



CHINA'S MILITARY STRATEGY: The Art of War Today



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FOREIGN NEWS & PERSPECTIVES OF THE OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Special Essay: China's New Defense White Paper: The Diversified Employment of China's Armed Forces: Have We Really Learned Anything?

Vol. 3 Issue #7 July 2013
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SPECIAL ESSAY:
Strategic Landpower: The View from China

Vol. 4 Issue #1 March 2014

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Strategic Landpower: The View from China

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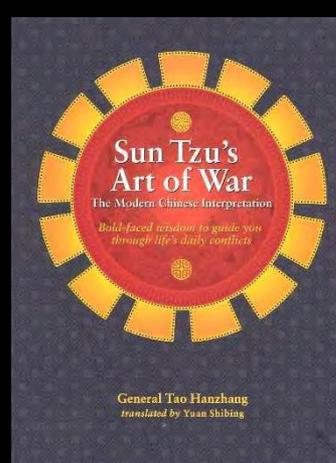
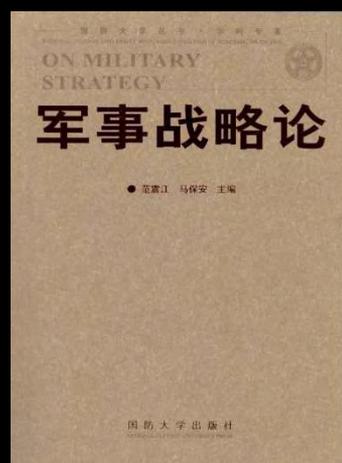
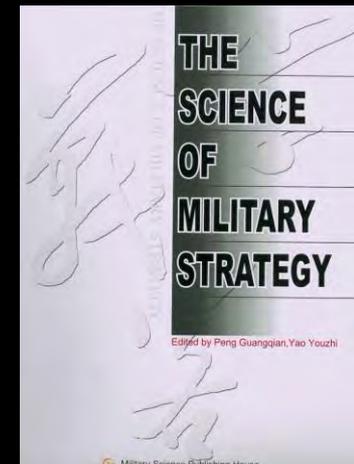
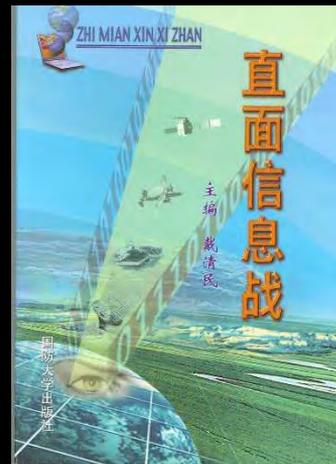
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Ingredients for this Strategic Focus



CHINA

Military Strategy:
Basic Concepts and Examples of its Use



Timothy L. Thomas 

Foreign Military Studies Office, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

Chinese Strategy: What I Found of Importance

- Planning and guidance; analytical judgement
- Objective-subjective thought process
- Gain a strategic advantage
- Use of stratagems
- Essence of strategy

ASIA-PACIFIC

China's Concept of Military Strategy

Timothy L. Thomas

ABSTRACT: China's concept of military strategy is very different from that of the United States. This article examines the various components of the strategic thought of the People's Liberation Army and how its theory of strategy can be applied in contemporary times. Among other things, the article offers US analysts a template for understanding Chinese strategy.

There is an American joke that perfectly explains what Mao referred to as the "essence" of Chinese military strategy:

"Vinnie is an idiot. His father wants to tell him he wishes Vinnie was home now to dig up the toxicity grades. Vinnie waves back sort to do that, says that it wishes he loved the bodies. The next day the FBI dig up the ground and finds no bodies. A day later Vinnie waves, 'wishes the circumstances. Dad, that was the best I could do.'"

Yet very few Americans would recognize in this joke a connection to Chinese military strategy, since the United States view of strategy is so different. Vinnie made someone (the FBI) do something for the agency (look for the bodies) that they were actually doing for someone else (Vinnie and his dad). To get someone to do something for himself that he thinks is in his own interests, but which is actually in your interests, is the essence of strategy, according to Mao.

The United States Armed Forces, according to *Joint Publication 1-02, Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*, defines strategy as "a prudent idea or set of ideas for employing the instruments of national power in a synchronized and integrated fashion to achieve theater, national, and/or multinational objectives."¹ This definition is more limited than potential (the ideas having been generated) and it envisions employing power as the means to achieve an objective. The definition restricts itself to the use of diplomacy, information, military, and economic means as the employment preference.

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China appears to define strategy more broadly and analytically than the US military. The PLA definition has several components as part of its comprehensive nature. While the official definition has changed little over the past twenty years, internal discussions have unfolded about information-age strategy. As a result, Chinese strategy is now a mix of the old and new and, from this author's vantage point, includes the following:

1. Official definitions highlighting Chinese strategy's comprehensive

¹ US Joint Chiefs of Staff, *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*, Joint Publication 1-02 (Washington, DC: US Joint Chiefs of Staff, is amended through January 30, 2011), 200.

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PLA Encyclopedia on Strategy

- **Military strategy is defined as consisting of planning and guidance for the situation of military struggles as a whole. It is the analytical judgment of such factors as international conditions, hostilities in bilateral politics, military economics, science and technology, and geography as they apply to the preparation and direction of the overall military/war plan. (Chinese—1997 Chinese Military Encyclopedia)**



首届国家期刊奖
全国优秀社会科学期刊
全国百种重点社科期刊
军事学重点学术期刊



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2000

中国军事科学学会
中国人民解放军军事科学院
SPONSORED BY ACADEMY OF MILI-
TARY SCIENCE OF CHINESE PEOP-
LE'S LIBERATION ARMY AND CHI-
NA MILITARY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

War Engineering,
Issue 3, 2007 in
Zhongguo Junshi
Kexue

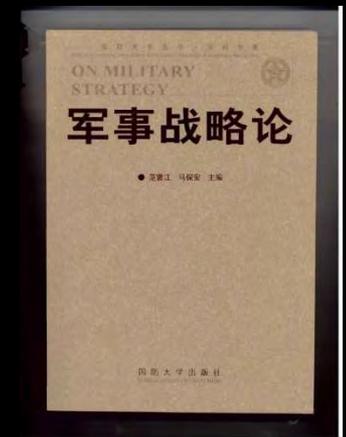
A method of systems engineering that studies, designs, tests, controls, and evaluates war systems based on information technology.

Planning and guidance?

Hu Xiaofeng (cont.)

- **War engineering takes all of war space and time into consideration as well as politics, military affairs, economics, and diplomacy to obtain the best results overall. Regardless of the situation, one must achieve effective control of war systems to gain real-time control of the course of operations.**
- **The path to victory depends on making innovations, which means creating asymmetries in the shape of warfare, methods of operations, and in war methods and training methods. Only then is war control possible.**

Objective-subjective



- **Fan and Ma then state categorically that “The relationship between the strategic environment and military strategy is a relationship between objective reality and subjective guidance. Properly understanding and analyzing the strategic environment is the prerequisite for properly formulating and implementing military strategy.”**

Lectures on the Science of Information Operations, 2013

- Editor, Ye Zheng; photo from CIRS's Report "Termite Electron"

