He wins his battles by making no mistakes Hence his victories bring him neither repu-Making no mistakes is what establishes the tation for wisdom nor credit for courage. If asked how to cope with a great host of the When it was to their advantage, they made a managed to keep them in disorder. forward move; when otherwise, they stopped

certainty of victory, for it means conquering

enemy in orderly array and on the point of marching to the attack, I should say: "Begin

an enemy that is already defeated

strength; to see the sun and moon is no sign is no sign of a quick ear. of sharp sight; to hear the noise of thunder

What the ancients called a clever fighter is

one who not only wins, but excels in winning

16. When the enemy's men were united, they

the officers from rallying their men. der the good troops from rescuing the bad between his large and small divisions; to hinemy's front and rear; to prevent co-operation knew how to drive a wedge between the en-

with ease.

Neither is it the acme of excellence if you "Well done!" fight and conquer and the whole Empire says,

ехсепенсе

To lift an autumn hair is no sign of great

5

Those who were called skillful leaders of old

14. On hemmed-in ground, resort to stratagem On serious ground, gather in plunder. In

difficult ground, keep steadily on the march

On desperate ground, fight.

To see victory only when it is within the ken of the common herd is not the acme of the other, a victory that is complete. hand we have ability to protect ourselves; on

topmost heights of heaven. Thus on the one

12. On open ground, do not try to block the

ground, attack not.

enemy's way. On the ground of intersecting

mghways, join hands with your allies.

On dispersive ground, therefore, fight not

On facile ground, halt not. On contentious

who is skilled in attack flashes forth from the

in the most secret recesses of the earth; he

The general who is skilled in defense hides

IV Tactical Dispositions

The Art of War, 20

XI The Nine Situations

THE ART OF WAR, 61

THE ART OF

SUN TZU

THE ART OF WAR, 21 Hence the skillful fighter puts himself into a position which makes defeat impossible, and does not miss the moment for defeating the IV Tactical Dispositions

2.

either side.

great advantage to

contentious ground.

4. Ground the possession of which imports

Ground on which each side has liberty of

movement is open ground.

tiguous states, so that he who occupies it

is a ground of intersecting highways.

Ground which forms the key to three confirst has most of the Empire at his command, When an army has penetrated into the heart of a hostile country, leaving a number of Mountain forests, rugged steeps, marshes and fens-all country that is hard to traverse:

fortified cities in its rear, it is serious ground.

THE ART OF WAR, 60

XI The Nine Situations

only seeks battle after the victory has been Thus it is that in war the victorious strategist

won, whereas he who is destined to defeat

first fights and afterwards looks for victory.

9

32

The consummate leader cultivates the moral law, and strictly adheres to method and discipline; thus it is in his power to control

In respect of military method, we have, firstly, Measurement; secondly, Estimation quantity; thirdly, Calculation; fourthly,

5

Measurement owes its existence to Earth; Estimation of quantity to Measurement; Calcu-

> gorges, and from which we can only retire by tortuous paths, so that a small number of the enemy would suffice to crush a large 10. Ground on which we can only be saved from destruction by fighting without delay, is des-

body of our men: this is hemmed in ground.

perate ground

9. Ground which is reached through narrow

this is difficult ground.

lation to Estimation of quantity; Balancing of chances to Calculation; and Victory to A victorious army opposed to a routed one,

3alancing of chances.

is as a pound's weight placed in the scale against a single grain.

Balancing of chances; fifthly, Victory.

 When you surround an army, leave an outlet free. Do not press a desperate foe too hard. Such is the art of warfare.

It is a military axiom not to advance uphill against the enemy, nor to oppose him when he comes downhill.

33.

attacking an army drawn up in calm and confident array:—this is the art of studying

THE ART OF WAR, 40

VII Maneuvering

34. Do not pursue an enemy who simulates flight; do not attack soldiers whose temper is keen.

Sun Tzu said: In war, the general receives his commands from the sovereign, collects When in difficult country, do not encamp. In country where high roads intersect, join

Variation in Tactics

his army and concentrates his forces

Do not swallow bait offered by the enemy. Do

not interfere with an army that is returning

hands with your allies. Do not linger in dangerously isolated positions. In hemmed-

in situations, you must resort to stratagem. There are roads which must not be followed, in desperate position, you must fight.

armies which must be not attacked, towns which must not be besieged, positions which

must not be contested, commands of the sovereign which must not be obeyed.

4. The general who thoroughly understands the advantages that accompany variation of tac-tics knows how to handle his troops.

When he has penetrated into hostile territory When a chieftain is fighting in his own terribut to no great distance, it is facile ground tory, it is dispersive ground desperate ground. h) hemmed-in ground: g) difficult ground; e) ground of intersecting highways; d) open ground; c) contentious ground; f) serious ground;

The art of war teaches us to rely not on the

32. To refrain from intercepting an enemy whose

nuspanding one's strength.

banners are in perfect order, to refrain from

likelihood of the enemy's not coming, but

specious allurements, and make them rush

and keep them constantly engaged; hold out age on them; and make trouble for them

to any given point

10. Reduce the hostile chiefs by inflicting dam-

To be near the goal while the enemy is still

self-possession.

the enemy:-this is the art of retaining appearance of disorder and hubbub amongst

is toiling and struggling, to be well-fed while

the enemy is famished:-this is the art of far from it, to wait at ease while the enemy misfortune.

If, on the other hand, in the midst of diffi-

Disciplined and calm,

to await the

it is sluggish and inclined to return. This is

the art of studying moods.

the essential part of our schemes. in this way, we may succeed in accomplishing

vantage, we may extricate ourselves from culties we are always ready to seize an adIf our expectation of advantage be tempered

be blended together.

tions of advantage and of disadvantage will

bursting of pent-up waters into a chasm a

Sun Tzu said: The art of war recognizes nine

The Nine Situations

varieties of ground:

b) facile ground; a) Dispersive ground Tactical Dispositions

Sun Tzu said: The good fighters of old first put themselves beyond the possibility of defeat, and then waited for an opportunity of

To secure ourselves against defeat lies in our the enemy is provided by the enemy himself. own hands, but the opportunity of defeating defeating the enemy.

Thus the good fighter is able to secure him-

21. Make forays in fertile country in order to

supply your army with food.

defenders will not prevail against you.

 Carefully study the well-being of your men, and do not overtax them. Concentrate your energy and hoard your strength. Keep your continually on the move, and devise

 The following are the principles to be observed by an invading force: The further you penetrate into a country, the greater will be the solidarity of your troops, and thus the

way by unexpected routes, and attack un-

guarded spots.

self against defeat, but cannot make certain of defeating the enemy.

