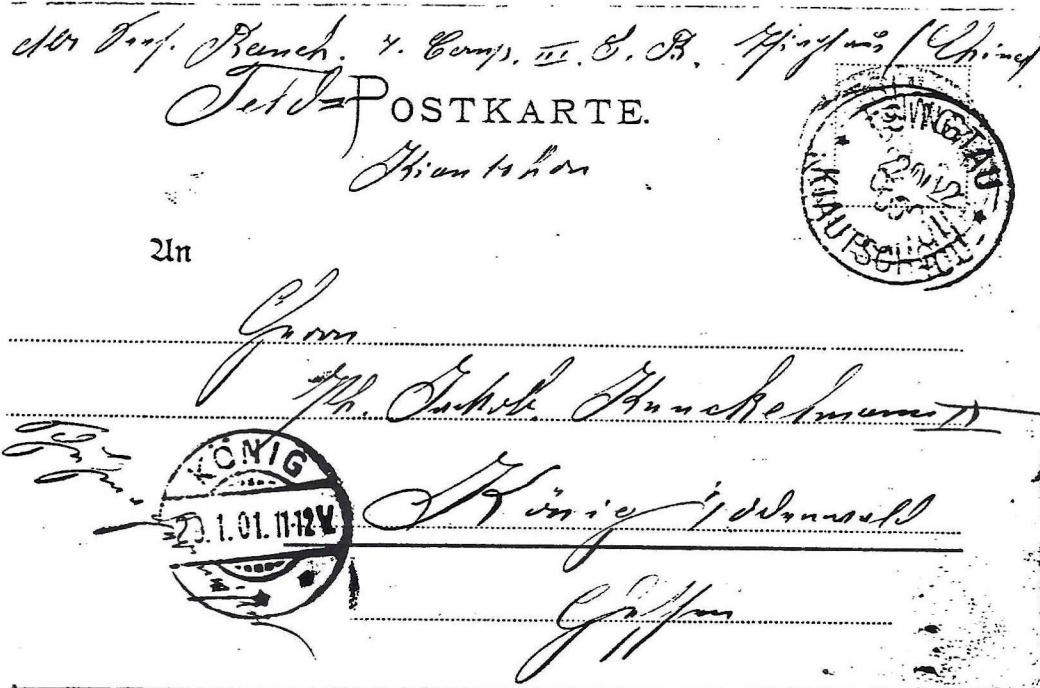
Civil Post Office Tsingtau
19 January 1900
10 August 1901



Beginning in mid-December 1899 a new set of cancels was introduced in which "Tsintau" was changed to "Tsingtau" to conform to local pronunciation. These cancels continued in use until November 1914.

Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, 4th Co.
To E. Asia Field Artillery Rgt.

Boxer Uprising
20 December 1900
20 December 1900



The Boxer Uprising
free frank extended to
troops in Kiautschou as
well as to troops in
North China.

Mail to, as well as
from, troops in North
China was entitled to
free franking if en-
dorsed "Feldpost." This
may not have been un-
derstood by civilians in
the colonies.

Postkarte — Weltpostverein
Deutschland.

Carte postale — Union postale universelle.