Undated Photo of Ye Zheng, Most Likely From 2007

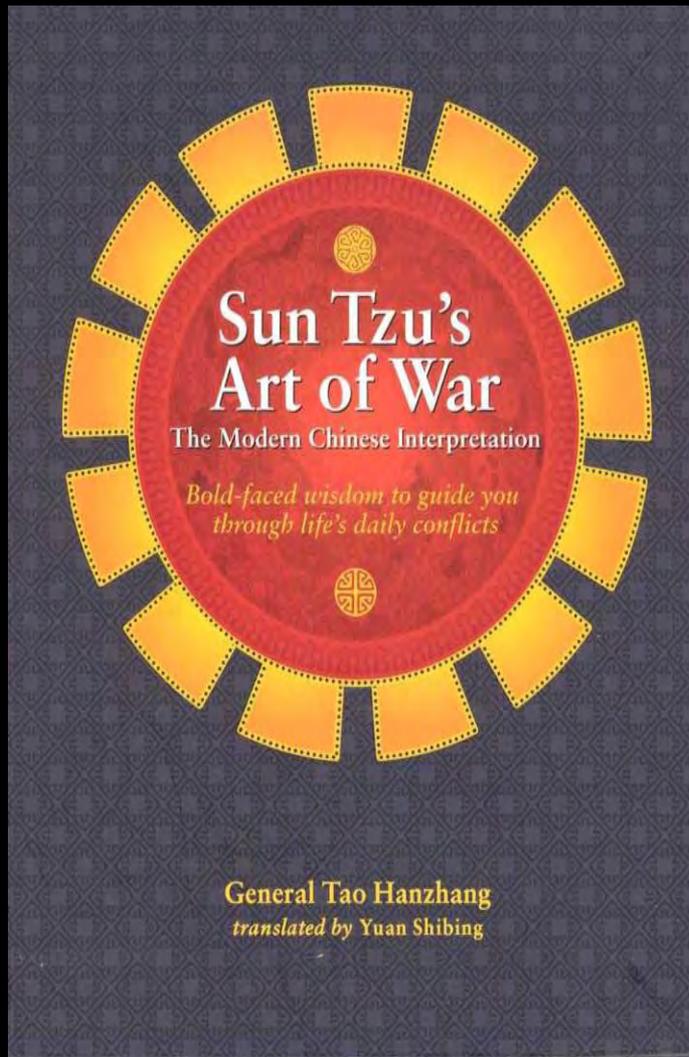


Chapter Six, Decision-Making

- **All correct strategic decision-making is the result of subjective understanding paired with objective reality.**
- **If one seeks to get to the truth of a complex and multifaceted external situation and develop a correct subjective understanding of objective reality...then one must perform penetrating fundamental analysis.**
- **Those who have won strategic victories have “led warfare on the basis of the changing objective circumstances, making their subjective leadership correspond ever more closely to objective reality.”**

“Shi”

Chapter Five of the Art of War



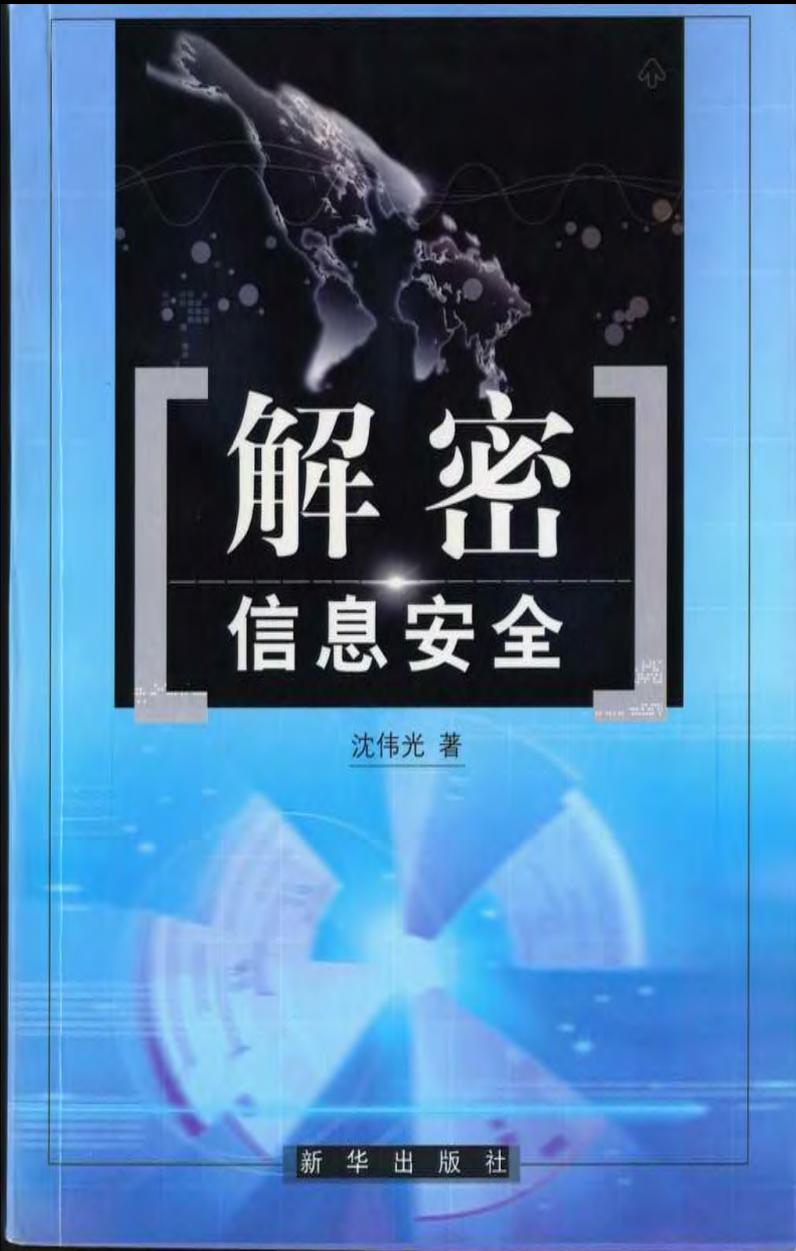
- **Tao Hanzhang, retired Chinese General: *Shi* is “the strategically advantageous posture before a battle that enables it to have a flexible, mobile, and changeable position during a campaign” (p. 124)**

Resources for Information Confrontation—2010

- **Stratagem's development must move from "unitary" to "complex" stratagems incorporating science and information devices**
- **Stratagem application must be designed by a special agency rather than a few masterminds. Stress will be on the systematic application of stratagems at multiple levels rather than on a single level**

Deciphering Information Security

- The issue of information and network security is an issue of technology, but above all else it is an issue of strategy.
- Technology determines tactics— or is it now strategy?

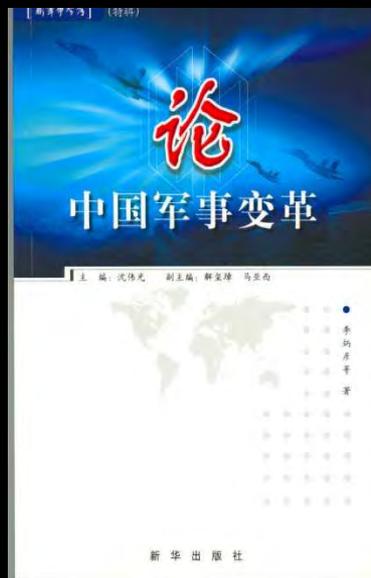


Stratagem Manipulation

- **The developer of a stratagem must do everything possible to control the enemy's method of intelligence analysis and processing.**
- **The goal of the Chinese process is to put the stratagem developer in sync with the enemy's "intelligence-judgment-decision" process and induce the enemy to make decisions as one would expect him to do.**
- **This should make all US personnel wonder just how much the Chinese study our intelligence cycle (planning, collecting, processing, analyzing, disseminating) for vulnerabilities or exploitation.**

Essence of Strategy

- **Make someone do something for themselves that they are actually doing for you; *Art of War*, Chapter Six**



Words Matter

- The importance of words and their meaning: hybrid vs cocktail war; strategic pivot; *shi*; strategy



Unrestricted Warfare

CHINA'S MASTER PLAN TO DESTROY AMERICA



By Col. Qian Liang and Col. Wang Xiangqun
People's Liberation Army
Strategic and Tactical Studies Department
Introduction by Al Sweigart

1999

*“cocktail warfare”
“new concept weapons
versus “new concepts
of weapons” (cyber
preemption + network
reconnaissance + high-
tech deception +
financial market
disruption + network
deterrence, etc.)*