Hence the saying: One may know how to conquer without being able to do it.

Security against defeat implies defensive tac-

Standing on the defensive indicates insuffi-

cient strength; attacking, a superabundance

tics; ability to defeat the enemy means taking

the offensive.

23. Throw your soldiers into positions whence there is no escape, and they will prefer death to flight. If they will face death, there is nothing they may not achieve. Officers and men alike will put forth their uttermost strength.

unfathomable plans.

army

VII Maneuvering The Art of War, 39

IV Tactical Dispositions

The Art of War, 22

THE ART OF WAR, 62

XI The Nine Situations

by seizing something which your opponent holds dear; then he will be amenable to your Rapidity is the essence of war: take advantage of the enemy's unreadiness, make your

The onrush of a conquering force is like the

thousand fathoms deep.

THE ART OF WAR, 2

28. Now a soldier's spirit is keenest in the morning; by noonday it has begun to flag; and in ing to camp. the evening, his mind is bent only on returnpresence of mind. a commander-in-chief may be robbed of his

A clever general, therefore, avoids an army when its spirit is keen, but attacks it when

Hence in the wise leader's plans, considerawill fail to make the best use of his men.

he be acquainted with the Five Advantages

So, the student of war who is unversed in the art of war of varying his plans, even though

A whole army may be robbed of its spirit.

influencing the ears and eyes of your army. day, of flags and banners, as a means of

THE ART OF WAR, 42

to turn his knowledge to practical account. tion of the country, yet he will not be able The general who does not understand these may be well acquainted with the configura-

THE ART OF WAR, 79 23. It is owing to his information, again, that we can cause the doomed spy to carry false tidings to the enemy. XIII The Use of Spies

Lastly, it is by his information that the surviving spy can be used on appointed occa-The end and aim of spying in all its five sions. 24 55

varieties is knowledge of the enemy; and this knowledge can only be derived, in the first

with the utmost liberality.

26.

27.

Hence it is only the enlightened ruler and the wise general who will use the highest inand thereby they achieve great results. Spies

Of old, the rise of the Yin dynasty was due to I Chih who had served under the Hsia. Likewise, the rise of the Chou dynasty was due to Lu Ya who had served under the Yin. telligence of the army for purposes of spying

essential that the converted spy be treated

instance, from the converted spy. Hence it is

are a most important element in water, because on them depends an army's ability to

Cover image: Pestscript Dragon Curve LaTeX formatted by Ruben Berenguel, mostlymaths.net, 2010. Cover image: Pestscript Dragon Curve This is the Project Gutenberg eBook, The Art of War, by Sun Tzu.	III Attach by Stratagem The Art or Wat. 18 will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.
LaTeX formatted by Ruben Berenguel, mostlymaths.net, 2010. Cover image: Postscript Dragon Curve	will also suffer a defeat. If you k the enemy nor yourself, you will every battle.
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SUN TZU ON THE ART OF WAR THE OLDEST MILITARY TREATISE IN THE WORLD TRANSLEE from the Chinese By LIONEL GILES, MA. (1910)	
(This is the basic text of Sun Tzu on the Art of War. It was extracted from Mr. Glief complete work as titled above. The commentary itself, which, of course includes this work embedded within it, has been released as Propert Gutenberg's efbook Number 132.] The original ASCII document and all associated files of various formats can be found in: tttp://www.gutenberg.org/dis/1/3/132	

25.

without waiting to be asked, they will do Thus, without waiting to be marshaled, the

faithful; without giving orders, they can be your will; without restrictions, they will be soldiers will be constantly on the qui vive there is no help for it, they will fight hard. country, they will show a stubborn front. sense of fear. If there is no place of refuge

ents for the benefit of the soldiery.

- 21. Ponder and deliberate before you make a

- - 22. He will conquer who has learnt the artifice of deviation. Such is the art of maneuvering.

Sun Tzu said: The control of a large force is the same principle as the control of a few men: it is merely a question of dividing up

Energy

 The Book of Army Management says: On the field of battle, the spoken word does not

carry far enough: hence the institution of gongs and drums. Nor can ordinary objects be seen clearly enough: hence the institution of banners and flags.

> mand is nowise different from fighting with a small one: it is merely a question of insti-

tuting signs and signals.

Fighting with a large army under your com-

their numbers.

 To ensure that your whole host may withstand the brunt of the enemy's attack and remain unshaken—this is effected by maneu That the impact of your army may be like a grindstone dashed against an egg-this is effected by the science of weak points and

vers direct and indirect.

 Gongs and drums, banners and flags, are means whereby the ears and eves of the host

- e) over-solicitude for his men, which ex-

- c) a hasty temper, which can be provoked b) cowardice, which leads to capture;

- d) a delicacy of honor which is sensitive to by insults;
- - - shame;

 These are the five besetting sins of a general, When an army is overthrown and its leader slain, the cause will surely be found among these five dangerous faults. Let them be a

ruinous to the conduct of war.

14.

25. The host thus forming a single united body, is

may be focused on one particular point.

it impossible either for the brave to advance alone, or for the cowardly to retreat alone.

This is the art of handling large masses of

In night-fighting, then, make much use of

signal-fires and drums, and in fighting

subject of meditation.

poses him to worry and trouble.

- affect a general:

There are five dangerous faults which may

2

unassailable.

- a) Recklessness, which leads to destruc-

- the chance of his not attacking, but rather on the fact that we have made our position
- THE ART OF WAR, 43 on our own readiness to receive him; not on

THE ART OF WAR, 58

X Terrain

XI The Nine Situations

The Art of War, 63

24. Soldiers when in desperate straits lose the

they will stand firm. If they are in hostile

31. Hence the saying: If you know the enemy and know yourself, your victory will not stand in

doubt; if you know Heaven and know Earth,

you may make your victory complete.

- - VIII Variation in Tactics THE ART OF WAR, 78
- XIII The Use of Spies
- secret was told before the time is ripe, he must be put to

19.

If a secret piece of news is divulged by a spy

18. Be subtle! be subtle! and use your spies for Without subtle ingenuity of mind, one can-

not make certain of the truth of their reports.

every kind of business.

- 20. Whether the object be to crush an army, to storm a city, or to assassinate an individual, death together with the man to whom the
- it is always necessary to begin by finding out the names of the attendants, the aides-

22.