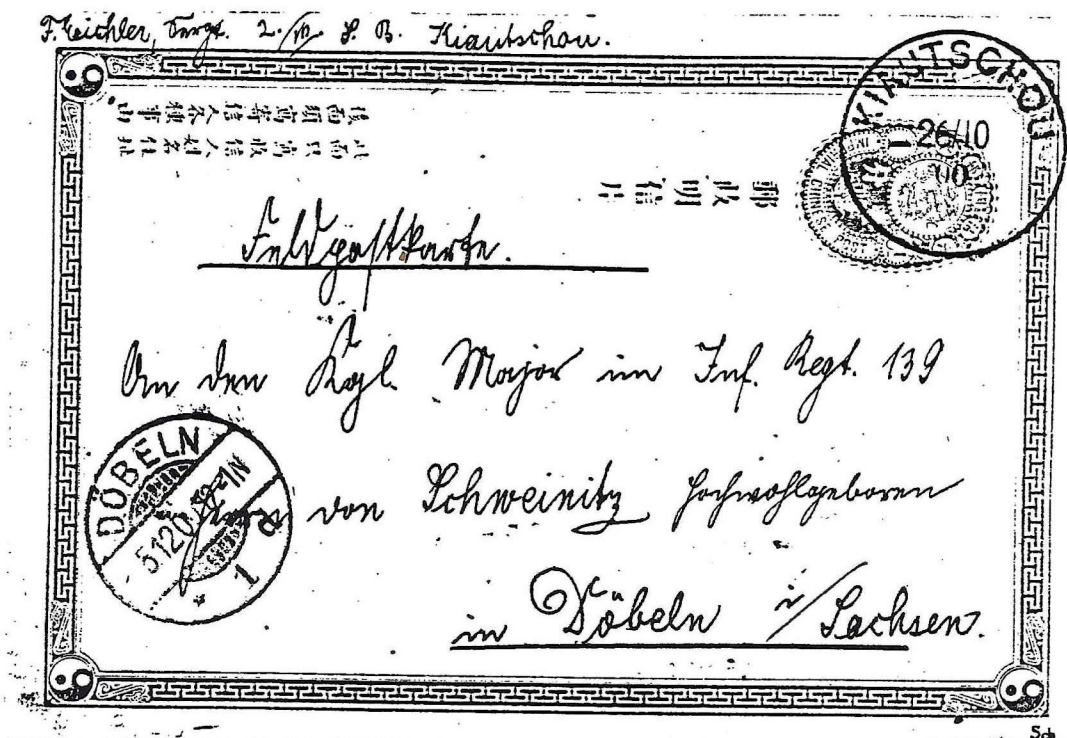
Seiner Hochwohlgeb.
Herrn Hauptmann von Doennies
im Ostasiatischen Feld Artillerie Reg.
4. Batterien
Peking
Pao-king-fo.

When the Peking legations were first besieged in early June 1900, German forces in Kiautschou consisted of the 3rd Seebataillon (1126 men), a Marine Horse Artillery Battery (111 men) and a Kommando Detachment (800 men). A portion of these forces (about 500 men) was sent to North China, entering combat on 20 June 1900 and serving as garrison forces through the winter of 1900-1901. The bulk of the local forces were retained in the Protectorate for defense of the leased territory and of the Shantung Railway line under construction in the neutral zone.

Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, 4th Co.
Marine Field Battery

Boxer Uprising
26 October 1900
20 November 1900

Card carried free due to
"Feldpostkarte" endorse-
ment and unit return
address, under military
free franking privilege
established for troops in
China in connection with
the Boxer Uprising.



*H. Fiedicke
Marine-Feldbatterie*

Feldpost

Herrn Regimentär Major



Dateline Kaumi, which is
between Kiautschou and
the border of the neutral
zone on the Shantung
Railway. There was no
German post office at
Kaumi until 24 November
1900.

Tringtau

Feldbatterie

In September 1900 small detachments of marines were sent to the cities of Kaumi and Kiautschou, in the neutral zone, to provide security for construction of the Shantung Railway. A field post office was established for their use on 26 September 1900 at Kiautschou. On 27 October 1900 this office was converted to a civil post office, though it continued to use the cancel shown above until 31 December 1900.

Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, Accounting Office
3rd Seebataillon, Headquarters