超限战

作者：王湘铸

Strategic pivot, 1997 Chinese Military Encyclopedia

- **Strategic pivot is the central link that has decisive significance for a war, or a location that has a relatively great effect on the entire situation of a war. Those who are directing a war concentrate their strength to get a good hold on the strategic pivot so as to direct the war...one must do a scientific estimate of the situation of the war, objectively analyze the basic contradictions of the war, and eye it from an overall perspective. It has embodied in it the decisive function of seizing victory.**

Sun-tzu

THE ART OF WAR

New Translation by
Ralph D. Sawyer

SUN TZU THE ART OF WAR



Translated and with an Introduction by
Samuel B. Griffith
Foreword by B.H. Liddell Hart



The Art of WAR

SUN ZI'S
MILITARY METHODS

Translated by
VICTOR H. MAIR

孫子兵法
Sun Tzu's

THE ART OF WAR

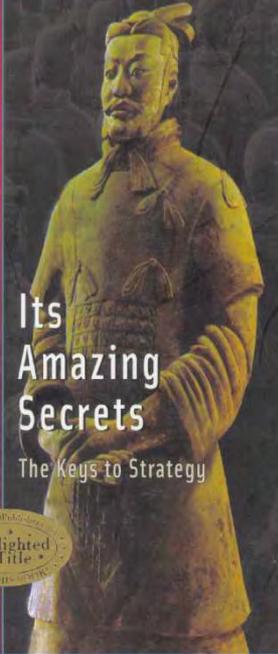
Plus

Its Amazing Secrets

The Keys to Strategy



Gary Gagliardi



兵 5
Strategic
Military
Power*
勢 第五

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etc.

V ENERGY*

SUN TZU said:
r. Generally, management of many is the same as management of few. It is a matter of organization.*

Chung Yü: To manage a host one must first assign responsibilities to the generals and their assistants, and establish the strengths of ranks and files. . . .

One man is a single; two, a pair; three, a trio. A pair and a trio make a five,¹ which is a squad; two squads make a section; five sections, a platoon; two platoons, a company; two companies, a battalion; two battalions, a regiment; two regiments, a group; two groups, a brigade; two brigades, an army.* Each is subordinate to the superior and controls the inferior. Each is properly trained. Thus one may manage a host of a million men just as he would a few.

2. And to control many is the same as to control few. This is a matter of formations and signals.

Chang Yü: . . . Now when masses of troops are employed, certainly they are widely separated, and ears are not able to hear acutely nor eyes to see clearly. Therefore officers and men are ordered to advance or retreat by observing the flags and banners and to move or stop by signals of bells and

¹ Shü (勢), the title of this chapter, means 'force', 'influence', 'authority', 'energy'. The commentators take it to mean 'energy' or 'potential' in some contexts and 'situation' in others.

* *Fan Shu* (勢) is literally 'division of [or by] numbers' for 'division and numbering'. Here translated 'organization'.

² Suggestive that the 'pair' and the 'trio' carried different weapons. * A ten-man section; one hundred to the company; two hundred to the battalion; four hundred to the regiment; eight hundred to the group; sixteen hundred to the brigade; three thousand to the army. This apparently reflects organization at the time Chang Yü was writing. The English terms for the units are arbitrary.

CHAPTER 5 Configuration

In this chapter, the focus is on the general's ability to command his army, exercising its potential through conventional and unconventional tactics. Although discussed only in one relatively brief section of this chapter, the interplay of conventional and unconventional is one of the key tactical concepts introduced in the Sun Zi.

Master Sun said,

Managing masses of troops is similar to managing a small group of soldiers; it is a question of division and enumeration.² Sending masses of troops into combat is similar to sending small groups of soldiers into combat; it is a question of forms and terms.³ The masses of the triple army may be caused to have an encounter with the enemy and yet not be defeated; it is a question of conventional and unconventional tactics.⁴ The application of military

Chapter 5

勢

Momentum: Innovation

Sun Tzu entitled this chapter shi 'force', but in *length*, the character used, shi is more complicated than simple power. It means putting people and events in motion in such a way that they become unstoppable. This idea is captured better by the English term 'momentum.' However, what interests Sun Tzu is not just momentum but the process by which it is created. This process is a systematic approach of combining standard practices with new methods to create what we call innovation (Figure 19). Barling with innovation simultaneously undermines an opponent's movement and knowledge.

Sun Tzu explains that standards and surprise—that is, innovation—depend on one another and that there are an infinite number of paths to innovation. He uses the metaphors of music, color, and flavor as metaphors for knowledge, foresight, and testing, but using all four skills, his four skills map perfectly to our modern view of scientific method (Figure 20) where knowledge is observation, foresight is inspiration (creating a hypothesis), movement is testing, and positioning is evaluation. Momentum requires building up the pressure of innovation and using timing to release that pressure when it is most needed.

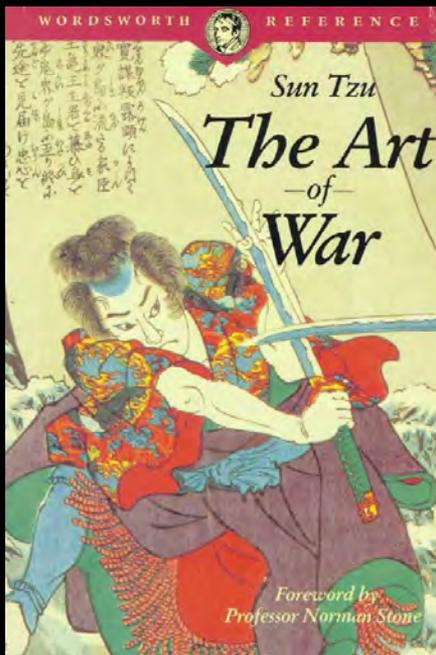
The text then addresses the chaotic nature of all competitive movements. Though we cannot eliminate this chaos, we can control it, just as we use the chaos of innovation to disrupt the control of our opponents' plans (Figure 21).

孫子兵法

孫子兵法

SUN-TZU
THE ART OF WARFARE

The First English Translation Incorporating
the Recently Discovered Yin-ch'üeh-shan Texts



The Art of War

THE DENMA TRANSLATION



Sun Tzu

TRANSLATION, ESSAYS & COMMENTARY
BY THE DENMA TRANSLATION GROUP

大中华文库
汉英对照

孙子兵法
SUNZI:
THE ART OF WAR
孙膑兵法
SUN BIN:
THE ART OF WAR

CHAPTER 5: STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE
(SHIH)

Master Sun said:

In general, it is organization¹⁴ that makes managing many soldiers the same as managing a few. It is communication with flags and pennants¹⁵ that makes fighting with many soldiers the same as fighting with a few. It is "surprise" (*shí*) and "straightforward" (*zheng*) operations that enable one's army to withstand the full assault of the enemy force¹⁶ and remain undefeated.¹⁷ It is the distinction between "weak points" and "strong points" that makes one's army falling upon the enemy a whetstone being hurled at eggs.

Generally in battle use the "straightforward" to engage the enemy and the "surprise" to win the victory. Thus the expert at delivering the surprise assault is as boundless as the heavens and earth, and as inexhaustible as the rivers and seas.¹⁸ Like the sun and moon, he sets only to rise again; like the four seasons, he passes only to return again.

There are no more than five cardinal notes, yet in combination, they produce more sounds than could possibly be heard; there are no more than five cardinal colors, yet in combination, they produce more shades and hues than could possibly be seen; there are no more than five cardinal tastes, yet in combination, they produce more flavors than could possibly be tasted. For gaining strategic advantage (*shih*) in battle, there are no more than "surprise" and "straightforward" operations, yet in combination, they

Chapter 5
Posture of Army

Generally, management of a large force is the same as management of a few men. It is a matter of organization. And to direct a large force is the same as to direct a few men. This is a matter of formations and signals. That the army is certain to sustain the enemy's attack without suffering defeat is due to operations of the extraordinary and the normal forces. Troops thrown against the enemy as a grindstone against eggs is an example of a solid acting upon a void.