It is through the information brought by the

will become converted spies and available for led away and comfortably housed. Thus they us must be sought out, tempted with bribes,

28. On the day they are ordered out to battle

to longevity.

dewing their garments, and those lying down

will display the courage of a Chu or a Kuei let them once be brought to bay, and they letting the tears run down their cheeks. But your soldiers may weep, those sitting up be If our soldiers are not overburdened with

itself comes, no calamity need be feared.

taste for riches; if their lives are not unduly

long, it is not because they are disinclined money, it is not because they have a dis26. Prohibit the taking of omens, and do away

with superstitious doubts. Then, until death

converted spy that we are able to acquire

and employ local and inward spies.

21. The enemy's spies who have come to spy on

the general in command. Our spies must be

commissioned to ascertain these. de-camp, and door-keepers and sentries of

6 13 18 22 27 34 40 43 21 200 20 74 WAGING WAR LACTICAL DISPOSITIONS ATTACK BY STRATAGEM Terrain THE NINE SITUATIONS THE USE OF SPIES VARIATION IN TACTICS THE ATTACH BY FIRE LAYING PLANS THE ARMY ON THE MARCH MANEUVERING Weak Points and Strong

Surviving spies, finally, are those who bring Hence it is that which none in the whole army are more intimate relations to be maintained than with spies. None should be more liberally rewarded. In no other business should Spies cannot be usefully employed without They cannot be properly managed without benevolence and straightforwardness.

13.

back news from the enemy's camp.

greater secrecy be preserved. a certain intuitive sagacity.

ing our spies to know of them and report

them to the enemy.

of the enemy.

purposes.

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VII Maneuvering

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Having local spies means employing the ser- Having inward spies, making use of officials Having converted spies, getting hold of the enemy's spies and using them for our own Having doomed spies, doing certain things openly for purposes of deception, and allow-

vices of the inhabitants of a district.

circumstances. This shakes the confidence

trouble is sure to come from the other feudal But when the army is restless and distrustful of the soldiers.

9

strike at its tail, and you will be attacked by its head; strike at its middle, and you will

of the military principle of adaptation to

THE ART OF WAR, 17

III Attach by Stratagem

THE ART OF WAR, 64

XI The Nine Situations

29. The skillful tactician may be likened to the shuai-jan. Now the shuai-jan is a snake that is found in the ChUng mountains. Strike at its head, and you will be attacked by its tail; princes. This is simply bringing anarchy into the army, and flinging victory away.

 Thus we may know that there are five essentials for victory:

> Asked if an army can be made to imitate the shuai-jan, I should answer, Yes. For the men of Wu and the men of Yueh are enemies; yet and are caught by a storm, they will come to

be attacked by head and tail both.

if they are crossing a river in the same boat each other's assistance just as the left hand the tethering of horses, and the burying of 32. The principle on which to manage an army is to set up one standard of courage which

a) He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight.

b) He will win who knows how to handle both superior and inferior forces.

c) He will win whose army is animated by

31. Hence it is not enough to put one's trust in

helps the right.

chariot wheels in the ground

the same spirit throughout all its ranks. d) He will win who, prepared himself,

waits to take the enemy unprepared.

e) He will win who has military capac-

ity and is not interfered with by the

<u>8</u>

33. How to make the best of both strong and weak-that is a question involving the proper 34. Thus the skillful general conducts his army just as though he were leading a single man,

all must reach. use of ground. willy-nilly, by the hand.

know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but Hence the saying: If you know the enemy and not the enemy, for every victory gained you

 In battle, there are not more than two methendless series of maneuvers yet these two in combination give rise to an ods of attack-the direct and the indirect; ever be tasted.

30. Hence the experienced soldier, once in mo-

towards victory.

practicable, we have still gone only halfway the nature of the ground makes fighting imcondition to attack, but are unaware that tack, and also know that our men are in a

tion, is never bewildered; once he has broken

camp, he is never at a loss

19. Let your plans be dark and impenetrable 18. In raiding and plundering be like fire, is imthunderbolt as night, and when you move, fall like a movability like a mountain.

17. Let your rapidity be that of the wind, your

9.

can ever been seen.

combination they produce more hues than (blue, yellow, red, white, and black), yet in to more melodies than can ever be heard. yet the combinations of these five give rise

There are not more than five cardinal tastes

29. If we know that the enemy is open to at-

nallway towards victory.

in a condition to attack, we have gone only but are unaware that our own men are not

nations of them yield more flavors than can (sour, acrid, salt, sweet, bitter), yet combi-

compactness that of the forest.

16. Whether to concentrate or to divide your

troops, must be decided by circumstances.

If you are anxious to fight, you should not go to meet the invader near a river which he the army get across, and then deliver your it in mid-stream. It will be best to let half its onward march, do not advance to meet

nas to cross

When an invading force crosses a river in

After crossing a river, you should get far

away from it mountain warfare. Camp in high places, facing the sun. Do not

climb heights in order to fight. So much for

15.

In war, practice dissimulation, and you will

14. We shall be unable to turn natural advantage

There are not more than five musical notes,

If we know that our own men are in a con-

pose.

dren; they are useless for any practical pur pable, moreover, of quelling disorder: then make your authority felt; kind-hearted, but and they will stand by you even unto death

your soldiers must be likened to spoilt chilunable to enforce your commands; and inca-

the four seasons, they pass away to return and moon, they end but to begin anew; like the flow of rivers and streams; like the sun haustible as Heaven and Earth, unending as will be needed in order to secure victory. used for joining battle, but indirect methods

There are not more than five primary colors

28.

If we know that the enemy is open to attack only halfway towards victory. enemy is not open to attack, we have gone dition to attack, but are unaware that the

to account unless we make use of local guides and precipices, its marshes and swamps. country-its mountains and forests, its pitfalls

1. Sun Tzu said: We come now to the question

The Army on the March

We cannot enter into alliances until we are

Indirect tactics, efficiently applied, are mex-

If, however, you are indulgent, but unable to

look upon them as your own beloved sons

The Art of War, 57

In all fighting, the direct method may be

it is lost; without bases of supply it is lost

its baggage-train is lost; without provisions

We are not fit to lead an army on the march

unless we are familiar with the face of the acquainted with the designs of our neighbors We may take it then that an army without

of encamping the army, and observing signs of the enemy. Pass quickly over mountains,

and keep in the neighborhood of valleys.