Boxer Uprising
2 May 1901
30 April 1901

Rechnungsamt
des III. Seebataillons.
B. No. 3055

An

der kaiserlichen Kasse

der Marine-Markirung der Nordsee

in



Kommando
des III. Seebataillons.
B. No. 2528
25-26-5

für

An

der kaiserlichen Kommando
des I. Ersatz-Seeataillons

in

Wilhelmshaven

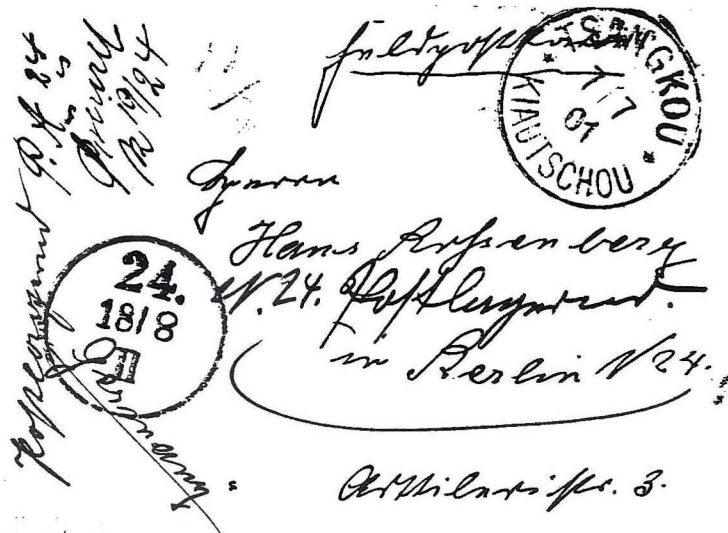
Marinepost



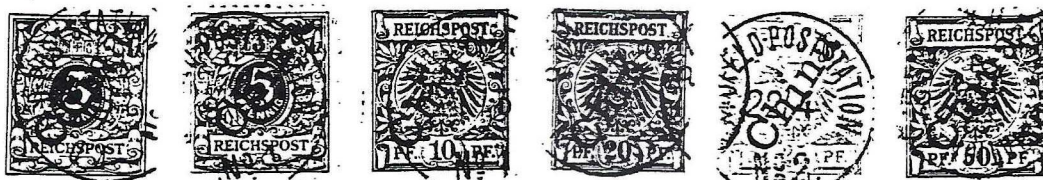
Command and supply elements of the Kiautschou units sent to North China to fight the Boxers (mainly from the 3rd Seebataillon) continued to operate from within the Protectorate. As was the case before the uprising, official military mail required no postage.

Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, 4th Co.

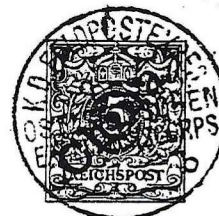
Boxer Uprising
7 July 1901



Tsangkou was located on the Tsingtau-Kiautschou portion of the Shantung Railway line, in the leased territory. A postal agency was opened on 1 April 1901 and operated with the above postmark until 30 April 1904, when it was redesignated an auxiliary postal agency. From that date until 1 May 1913 when it was reestablished as a postal agency, location of use of the Tsangkou cancel is problematical, as it is known to have been used at Litsun at least from early December 1904 until early March 1905, and other dates without clear indications of origin are known.



Postkarte
Deutsche Reichspost
Postkarte



An

dem Königl. Gen.-Labors

Gen. v. Lubowicz

Lipsy-Bokley

in

Jan. Paulsen

*Ad. H. Schulz
3.3. 1900
Gen. Paulsen*

Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

At the outbreak of the Boxer Uprising, German civil post offices in China had stocks of the Numeral and Eagle issue diagonally overprinted China and of the 1890 - 1900 printings of the 2 mark stamp. While German military personnel in China had a free franking privilege for normal letters and postcards, they were required to pay for letters over 50 grams, parcel post, registered and value-declared letters, and outgoing field telegrams. Further, the East Asia Expeditionary Corps contained more than a few philatelists. As a result, stocks of the China overprints were exhausted in Tientsin by the end of 1900.

Deutsche Reichspost
Postkarte



An

Gross

Christians Kohn.

in

III See Bataillon Tientsin

Wohnung
(Strasse und Hausnummer)