Generally, in battle, use the normal force to engage and use the extraordinary in win. Now, the resources of those skilled in the use of extraordinary forces are as infinite as the heavens and earth, as inexhaustible as the flow of the great rivers, for they end and recommence—cyclical, as are the movements of the sun and moon. They die away and are reborn—recurrent, as are the passing seasons. The musical notes are only five in number, but their combination gives rise to so numerous melodies that one cannot hear them all. The primary colors are only five in number, but their combinations are so infinite that one cannot visualize them all. The flavors are only five in number, but their blends are so various that one cannot taste them all. In battle, there are only the normal and extraordinary forces, but their combinations are limitless; none can comprehend them all. For these two forces are mutually reproductive. It is like moving in an endless circle. Who can exhaust the possibility of their combination?

When foreshall water tosses boulders, it is because of its momentum; when the strike of a hawk breaks the body of its prey, it is because of timing. Thus, the momentum of one skilled in war is overwhelming, and his attack precisely timed.

5



Shih

Ordering the many is like ordering the few.
It is division and counting.

Fighting the many is like fighting the few.
It is form and name.

The multitude of the three armies can be made to meet all enemies without defeat.
It is the extraordinary and the orthodox.

How a military comes to prevail, like throwing a grindstone against an egg.
It is the empy and the solid.

§

In sun, when in battle,
Use the orthodox to engage.
Use the extraordinary to attain victory.

§

And so one skilled at giving rise to the extraordinary—

Momentum (*shí* 勢)

Sunzi said:

There is no difference between administering many troops and few troops. It is a matter of organization, of instituting layers of control. There is no difference between commanding a large army and a small one. It is a matter of communications, of establishing an efficient system of command signals. Thanks to the combined use of *qi* (奇) and *zheng* (正) tactics, the army is able to withstand the onslaught of the enemy forces. By staying clear of the enemy's strong points and striking at his weak points, it is able to fall upon the enemy like using a whetstone to crush an egg.

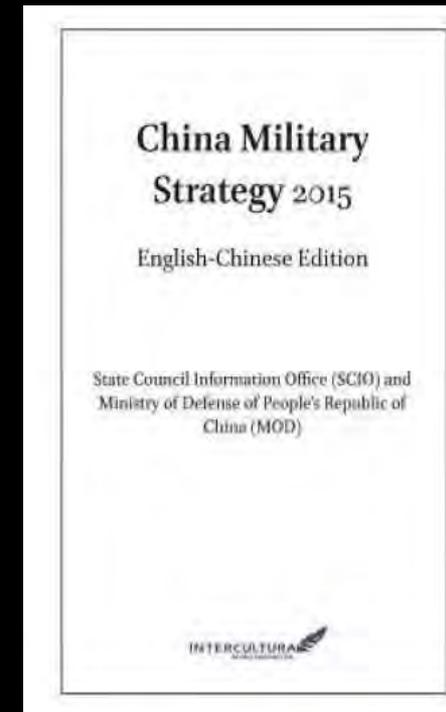
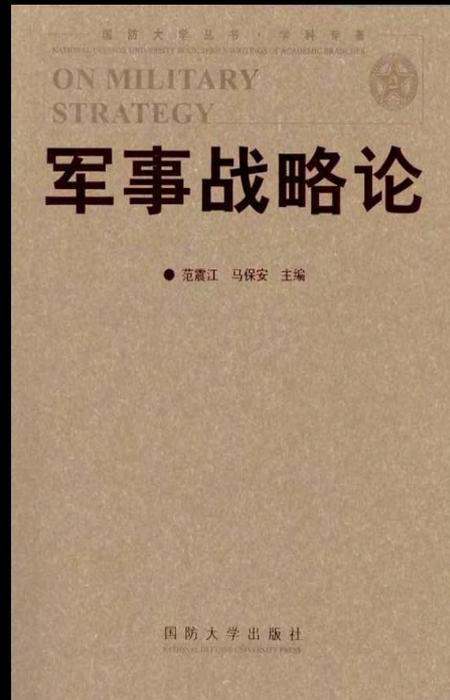
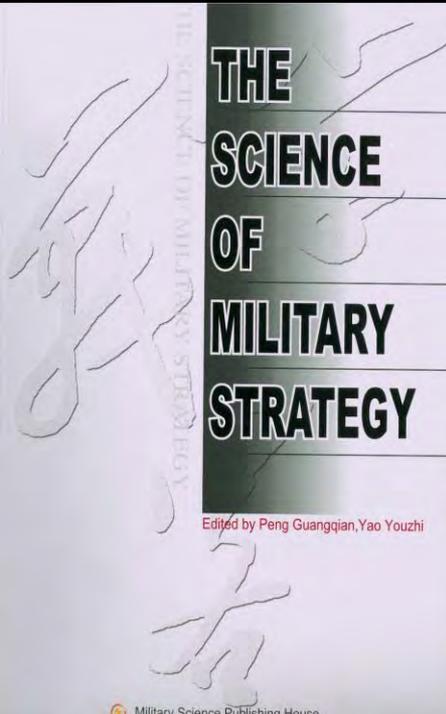
Generally, in battle, use *zheng* to engage the enemy and use *qi* to score victory. The resourcefulness of those skilled in the use of *qi* is as inexhaustible as heaven and earth and as unending as the flow of rivers; it is like the sun and the moon which end their course only to begin anew, like the four seasons which pass only to return once more. There are no more than five tones in music, yet their combinations give rise to countless melodies. There are no more than five primary colours, yet in combination, they produce innumerable hues. There are no more than five flavours, yet their blends pro-