enables the wise sovereign and gas beyond the reach of ordinary knowledge. reknowledge cannot be elicited s; it cannot be obtained induces perfence, nor by any deductive of the enemy's dispositions can ained from other men. use of spies, of whom there are spies; spi	IX The Army on the March	6. Moor your craft higher up and facing the sun. Do not to meet the enemy. So m
Laying Plans 1 1. Sun Tau said: The art of war is of vital importance to the State. 2. It is a matter of life and death, a road either to safety or to ruin. Hence it is a subject of inquiry which can on no account be neglected. 3. The art of war, then, is governed by five constant factors, to be taken into account in one's deliberations, when seeking to determine the conditions obtaining in the field. 4. These are: a) The Moral Law; b) Heaven; c) Earth; d) The Commander;	VII Maneuvering The Art of War, 36	Maneuvering with an army is advantageous; with an undisciplined multitude, most dan- gerous.
9. If equally matched, we can offer battle; if slightly inferior in numbers, we can avoid the enemy; if quite unequal in every way, we can fee from him. 10. Hence, though an obstinate fight may be made by a small force, in the end it must be engutured by the largue force. 11. Now the general is the bulwark of the State; if the bulwark is complete at all points; the State will be strong; if the bulwark is defective, the State will be weak. 12. There are three ways in which a ruler can bring misfortune upon his army. 13. (1) By commanding the army to advance or to retreat, being ignorant of the fact that it cannot obey. This is called hobbling the army. 14. (2) By attempting to govern an army in the same way as he administers a kingdom, being ignorant of the conditions which obtain in an army. This causes restlessness in the soldier's minds. 15. (3) By employing the officers of his army without discrimination, through ignorance	V Energy The Air of Waii, 25	11. The direct and the indirect lead on to each other in turn. It is like moving in a circle-you never come to an end. Who can exhaust
35. It is the business of a general to be quiet and thus ensure secrecy; upright and just, and thus maintain order. 36. He must be able to mystify his officers and men by false reports and appearances, and thus keep them in total ignorance. 37. By altering his arrangements and changing his plans, he keeps the enemy without definite knowledge. By shifting his camp and taking circuitous routes, he prevents the enemy from anticipating his purpose. 38. At the critical moment, the leader of an army acts like one who has climbed up a height and then kicks away the ladder behind him. He certries his men deep into hostile territory before he shows his hand. 39. He burns his boats and breaks his cooking-pots; like a shepherd driving a flock of sheep, he drives his men this way and that, and nothing knows whither he is going. 40. To muster his host and bring it into danger—this may be termed the business of the general.	X Terrain THE ART OF WAR, 56	20. These are six ways of courting defeat, which must be carefully noted by the general who has attained a responsible post.

THE ART OF WAR, 45 up than the enemy, not move up-stream much for river war-

XIII The Use of Spie

Thus, what e

victory.

ŗ

men, is forek achieve things the good gen

tively from ex

Hence the us Knowledge o

five classes:

a) Local sp

only be obtain calculation. from spirits; Now this for

When these fi

e) survivin d) doomed c) converte b) inward s

none can disc

It is the sove called "divine In crossing salt-marshes, vour sole concern

6. If you set a fully equipped army in march in order to snatch an advantage, the chances are that you will be too late. On the other

The onset of troops is like the rush of a

the possibilities of their combination?

21. The natural formation of the country is the soldier's best ally; but a power of estimating the adversary, of controlling the forces of vic-

tory, and of shrewdly calculating difficulties, dangers and distances, constitutes the test

torrent which will even roll stones along in The quality of decision is like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike

its course.

hand, to detach a flying column for the pur-

pose involves the sacrifice of its baggage and

7. Thus, if you order your men to roll up their halting day or night, covering double the LI in order to wrest an advantage, the leaders

buff-coats, and make forced marches without usual distance at a stretch, doing a hundred of all your three divisions will fall into the ones will fall behind, and on this plan only

> Therefore the good fighter will be terrible in Energy may be likened to the bending of a crossbow; decision, to the releasing of a

and destroy its victim.

puts his knowledge into practice, will win

his battles. He who knows them not, nor

practices them, will surely be defeated.

23. If fighting is sure to result in victory, then it; if fighting will not result in victory, then you must not fight even at the ruler's bidding. 24. The general who advances without coveting fame and retreats without fearing disgrace,

you must fight, even though the ruler forbid

22. He who knows these things, and in fighting

of a great general.

his onset, and prompt in his decision.

should be to get over them quickly, without

If forced to fight in a salt-marsh, you should have water and grass near you, and get your back to a clump of trees. So much for opera-In dry, level country, take up an easily accessible position with rising ground to your right and on your rear, so that the danger may be in front, and safety lie behind. So These are the four useful branches of military knowledge which enabled the Yellow Emperor to vanquish four several sovereigns. All armies prefer high ground to low and

tions in salt-marches.

much for campaigning in flat country.

one-tenth of your army will reach its desti-

nation.

Amid the turmoil and tumult of battle, there may be seeming disorder and yet no real disorder at all; amid confusion and chaos, your array may be without head or tail, yet

9. If you march fifty LI in order to outmaneuver

the enemy, you will lose the leader of your first division, and only half your force will If you march thirty LI with the same object,

reach the goal

Simulated disorder postulates perfect discipline, simulated fear postulates courage;

5

 Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys;

iewel of the kingdom.

whose only thought is to protect his country and do good service for his sovereign, is the

it will be proof against defeat.

simulated weakness postulates strength.

two-thirds of your army will arrive.

The stronger men will be in front, the jaded

hands of the enemy.

12. If you are careful of your men, and camp on hard ground, the army will be free from dis-ease of every kind, and this will spell victory.

sunny places to dark.

When he utilizes combined energy, his fight. round-shaped, to go rolling down. four-cornered, to come to a standstill, but if ground, and to move when on a slope; log or stone to remain motionless on level logs or stones. For it is the nature of a ing men become as it were like unto rolling pick out the right men and utilize combined

When a general, unable to estimate the en-

emy's strength, allows an inferior force to

formed in a slovenly haphazard manner, the signed to officers and men, and the ranks are distinct; when there are no fixes duties as-

result is utter disorganization.

place picked soldiers in the front rank, ment against a powerful one, and neglects to engage a larger one, or hurls a weak detach-

result must be rout

18. When the general is weak and without au-

thority; when his orders are not clear and

can tell whether or not he is in a position to resentment, before the commander-in-chief battle on their own account from a feeling of subordinate, and on meeting the enemy give

fight, the result is ruin.

21. The clever combatant looks to the effect of combined energy, and does not require too much from individuals. Hence his ability to lies in wait for him. march; then with a body of picked men he

After that, comes tactical maneuvering, than in turning the devious into the direct, and difficulty of tactical maneuvering consists which there is nothing more difficult. The

different elements thereof before pitching his his forces, he must blend and harmonize the

Having collected an army and concentrated

20.

snatch at it.

sacrifices something, that the enemy may according to which the enemy will act. He on the move maintains deceitful appearances

17. When the higher officers are angry and in-

the result is collapse.

strong and the common soldiers too weak subordination. When the officers are too and their officers too weak, the result is inresult will be the flight of the former.

