



OFFENSIVE

THE SUN TZU BRIEF

AMES :: Planning the Attack

CLAVELL :: The Sheathed Sword

WING :: The Plan of Attack

HANZHANG :: Offensive Strategy

SAWYER :: Planning Offensives

KRAUSE :: Competitive Strategy

HUANG :: Planning an Offense

GRIFFITH :: Offensive Strategy

CLEARY :: Planning a Siege

When planning an offensive, direct conflict with the enemy is avoided. Instead offensive strategy driven by foreknowledge and focused on exploiting strategy is preferred. "So to win a hundred victories in a hundred battles is not the highest excellence; the highest excellence is to subdue the enemy's army without fighting at all." AMES

Best Military policy is to attack strategies; the next to attack alliances; the next to attack soldiers; and the worst to assault walled cities." AMES

"So it is said that if you know others and now yourself, you will not be imperiled in a hundred battles; if you do not know others but know yourself, you win one and lose one; if you do not know others and do not know yourself, you will be imperiled in every single battle." CLEARY

"To subdue the enemy without fighting is the supreme excellence. Thus, what is of supreme importance in war is to attack the enemy's strategy. Next best is to disrupt his alliances by diplomacy. The next best is to attack his army. And the worst policy is to attack cities. Know the enemy and know yourself; in a hundred battles, you will never be defeated. When you are ignorant of the enemy but know yourself, your chance of winning or losing are equal. If ignorant both of your enemy and of yourself, you are sure to be defeated in every battle." HANZHANG

"So the rule for use of the military is that if you outnumber the opponent ten to one, then surround them; five to one, attack; two to one, divide. If you are equal, then fight if you are able. If you are fewer, then keep away if you are able. If you are not as good, then flee if you are able. Therefore, if the smaller side is stubborn, it becomes the captive of the larger side." CLEARY