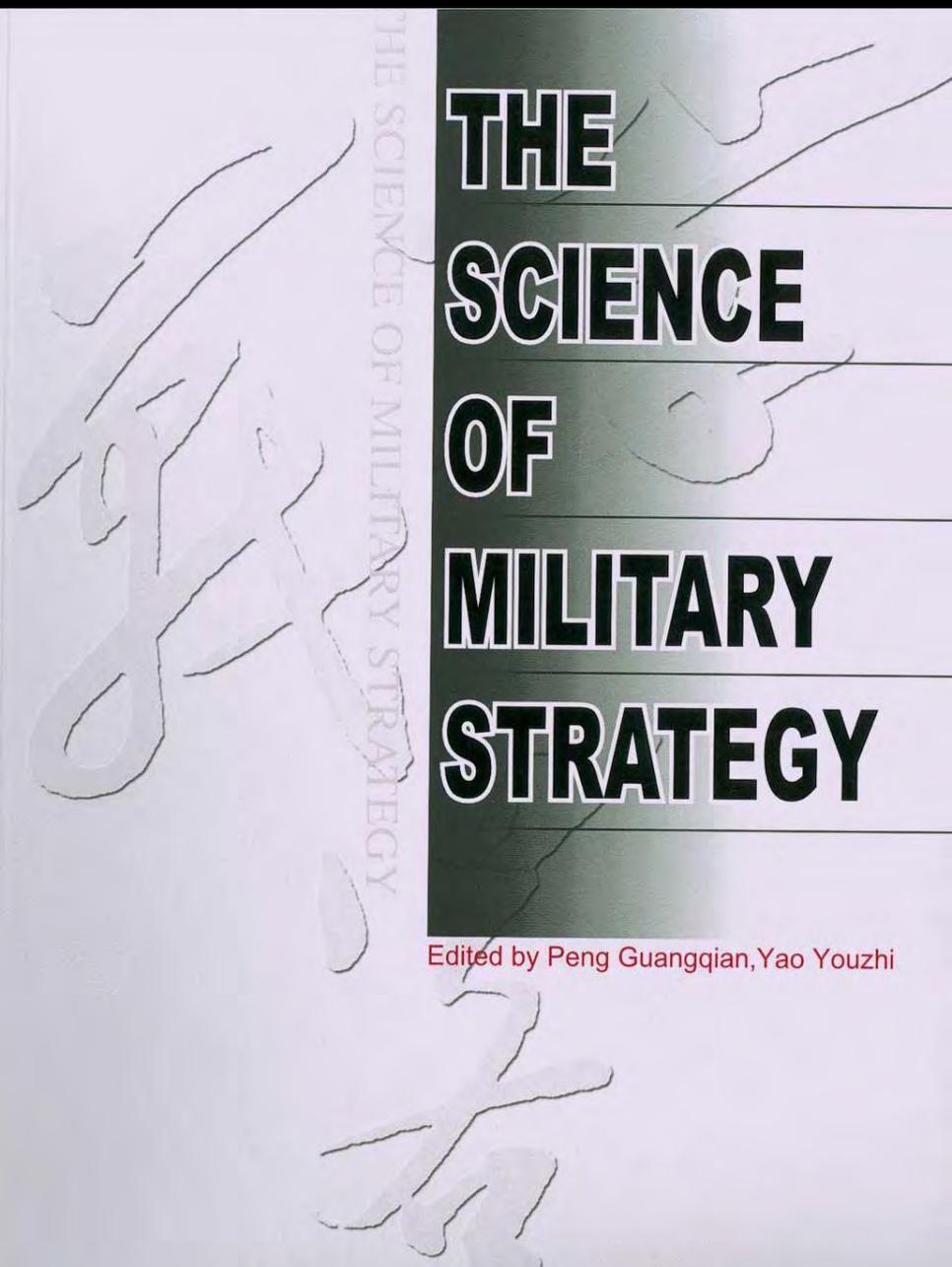


U.S. and China on Strategic Terminology

- **A prudent idea or set of ideas for employing the instruments of national power in a synchronized and integrated fashion to achieve theater, national, and/or multinational objectives. (US—JP 1-02)**
- **Military strategy is defined as consisting of planning and guidance for the situation of military struggles as a whole. It is the analytical judgment of such factors as international conditions, hostilities in bilateral politics, military economics, science and technology, and geography as they apply to the preparation and direction of the overall military/war plan. (Chinese—1997 Chinese Military Encyclopedia)**

Four Important Strategic Documents



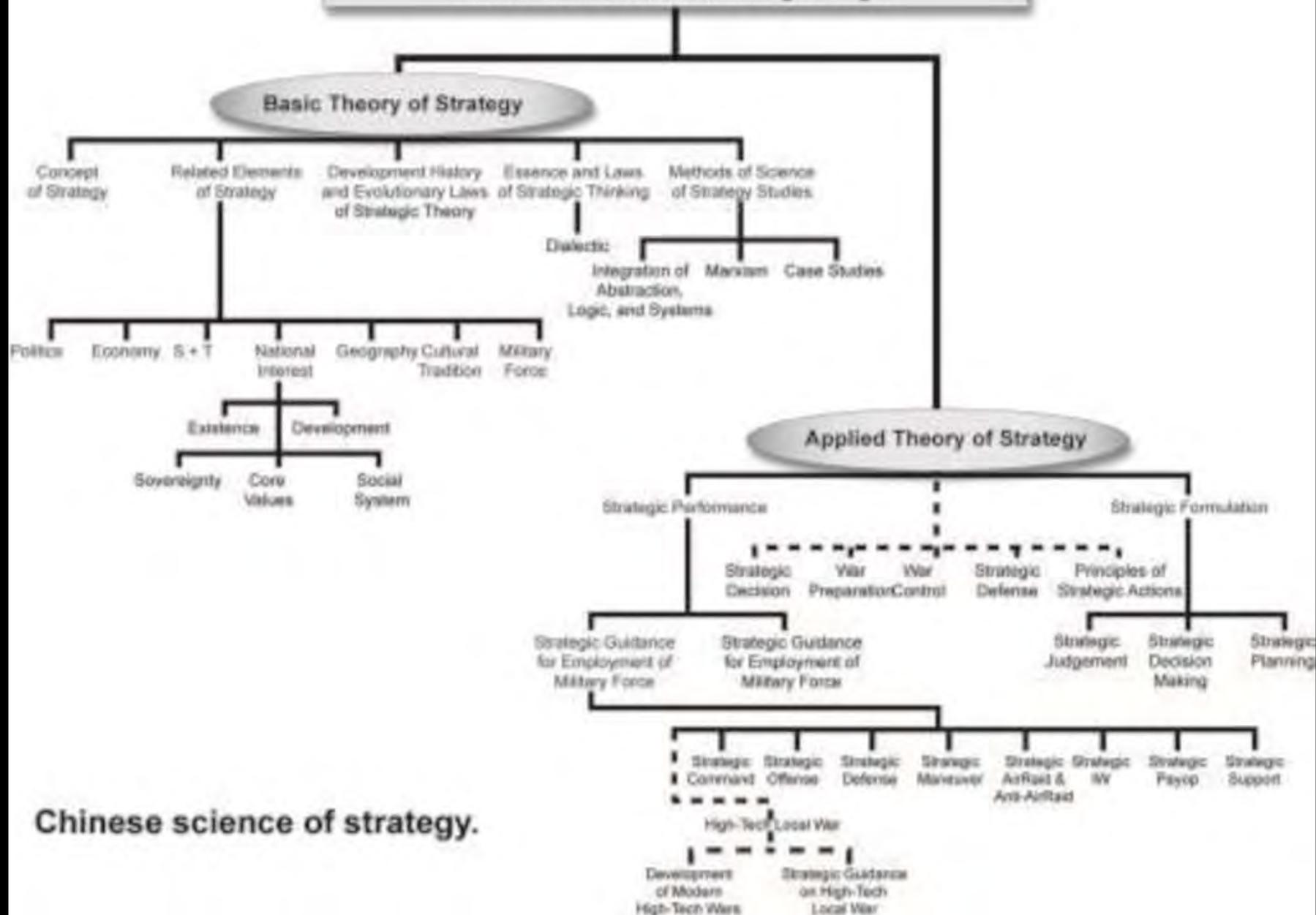


THE SCIENCE OF MILITARY STRATEGY

Edited by Peng Guangqian, Yao Youzhi

Science of Strategy

"Military science studies the laws of war, laws of the conduct of war, and laws of the evolution of strategic thought"



Chinese science of strategy.

The Science of Military Strategy

Selected Chinese-English Terms

兵权谋家	Military Strategists of Power and Stratagem
兵技巧家	Military Strategists of Technology and Skill
兵形势家	Military Strategists of Disposition and Capability
兵阴阳家	Military Strategists of <i>yin</i> and <i>yang</i>
信想攻击	Cyber-Attack; Information Attack
信想化	Informationalization; Cyberization
网络化	Cyberization
网络信想时代	Age of Cyber Information
网络战	Cyber-War

国防大学丛书·学科专著

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY BASIC SERIES WRITINGS OF ACADEMIC BRANCHES

ON MILITARY
STRATEGY



军事战略论

● 范震江 马保安 主编

国防大学出版社

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Fan and Ma On the Environment (Chapter 3)...

- **The strategic environment is “the important foundation upon which military strategy is dependent for its formulation...the arena upon which the strategic directors are dependent for displaying their talent in planning and skill in directing.”**

Objective-subjective

- **Fan and Ma then state categorically that “The relationship between the strategic environment and military strategy is a relationship between objective reality and subjective guidance. Properly understanding and analyzing the strategic environment is the prerequisite for properly formulating and implementing military strategy.”**

What is the objective reality of cyber to a member of the PLA?