By holding out baits, he keeps him on the

1. Sun Tzu said: In war, the general receives

Thus one who is skillful at keeping the enemy

dispositions

Maneuvering

his commands from the sovereign

сащр.

after enticing the enemy out of the way, and

 Thus, to take a long and circuitous route misfortune into gain

of the artifice of DEVIATION though starting after him, to contrive to reach the goal before him, shows knowledge

17. If in the neighborhood of your camp there

ponds

emy have them on his rear.

men in ambush or insidious spies are likely out and searched; for these are places where surrounded by aquatic grass, hollow basins filled with reeds, or woods with thick

undergrowth, they must be carefully routed should be any hilly country, 16.

While we keep away from such places, we

all possible speed and not approached. quagmires and crevasses, should be left with

should get the enemy to approach them;

while we face them, we should let the en-

į.

Country in which there are precipitous cliffs

hollows, confined places, tangled thickets with torrents running between, deep natural 14. When, in consequence of heavy rains up-

advantages of the ground

efit of your soldiers and utilize the natural rear. Thus you will at once act for the benthe sunny side, with the slope on your right

swollen and flecked with foam, you must wait country, a river which you wish to ford is

until it subsides.

IX The Army on the March

THE ART OF WAR, 46

V Energy

The Art of War, 26

X Terrain

The Art of War, 55

Hiding order beneath the cloak of disorder

courage under a show of timidity presupposes simply a question of subdivision; concealing

with weakness is to be effected by tactical a fund of latent energy; masking strength

16. When the common soldiers are too strong

15. Other conditions being equal, if one force is

hurled against another ten times its size, the

3.

When you come to a hill or a bank, occupy

5,6. The Moral Law causes the people to be in complete accord with their ruler, so that they will follow him regardless of their lives, e) Method and discipline.

 Heaven signifies night and day, cold and heat, times and seasons.

undismayed by any danger.

Earth comprises distances, great and small;

danger and security; open ground and narrow passes; the chances of life and death.

The Commander stands for the virtues of wisdom, sincerely, benevolence, courage and

strictness.

 By method and discipline are to be understood the marshaling of the army in its proper subdivisions, the graduations of rank among the officers, the maintenance of

roads by which supplies may reach the army, and the control of military expenditure.

general: he who knows them will be victori-These five heads should be familiar to every

Sun Tzu said: Raising a host of a hundred thousand men and marching them great distances entails heavy loss on the people and a drain on the resources of the State. The daily expenditure will amount to a thousand ounces of silver. There will be commotion at

home and abroad, and men will drop down exhausted on the highways. As many as seven hundred thousand families will be im-Hostile armies may face each other for years, striving for the victory which is decided in This being so, to remain in gnorance of the enemy's condition simply because one grudges the outlay of a hundred

peded in their labor.

a single day.

The Use of Spies

THE ART OF WAR, 6

THE ART OF WAR, 15

III Attach by Stratagem

THE ART OF WAR, 66

XI The Nine Situations

41. The different measures suited to the nine varieties of ground; the expediency of aggres-

sive or defensive tactics; and the fundamental laws of human nature: these are things that

tion of mantlets, movable shelters, and various implements of war, will take up three

I Laying Plans

whole months; and the piling up of mounds over against the walls will take three months The general, unable to control his irritation,

When invading hostile territory, the general

must most certainly be studied.

principle is, that penetrating deeply brings cohesion; penetrating but a short way means When you leave your own country behind, and take your army across neighborhood ter-When there are means of communication on

dispersion.

ritory, you find yourself on critical ground. all four sides, the ground is one of intersect-

will launch his men to the assault like swarming ants, with the result that one-third of his men are slain, while the town still remains untaken. Such are the disastrous effects of a Therefore the skillful leader subdues the en-

emy's troops without any fighting; he captures their cities without laying siege to them; he overthrows their kingdom without lengthy operations in the field.

> 44. When you penetrate deeply into a country, it is serious ground. When you penetrate

ing highways.

your rear, and narrow passes in front, it is hemmed-in ground. When there is no place

of refuge at all, it is desperate ground.

 Therefore, on dispersive ground, I would inspire my men with unity of purpose. On

45. When you have the enemy's strongholds on

but a little way, it is facile ground.

losing a man, his triumph will be complete. This is the method of attacking by stratagem. 8. It is the rule in war, if our forces are ten to With his forces intact he will dispute the mastery of the Empire, and thus, without

the enemy's one, to surround him; if five to one, to attack him; if twice as numerous, to

divide our army into two.

ous; he who knows them not will fail.

ounces of silver in honors and emoluments, Therefore, in your deliberations, when seeking to determine the military conditions, let

One who acts thus is no leader of men, no present help to his sovereign, no master of is the height of inhumanity.

4. The rule is, not to besiege walled cities if Thus the highest form of generalship is to Hence to fight and conquer in all your battles it can possibly be avoided. country whole and intact; to shatter and the best thing of all is to take the enemy's is to besiege walled cities. army in the field; and the worst policy of all the next in order is to attack the enemy's prevent the junction of the enemy's forces; balk the enemy's plans; the next best is to without fighting. consists in breaking the enemy's resistance is not supreme excellence; supreme excellence company entire than to destroy them. 1t, to capture a regiment, a detachment or a to recapture an army entire than to destroy destroy it is not so good. So, too, it is better The prepara-

51. For it is the soldier's disposition to offer

an obstinate resistance when surrounded, to

saving their lives.

On hemmed-in ground, I would block any

way of retreat. On desperate ground, I would

proclaim to my soldiers the hopelessness of

49. On serious ground, I would try to ensure a On open ground, I would keep a vigilant eye on my defenses. On ground of intersecting 47. On contentious ground, I would hurry up my

ground, I would keep pushing on along the continuous stream of supplies. On difficult highways, I would consolidate my alliances

We cannot enter into alliance with neighbor-

danger.

to obey promptly when he has fallen into fight hard when he cannot help himself, and

ing princes until we are acquainted with their designs. We are not fit to lead an army on

the march unless we are familiar with the

 The general that hearkens to my counsel By means of these seven considerations I can

forecast victory or defeat

g) In which army is there the greater conf) On which side are officers and men more e) Which army is stronger?

nighty trained.

stancy both in reward and punishment?

upon it, will suffer defeat:-let such a one be that hearkens not to my counsel nor acts one be retained in command! The general and acts upon it, will conquer: let such a

 Sun Tzu said: In the practical art of war, Attack by Stratagem

d) On which side is discipline most rigor.

from Heaven and Earth?

ously enforced?

c) With whom lie the advantages derived b) Which of the two generals has mos

this wise: a) Which of the two sovereigns is imbued with the Moral law?

them be made the basis of a comparison, in

13.