Kriantsehou

Deutschland

Postkarte -- Weltpostverein
Carte postale -- Union postale universelle

On Fritz Wender

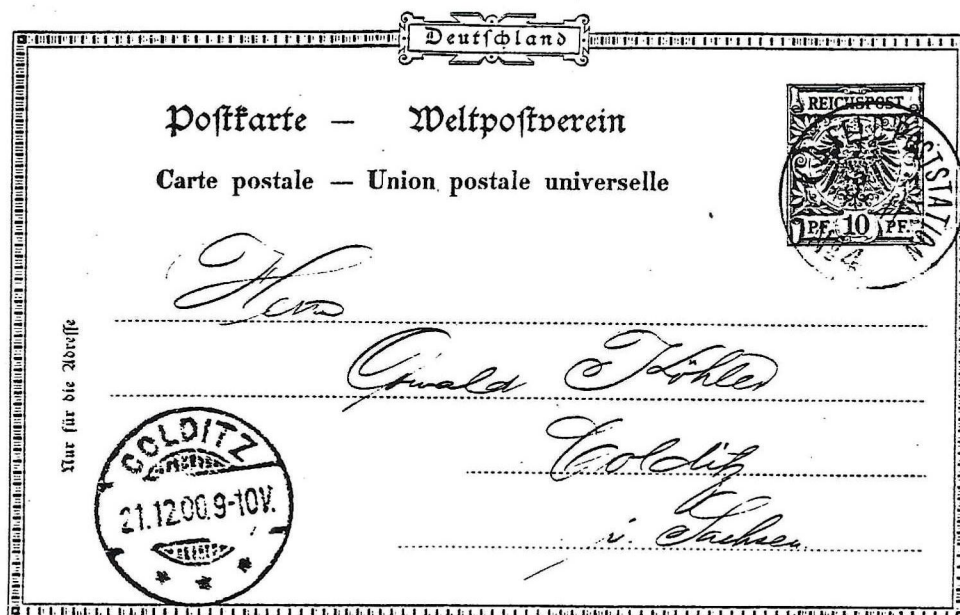
Tientsin

Nur für die Adresse

REICHSPOST
10 Pf.
No. 1.

198 f

In addition to adhesives, stocks of German postal cards imprinted "China" were supplied to the military post offices.



Navy Ship Post Offices of the East Asia Squadron were stocked with supplies of the 5, 10 and 20pf values of the Numeral and Eagle issue. In mid-1900, supplies of these values were made available to, at least, the German civil post office at Tongku and Peking. Official shipments of the 3 and 50pf values were not made until July 1901, and the 25pf value was never officially sent to China. However, supplies of all denominations of this issue were brought (or sent by enterprising philatelists) privately.

Deutsche Reichspost
Telepos. = Kartenbrief
 An



Herrn
Frank Zorn



Herrn

Telegraphbrief

70

tschel

Herrn

Hr. Franke
Josephsplatz



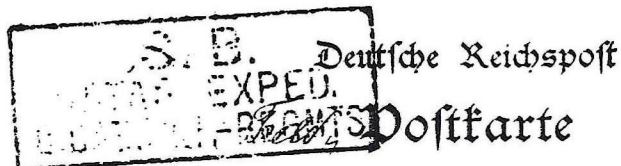
Kau
tschland

Gera Reuss.

Frankfurt/10. 2.



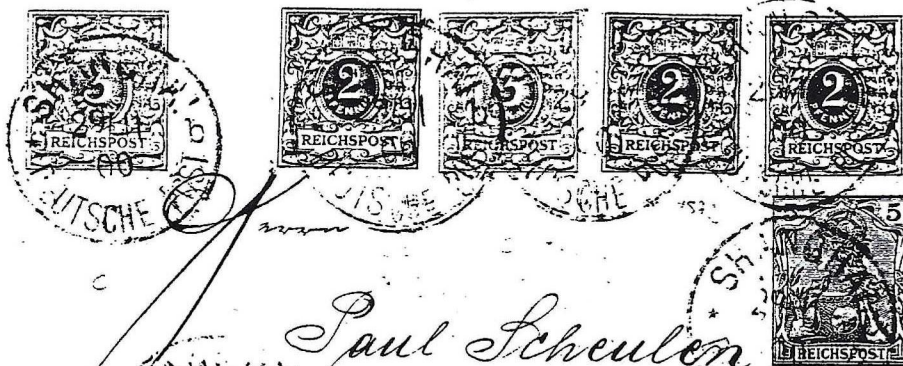
Numerals and Eagle postcards, a 10pf lettercard, and 10pf envelopes were also available in North China during the Boxer period through official channels. The 2pf postcard shown on the previous page was carried privately to China.



An

Herrn

H. L. - bork



Sachs.

Land.

699

Paul Scheulen

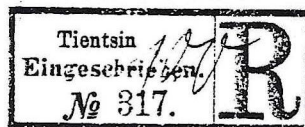
Caspelerschulstr. 4

Einschreiben

Deutsche Reichspost



16.0



Herrn

Herrn Liebork

Bilau i. Sachs.

Deutschland.

Wohnung
Straße und Hausnummer



699

Because of the extensive variety of stamps accepted as valid in the German post offices in China during the Boxer period and its aftermath, it is possible to find covers with unusual franking combinations, most philatelically inspired.