- **Surrogates work**
- **Lack of rules and regulations**
- **It is difficult to pin blame even after detection is made due to the use of various servers along the way**
- **US control of the Internet is not in line with democracy; it is an unsymmetrical line of thinking**
- **Anonymous character of the Internet**
- **Weak security systems still exist to exploit, but it is also possible to work around strong systems**
- **Packets of electrons can sit undetected for long periods of time**
- **Stratagems work with packets of electrons**

The Theory of Military Strategy /Wrote by Fan Zheng Jiang, Ma Bao An – Published by Bei Jing National Defense University Publishing House, 2007/11

The Theory of Military Strategy

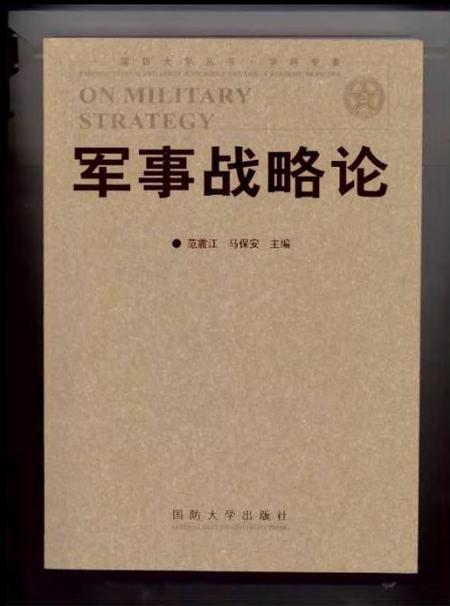
Wrote by Fan Zheng Jiang, Ma Bao An

Published by: National Defense University Publishing House

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CHAPTER 10

Chapter 10 The Guiding Ideology of Battle

Section 1 Elaborately Contrive Information-based Joint Operations

Section 2 Conduct Offensive Attack with Independence and Flexibility

Section 3 Proactively Performing Intensive Sabotage on Vital System of Enemy

Section 4 Decisively Conduct the Crucial Battle with Positive Situation

Ten of Twelve Chapters Compared in the 2007 and 2013 Strategy Books

2007

- Implications, character
- Nature, msn, tasks
- Objective environment
- MS fundamental theory
- MS strength foundation
- Planning, devising MS
- MOOTW
- Mil restraint
- War direction/control
- Ideology of battle

2013

- Strategy
- Evolution of strategy
- Strategic environment
- Wars development
- Active defense thought
- St under infor. conditions
- St & military deterrence
- MOOTW
- Nuc, space, network
- Theater strategy



军事科学院·军事理论著作
Military Academy Works, Academy of Military Science

THE SCIENCE OF MILITARY STRATEGY

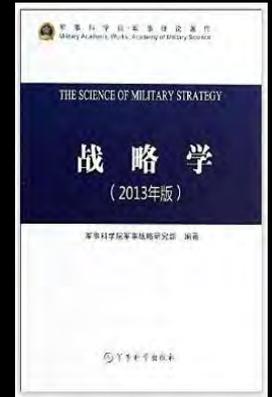
战略学

(2013年版)

军事科学院军事战略研究部 编著

军事科学出版社

Science of Military Strategy

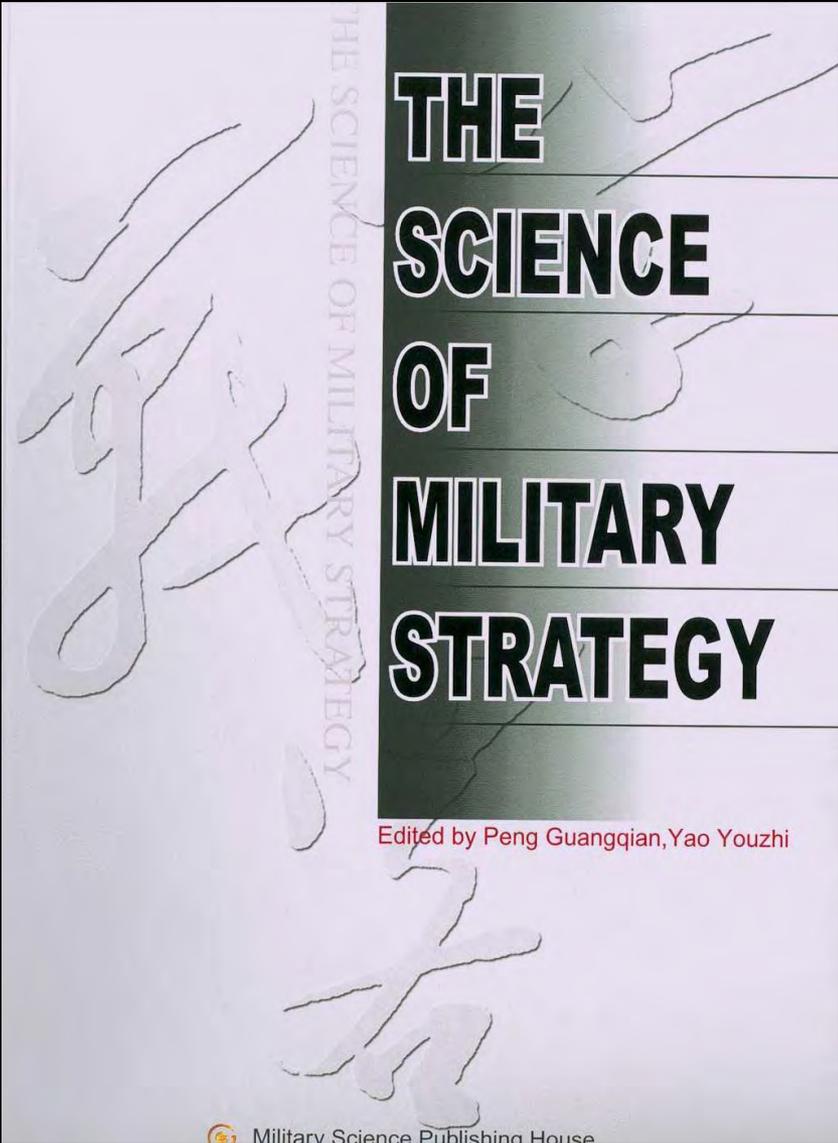


- **Core mission: study future wars and plan and guide warfare**
- **Strategies for the major spheres of security are nuclear, outer space, and network space at present**
- **Contains many Russian-like strategic elements: foresight, forms and methods, ratio of strengths (CNP), “there is not one strategy that fits all”**

Science of Military Strategy



- **Marx and Engels...proposed brand-new details such as the concept of people's warfare, the strategy of active defense, and the proletarian class's methods of operations**
- **Operational thought...proposed the idea of a "sabotage and strike warfare against systems" that corresponds to the basic laws of local wars under informationized conditions**
- **Combine strategic defense with campaign and tactical offense**



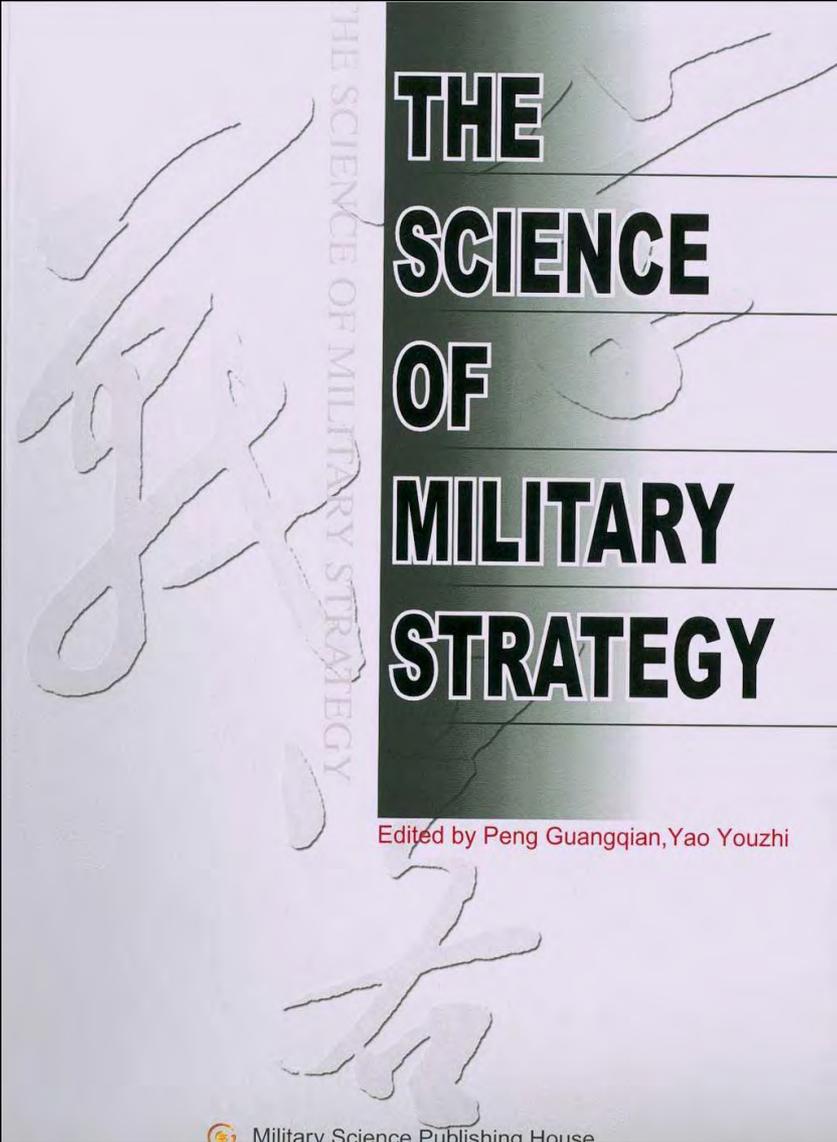
**THE
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*Who developed
People's War?
(p. 121, 126)*