The Art of War, 7

THE ART OF WAR, 34 Laying Plans

THE ART OF WAR, 47

IX The Army on the March

XII The Attach by Fire

The Art of War, 74

20.

Anger may in time change to gladness; vexa-

tion may be succeeded by content.

22.

Hence the enlightened ruler is heedful, and

way to keep a country at peace and an army the good general full of caution. This is the dead ever be brought back to life. But a kingdom that has once been destroyed

can never come again into being; nor can the

VI Weak Points and Strong

the four seasons make way for each other in earth) are not always equally predominant; turn. There are short days and long; the moon has its periods of waning and waxing. The five elements (water, fire, wood, metal.

he is tendering a bait.

 If his place of encampment is easy of access, shows that the enemy is advancing. The appearance of a number of screens in the midst of thick grass means that the enemy Movement amongst the trees of a forest wants to make us suspicious.

 The rising of birds in their flight is the sign that a sudden attack is coming.

of an ambuscade. Startled beasts indicate When there is dust rising in a high column, it is the sign of chariots advancing; when the

dust is low, but spread over a wide area, it

betokens the approach of infantry. When it branches out in different directions, it shows that parties have been sent to collect firewood. A few clouds of dust moving to and

fro signify that the army is encamping.

When the enemy is close at hand and remains quiet, he is relying on the natural strength of his position.

advance.

When he keeps aloof and tries to provoke a battle, he is anxious for the other side to

Earth. The general who has attained a re-14. Now an army is exposed to six several calamifrom faults for which the general is responsi-

ble. These are:

b) insubordination;

a) Flight;

c) collapse;

d) ruin: f) rout.

e) disorganization;

ties, not arising from natural causes, but

13. These six are the principles connected with sponsible post must be careful to study them.

and fighting will be to your disadvantage.

THE ART OF WAR, 27

V Energy

THE ART OF WAR, 54

X Terrain

XI The Nine Situations

The Art of War, 67

connection between all parts of my army.

facile ground, I would see that there is close

occupy the raised and sunny spots, and there

wait for him to come up.

do not follow him, but retreat and try to If you are situated at a great distance from

entice him away.

12

the enemy, and the strength of the two armies is equal, it is not easy to provoke a battle,

If the enemy has occupied them before you,

rolled down a mountain thousands of feet in 23. Thus the energy developed by good fighting men is as the momentum of a round stone height. So much on the subject of energy.

 In war, then, let your great object be victory, THE ART OF WAR, 13 advantage from defeating the enemy, they 15. Therefore in chariot fighting, when ten or more chariots have been taken, those should be rewarded who took the first. Our own flags should be substituted for those of the enemy, and the chariots mingled and used in conjunction with ours. The captured soldiers This is called, using the conquered foe to If the enemy is taking his ease, he can harass By holding out advantages to him, he can Therefore the clever combatant imposes his 1. Sun Tzu said: Whoever is first in the field cord; or, by inflicting damage, he can make enemy's will to be imposed on him him to move him out; if quietly encamped, he can force him; if well supplied with food, he can starve it impossible for the enemy to draw near. cause the enemy to approach of his own acwill on the enemy, but does not allow the exhausted. field and has to hasten to battle will arrive fresh for the fight; whoever is second in the and awaits the coming of the enemy, will be Weak Points and Strong should be kindly treated and kept. augment one's own strength. must have their rewards. not lengthy campaigns. II Waging War state, his generalship shows itself in prevent-THE ART OF WAR, 68 face of the country-its mountains and forests, advantages to account unless we make use 53. To be ignored of any one of the following When a warlike prince attacks a powerful ing the concentration of the enemy's forces. X Terrain its pitfalls and precipices, its marshes and swamps. We shall be unable to turn natural four or five principles does not befit a warlike He overawes his opponents, and their allies With regard to precipitous heights, if you are beforehand with your adversary, you should Should the army forestall you in occupying When the position is such that neither side From a position of this sort, if the enemy is Ground which can be abandoned but is hard 8. With regard to narrow passes, if you can In a position of this sort, even though the enare prevented from joining against him. occupy them first, let them be strongly garwe may deliver our attack with advantage. to re-occupy is called entangling. fully garrisoned, but only if it is weakly gara pass, do not go after him if the pass is risoned and await the advent of the enemy. temporizing ground. will gain by making the first move, it is called return being impossible, disaster will ensue. coming, and you fail to defeat him, then him. But if the enemy is prepared for your unprepared, you may sally forth and defeat then, when part of his army has come out retreat, thus enticing the enemy in his turn be advisable not to stir forth, but rather to emy should offer us an attractive bait, it will

Do not repeat the tactics which have gained

regulated by the infinite variety of circumyou one victory, but let your methods be 27. All men can see the tactics whereby I con-

quer, but what none can see is the strategy

out of which victory is evolved

 Therefore, just as water retains no constant soldier works out his victory in relation to nature of the ground over which it flows; the

by drinking themselves, the army is suffering Water shapes its course according to the shape, so in warfare there are no constant the foe whom he is facing

If those who are sent to draw water begin When the soldiers stand leaning on their spears, they are faint from want of food.

If the enemy sees an advantage to be gained

33. He who can modify his tactics in relation to

his opponent and thereby succeed in winning, may be called a heaven-born captain.

nom thist.

and makes no effort to secure it, the soldiers

30. When some are seen advancing and some retreating, it is a lure.

29. 28.

ical moment has come.

soldiers fall into rank, it means that the crit-

 So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong Military tactics are like unto water; for water

in its natural course runs away from high

places and hastens downwards.

and to strike at what is weak.

When there is much running about and the

26.

Peace proposals unaccompanied by a sworn

that the enemy is forming for battle. take up a position on the wings, it is a sign

covenant indicate a plot.

25.

When the light chariots come out first and

to the attack are signs that he will retreat.

Violent language and driving forward as if are signs that the enemy is about to advance. IX The Army on the March

THE ART OF WAR, 48

VI Weak Points and Strong

The Art of War, 33

Humble words and increased preparations

26.

How victory may be produced for them out

of the enemy's own tactics-that is what the

multitude cannot comprehend.

THE ART OF WAR, 73

XII The Attach by Fire

THE ART OF WAR, 8

I Laying Plans

XI The Nine Situations

The Art of War, 53

of local guides.

prince.

While heading the profit of my counsel, avail yourself also of any helpful circumstances According as circumstances are favorable.

over and beyond the ordinary rules.

19. Hence, when able to attack, we must seem unable; when using our forces, we must seem inactive; when we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away; when far away, we must make him believe we are near. Hold out baits to entice the enemy. Feign 21. If he is secure at all points, be prepared for him. If he is in superior strength, evade him. to irritate him. Pretend to be weak, that he

 All warfare is based on deception. one should modify one's plans.

 Hence those who use fire as an aid to the attack show intelligence; those who use water as an aid to the attack gain an accession of By means of water, an enemy may be intercepted, but not robbed of all his belongings. Unhappy is the fate of one who tries to win his battles and succeed in his attacks without cultivating the spirit of enterprise; for the result is waste of time and general stag-Hence the saying: The enlightened ruler lays his plans well ahead; the good general culti-Move not unless you see an advantage; use not your troops unless there is something to be gained; fight not unless the position is No ruler should put troops into the field merely to gratify his own spleen; no general If it is to your advantage, make a forward

should fight a battle simply out of pique.

Ξ

23. If he is taking his ease, give him no rest.

may grow arrogant.

his forces are united, separate them.

If your opponent is of choleric temper, seek

disorder, and crush him.

 Thus it may be known that the leader of armies is the arbiter of the people's fate, the man on whom it depends whether the nation

shall be in peace or in peril.

all and sundry, nor does he foster the power

Thus he is able to capture their cities and

overthrow their kingdoms.

55. Hence he does not strive to ally himself with of other states. He carries out his own secret designs, keeping his antagonists in awe. army as though you had to do with but a

Bestow rewards without regard to rule, issue orders without regard to previous arrangements; and you will be able to handle a whole

24. Attack him where he is unprepared, appear

where you are not expected.

vates his resources.

move; if not, stay where you are.

27.

14. Now in order to kill the enemy, our men enemy's provisions is equivalent to twenty of provender is equivalent to twenty from one's one's own, and likewise a single picul of his aging on the enemy. One cartload of the Be stern in the council-chamber, so that you On the day that you take up your command tallies, and stop the passage of all emissaries by sheer cunning. block the frontier passes, destroy the official

may control the situation

62.

This is called ability to accomplish a thing

the commander-in-chief.

By persistently hanging on the enemy's flank

we shall succeed in the long run in killing

must be roused to anger; that there may be

own store.

12.

In every army, the five developments con-

nected with fire must be known, the move-

ments of the stars calculated, and a watch

kept for the proper days

 A wind that rises in the daytime lasts long (5) When you start a fire, be to windward

but a night breeze soon falls.

of it. Do not attack from the leeward.

vorable moment

out within, but deliver your attack at a fa-

fire from without, do not wait for it to break

(4) If it is possible to make an assault with

is practicable; if not, stay where you are. its height, follow it up with an attack, if that (2) If there is an outbreak of fire, but the

enemy's soldiers remain quiet, bide your time

and do not attack.

(3) When the force of the flames has reached

point that I can foresee who is likely to win calculation at all! It is by attention to this calculations to deteat: how much more no do many calculations lead to victory, and few many calculations in his temple ere the battle

makes but few calculations beforehand. Thus is fought. The general who loses a battle (1) When fire breaks out inside to enemy's

26. 25. Laying Plans

These military devices, leading to victory Now the general who wins a battle makes

The Art of War, 9

must not be divulged beforehand.

camp, respond at once with an attack from to meet five possible developments:

In attacking with fire, one should be prepared

 Hence a wise general makes a point of foramount to four-tenths of its total revenue. tles, draught-oxen and heavy wagons, will arrows, spears and shields, protective man-

horses, breast-plates and helmets, bows and ment expenses for broken chariots, worn-out their income will be dissipated; while governple will be stripped bare, and three-tenths of haustion of strength, the homes of the peo-

60.

for victory.

Success in warfare is gained by carefully ac-

commodating ourselves to the enemy's pur-

59.

For it is precisely when a force has fallen into

harm's way that is capable of striking a blow

it will come off in safety.

58 .

Place your army in deadly peril, and it will

survive; plunge it into desperate straits, and

 On the other hand, the proximity of an army causes prices to go up; and high prices cause

When their substance is drained away, the

13,14. With this loss of substance and expeasantry will be afflicted by heavy exacthe people's substance to be drained away. impoverished.

army at a distance causes the people to be

XI The Nine Situations

The Art of War, 69

Confront your soldiers with the deed itself

outlook is bright, bring it before their eyes never let them know your design. When the

but tell them nothing when the situation

Appear at points which the enemy must has-II Waging War THE ART OF WAR, 29 ten to defend; march swiftly to places where VI Weak Points and Strong The Art of War, 12

THE ART OF WAR, 32

VI Weak Points and Strong

You can be sure of succeeding in your at-

6. An army may march great distances without distress, if it marches through country where

the enemy is not.

1. Sun Tzu said: We may distinguish six kinds

of terrain, to wit:

Perrain

you are not expected.

tacks if you only attack places which are un-

defense if you only hold positions that cannot be attacked.

defended. You can ensure the safety of your

Hence that general is skillful in attack whose

opponent does not know what to defend; and he is skillful in defense whose opponent does O divine art of subtlety and secrecy! Through you we learn to be invisible, through you inaudible; and hence we can You may advance and be absolutely irresistible, if you make for the enemy's weak suit if your movements are more rapid than

not know what to attack.

f) positions at a great distance from the 2. Ground which can be freely traversed by With regard to ground of this nature, be before the enemy in occupying the raised and sunny spots, and carefully guard your

enemy.

 c) temporizing ground; e) precipitous heights;

d) narrow passes;

b) entangling ground; a) Accessible ground;

both sides is called accessible.

hold the enemy's fate in our hands.

9

of their success.

23. Rouse him, and learn the principle of his activity or inactivity. Force him to reveal himself, so as to find out his vulnerable spots. 24. Carefully compare the opposing army with your own, so that you may know where strength is superabundant and where it is In making tactical dispositions, the highest from the prying of the subtlest spies, from

 Though the enemy be stronger in numbers. we may prevent him from fighting. Scheme so as to discover his plans and the likelihood

can be achieved.

men do not hang their cooking-pots over the camp-fires, showing that they will not return to their tents, you may know that they are

determined to fight to the death.