- a) Marx
- b) Mao
- c) Sun Tzu
- d) Deng Xiaoping



THE SCIENCE OF MILITARY STRATEGY

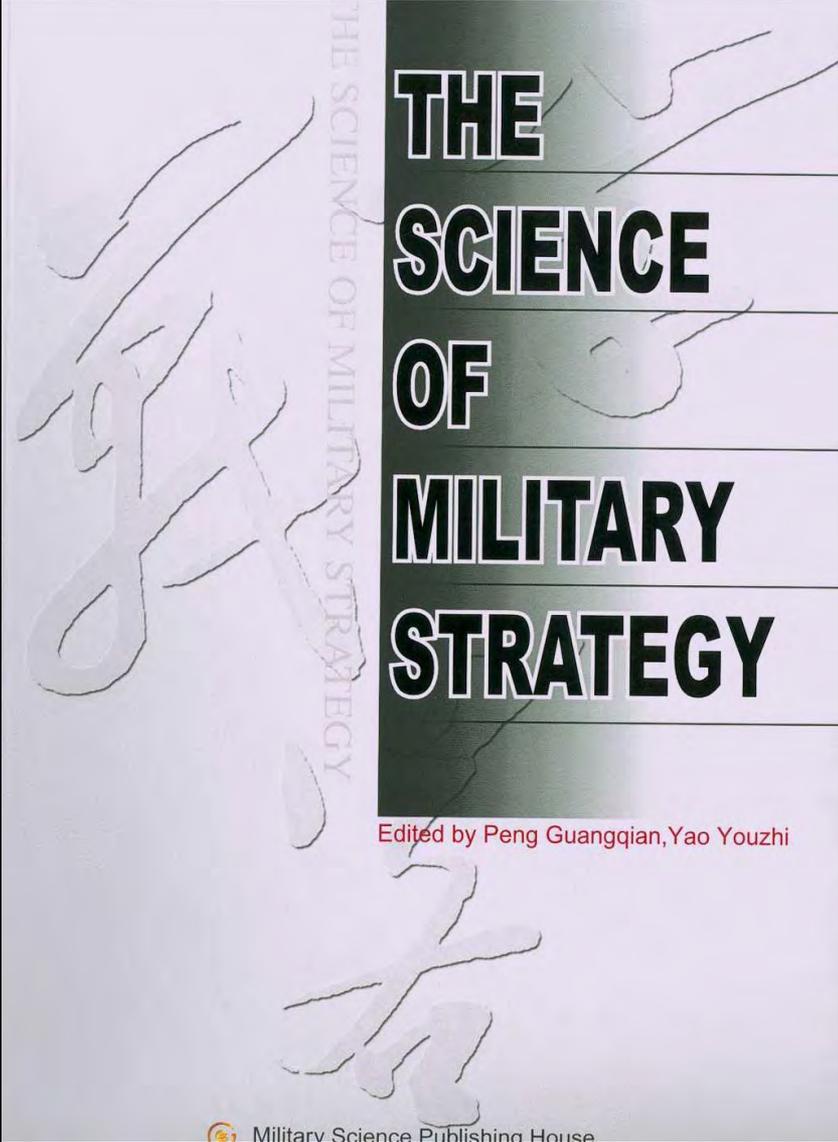
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 Military Science Publishing House

Whose philosophy serves as the PLA's guiding principle?
(p. 150)

- a) Marx
- b) Mao
- c) Sun Tzu
- d) Deng Xiaoping



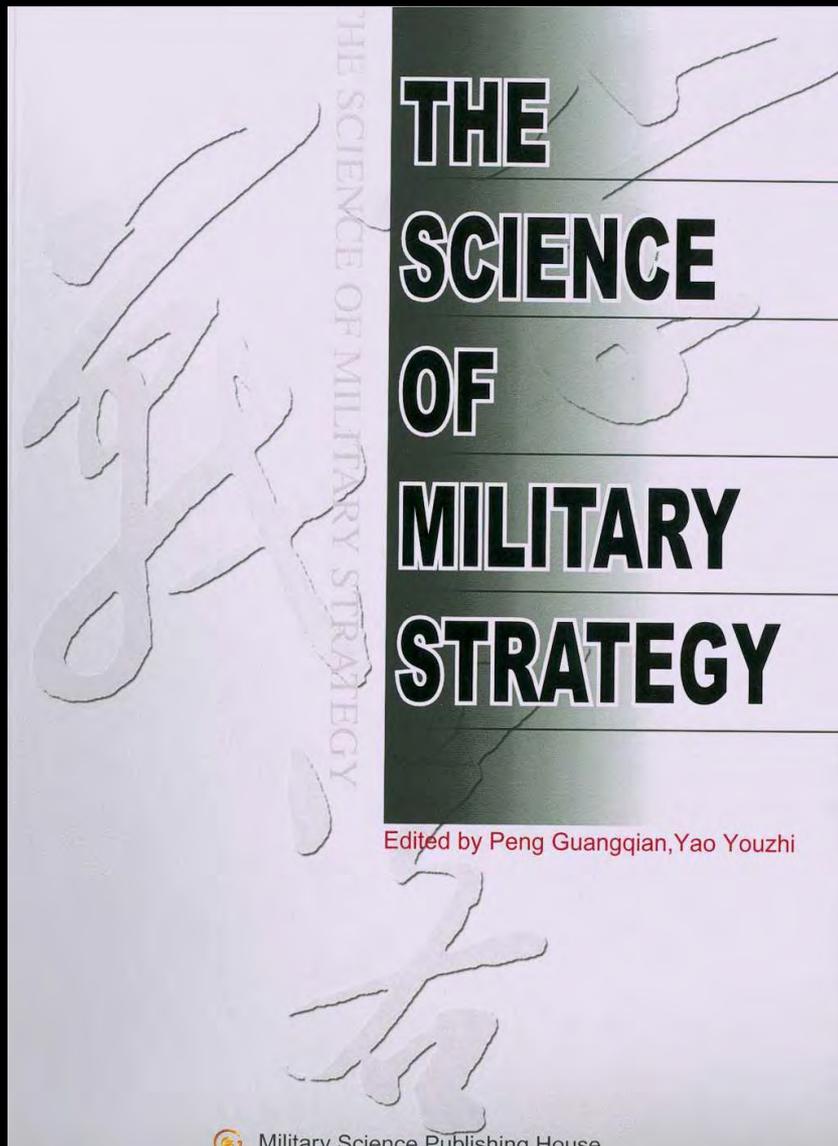
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 Military Science Publishing House

Who said the biggest mistake is to miss an opportunity to send superior forces against the enemy?
(p. 288)

- a) Marx
- b) Mao
- c) Sun Tzu
- d) Deng Xiaoping



*Who said the best
defense is active
defense carried out
via offensive
means?
(p. 308)*

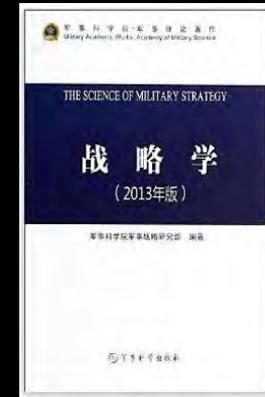
- a) Engels
- b) Mao
- c) Sun Tzu
- d) Deng Xiaoping

2013 Science of Military Strategy

- **Strategic guidance must take on the overall situation...and fully bring into play the dynamic role of strategic guidance, so that subjective guidance corresponds to objective reality.**
- **Because environmental conditions are constantly changing and because of the dynamic games of both the enemy and yourself, it is impossible to pray to have subjective judgment completely correspond to objective reality**



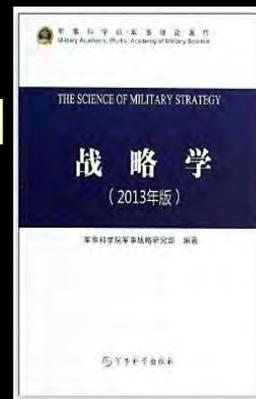
Twelve Issues that Strategy Must Resolve



- **Conditions and nature of war**
- **Characteristics of war and principles of its guidance**
- **Judgement of the strategic situation**
- **Evaluation of strategic threats, strategic opponents, and main targets of operations, studying the enemy's forms and methods of operations**
- **Clarify strategic spaces, directions and strategic setup**
- **Establishment of guiding thought for operations and forms and methods of operations**

Twelve Issues (cont.)

- Clarification of tasks and principles of use of the services and theaters
- Clarification of principles and methods for supporting the war
- Clarification of principles and forms of strategic leadership and command
- Clarification of principles and forms of use of military deterrence
- Clarification of principles and forms of MOOTW
- Clarification of objectives, key points, ways, and thoughts and principles



Strategic Indicators of When to Fight

- The basic point of decision-making is “being favorable”
- Use strength against cyber nodes, strategic command centers, major operational directions, crucial operational platforms, and strategic support centers.
- Fights can be over key points, strategic resources, strategic thoroughfares, or global public spaces (outer space, polar regions, networks, etc.)



Local War under Informationized Conditions (LWIC)

- **LWIC is SoS vs SoS, and its basic operational form is integrated joint operations; war's SoS has an asymmetric quality, which comes from different weapons and technical equipment, number of personnel, structure, thoughts, cultural background, behavioral criteria, temporospatial conditions, and operational modes, correlated to strength and the subjective dynamic quality**
- **The PLA must create a favorable pre-combat posture and do what is possible to seize the initiative in the early stage of war.**



2013 Science of Military Strategy

- Reinforcing the contention for networks as multipliers requires...upholding attack as primary, to not only sabotage the enemy's software systems, but also destroy the enemy's hardware facilities equipment; focusing on the characteristics of the fuzziness of peacetime-wartime boundaries in cyber warfare and the difficulty of identification of military-civilian attacks...using the civilian to screen the military in peacetime, and executing military-civilian joint integrated attacks.



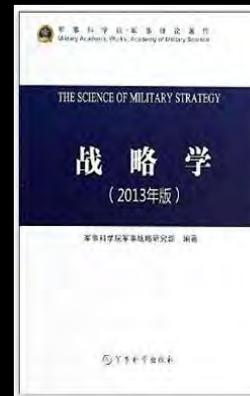
MOOTW

- Includes maintenance of stability and protecting rights and interests (SCS?); crisis management
- MOOTW is manifested in 1. achieving political interests 2. carrying out military-strategic concepts in peacetime 3. carrying out new missions 4. supporting an expansion of interests 5. upholding peace 6. enhancing operational capabilities
- Four categories: confrontation (to eliminate non-traditional security threats endangering national security), law enforcement, aid operations, and cooperative operations



Information Deterrence

- **A strategic activity to achieve certain political goals, to influence an opponent's strategic judgment with the threat of use or with the use of military strength, so that the opponent gives up his hostile activities from sensing the difficult in realizing his objectives or feeling more harm than good will come of this.**
- **Types: conventional, nuclear, space, information, direct, indirect, peacetime, contingency, actual, non-actual, local, integrated**



中国的军事战略

(2015年5月)

中华人民共和国
国务院新闻办公室

人民出版社

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China's Military Strategy

The State Council Information Office of
the People's Republic of China

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS



China Military Strategy 2015

English-Chinese Edition

State Council Information Office (SCIO) and
Ministry of Defense of People's Republic of
China (MOD)

INTERCULTURAL 
ANALYSIS & TRANSLATION

China's Military Strategy

- **Preface**
- **I. National Security Situation**
- **II. Missions and Strategic Tasks of China's Armed Forces**
- **III. Strategic Guidelines of Active Defense**
- **IV. Building and Development of China's Armed Forces**
- **V. Preparation for Military Struggle**
- **VI. Military and Security Cooperation**

MOOTW in the 2015 White Paper “China’s Military Strategy”

- **The armed forces will continue to conduct such MOOTWs as emergency rescue and disaster relief, counter-terrorism and stability maintenance, rights and interests protection, guard duty, international peacekeeping, and international humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR)**

China's Military Strategy White Paper: Strategic Advantage

- **China's armed forces will lay stress on farsighted planning and management to create a FAVORABLE POSTURE, comprehensively manage crises, and resolutely deter and win wars**
- **China's armed forces will work harder to create a FAVORABLE STRATEGIC POSTURE with more emphasis on the employment of military forces and means**
- **A principle of active defense is to foster a STRATEGIC POSTURE FAVORABLE to China's peaceful development**

A Strategic Advantage is Established via Reconnaissance

- General Dai, *Direct IW*: Computer network reconnaissance is the prerequisite for seizing victory in warfare. It helps to choose opportune moments, places, and measures for attack.



Peng Guangqian, Deputy Secretary General of the China National Security Forum, on the Strategic Support Force

- The SSF will be in charge of information and intelligence collection, surveillance, electronic warfare, cyber attack and defense technology, and space management.



Other Opinions on the SSF...

- **SSF provides logistics and magnifies combat capabilities with expertise in the electronic, cyber, satellite, intelligence, technical surveillance, and psychological warfare domains.**
- **This new-type operation force will integrate forces performing strategic, basic, and support functions; it optimizes military power structures, and aims to achieve the goal of winning local wars under informatized conditions as part of a joint force; it is not a stand alone force**

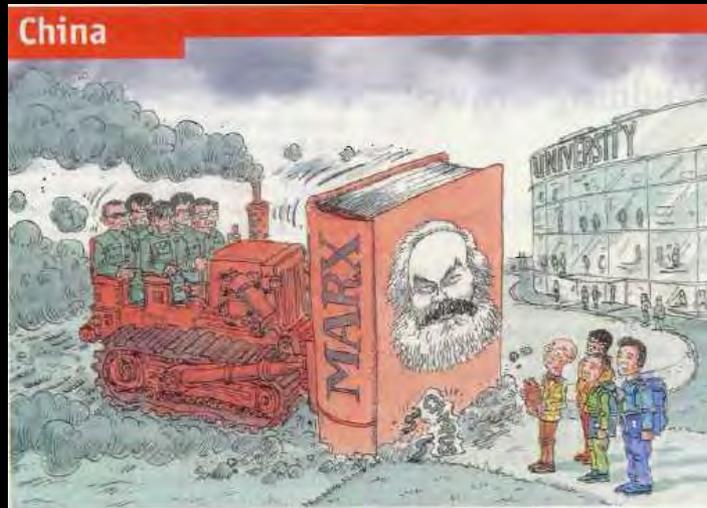
Support Force Patch and Badge



“Xi Warns Party Not to Waver on Ideology”

WSJ, July 2-3, 2016

- “Turning our backs or abandoning Marxism means that our party would lose its soul and direction,” he said.
- *The Economist*, 28 February 2016



Chinese Strategy: What to Remember

- **Analytical judgement**
- **Objective-subjective**
- **Strategic advantage**
- **Use of stratagems**
- **Essence of strategy**



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