 If birds gather on any spot, it is unoccupied. If there is disturbance in the camp, the gen-Clamor by night betokens nervousness. IX The Army on the March

THE ART OF WAR, 49

XII The Attach by Fire

The Art of War, 72

eral's authority is weak. If the banners and flags are shifted about, sedition is afoot. If the officers are angry, it means that the men 34. When an army feeds its horses with grain

and kills its cattle for food, and when the

35. The sight of men whispering together in small knots or speaking in subdued tones points to disaffection amongst the rank and

Too frequent rewards signify that the enemy

is at the end of his resources; too many punishments betray a condition of dire distress. 37. To begin by bluster, but afterwards to take fright at the enemy's numbers, shows a supreme lack of intelligence.

36.

pitch you can attain is to conceal them; con-ceal your dispositions, and you will be safe

points; you may retire and be safe from pur-

line of supplies. Then you will be able to

fight with advantage.

the machinations of the wisest brains.

Though according to my estimate the sol-diers of Yueh exceed our own in number,

that shall advantage them nothing in the

matter of victory. I say then that victory

even the nearest are separated by several LI!

are anything under a hundred LI apart, and

 And if we are able thus to attack an inferior there will be a whole pitted against separate force with a superior one, our opponents will be many to the enemy's few. parts of a whole, which means that we shall enemy must split up into fractions. Hence

16. The spot where we intend to fight must not

be in dire straits.

be made known; for then the enemy will

remaining invisible ourselves, we can keep must be divided. our forces concentrated, while the enemy's

We can form a single united body, while the

 By discovering the enemy's dispositions and If we do not wish to fight, we can prevent his way. throw something odd and unaccountable in out on the ground. All we need do is to lines of our encampment be merely traced the enemy from engaging us even though the he will be obliged to relieve.

If a general shows confidence in his men but

always insists on his orders being obeyed

the gain will be mutual

44. If in training soldiers commands a certain road to victory.

control by means of iron discipline. This is

well-disciplined; if not, its discipline will be habitually enforced, the army will

be

17. For should the enemy strengthen his van, he

given point will be proportionately few. being thus distributed in many directions at several different points; and his forces

the numbers we shall have to face at any have to prepare against a possible attacl

 If we wish to fight, the enemy can be forced to we need do is attack some other place that behind a high rampart and a deep ditch. All an engagement even though he be sheltered

VI Weak Points and Strong The Art of War, 30

IX The Army on the March

THE ART OF WAR, 51

Thus, though we have heard of stupid haste in war, cleverness has never been seen asso-

to avert the consequences that must ensue.

There is no instance of a country having ciated with long delays.

benefited from prolonged warfare.

7. It is only one who is thoroughly acquainted

with the evils of war that can thoroughly understand the profitable way of carrying it

the enemy to oppose you.

8. The skillful soldier does not raise a second levy, neither are his supply-wagons loaded

forage on the enemy. Thus the army will Bring war material with you from home, but more than twice.

 But if neither time nor place be known, ther or the rear to support the van. How much the left, the van unable to relieve the rear greatest distances in order to fight. right, the right equally impotent to succor the left wing will be impotent to succor the

Knowing the place and the time of the com-

ing battle, we may concentrate from the make these preparations against us. strength, from compelling our adversary to Numerical weakness comes from having to

where, he will everywhere be weak his left. If he sends reinforcements everyshould he strengthen his right, he will weaken strengthen his left, he will weaken his right: his rear, he will weaken his van; should he will weaken his rear; should he strengthen

prepare against possible attacks; numerical

more so if the furthest portions of the army

43. Therefore soldiers must be treated in the

first instance with humanity, but kept under

are not enforced, they will still be useless.

have become attached to you, punishments

 He who exercises no forethought but makes If soldiers are punished before they have our available strength, keep a close watch on be practically useless. If, when the soldiers submissive; and, unless submissive, then will grown attached to you, they will not prove light of his opponents is sure to be captured the enemy, and obtain reinforcements.

42.

40. 39. If our troops are no more in number than If the enemy's troops march up angrily and What we can do is simply to concentrate all off again, the situation is one that demands wishes for a truce. means that no direct attack can be made. the enemy, that is amply sufficient; it only great vigilance and circumspection. either joining battle or taking themselves remain facing ours for a long time without

ö When envoys are sent with compliments in their mouths, it is a sign that the enemy

IX The Army on the March THE ART OF WAR, 50

> VI Weak Points and Strong THE ART OF WAR, 31

THE ART OF WAR, 11

II Waging War

THE ART OF WAR, 70

XI The Nine Situations

65. If the enemy leaves a door open, you must 66. Forestall your opponent by seizing what he

rush in.

Walk in the path defined by rule, and accommodate yourself to the enemy until you can At first, then, exhibit the coyness of a until the enemy gives you an opening; afterwards emulate the rapidity of a running hare, and it will be too late for

fight a decisive battle.

maiden,

holds dear, and subtly contrive to time his

arrival on the ground.

ardor damped, your strength exhausted and your treasure spent, other chieftains will spring up to take advantage of your extremity. Then no man, however wise, will be able

Now, when your weapons are dulled, your

1. Sun Tzu said: In the operations of war, Waging War

Sun Tzu said: There are five ways of attacking with fire. The first is to burn soldiers in their camp; the second is to burn stores; the third is to burn baggage trains; the fourth is to burn arsenals and magazines; the fifth is 2. In order to carry out an attack, we must have means available. The material for raising fire

The Attach by Fire

to hurl dropping fire amongst the enemy.

chariots, as many heavy chariots, and a hundred thousand mail-clad soldiers, with prothe expenditure at home and at the front, including entertainment of guests, small items such as glue and paint, and sums spent on chariots and armor, will reach the total of a where there are in the field a thousand swift visions enough to carry them a thousand li,

thousand ounces of silver per day. Such is When you engage in actual fighting, if victory the cost of raising an army of 100,000 men.

is long in coming, then men's weapons will grow dull and their ardor will be damped. If you lay siege to a town, you will exhaust

flagration.

should always be kept in readiness.

There is a proper season for making attacks with fire, and special days for starting a con-

 The proper season is when the weather is very dry; the special days are those when the

moon is in the constellations of the Sieve, the Wall, the Wing or the Cross-bar; for these

3. Again, if the campaign is protracted, the resources of the State will not be equal to

the strain.

army to be maintained by contributions from

 Poverty of the State exchequer causes an a distance. Contributing to maintain an

have food enough for its needs.

your strength.

four are all days of rising wind.