



UNRESTRICTED WARFARE:

CHINA'S MASTER PLAN TO DESTROY AMERICA

BY COL. QIAO LIANG AND COL. WANG XIANGSUI

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL
CHINESE DOCUMENTS

PANAMA CITY, PANAMA:

PAN AMERICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, 2002

197 PAGES ISBN 0-9716807-2-8

Review by

Major Darrell Synnott

Unrestricted Warfare: China's Master Plan to Destroy America provides exposure to national strategic thinking at the grandest level. Employing every available means to achieve victory over one's enemy is the focus of this strategy. Building upon Sun Tzu's principles of war, this book looks at how technologically superior, conventionally structured forces can be crippled and beaten by numerically and/or technologically inferior military powers through the use of unconventional military and non-military attacks. Trade War, Financial War, "New Terror War in Contrast to Traditional Terror War", and even Ecological War are concepts now being recognized as viable tools capable of bringing about an enemy's defeat.

Chinese military strategists watched the American-led coalition destroy the fighting effectiveness of Iraq's military forces through the employment of high technology weapon systems during the 1991 Gulf War. The goal of this surveillance was to identify American strengths and pinpoint potential weaknesses within the American military system. In this book Colonels Qiao Liang and Wang Xiangsui present non-military methods of warfare by which China could negate America's overwhelming military/technological advantage, should they ever face off in a major conflict.

Western military forces are currently adapting to training, tactics and force re-structuring to conduct Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTW). Unrestricted Warfare describes how non-military activities can complement military operations in the achievement of

strategic objectives. The authors introduce concepts such as: Smuggling Warfare (sabotaging an enemy's economy by flooding its markets with illegal goods), Cultural Warfare (influencing a targeted country's cultural biases by imposing your own cultural viewpoints), Drug Warfare (supplying illicit drugs to a targeted nation's population with the intent of breaking down the fabric of its society), Media and Fabrication Warfare (manipulating journalists, through intimidation or other means, in order to gain access to another country's media for the purposes of imposing your own national perspectives), Environmental Warfare (weakening or conquering another nation by despoiling its natural environment), and Resources Warfare (gaining control of an enemy nation's scarce or essential resources and then being able to control or deny their access and market value).

This book questions why a nation's grand strategy is confined to traditional military thinking, when long-term, non-military actions can be much more productive for achieving the desired results. The authors present not only possible targets to be exploited in war, but have identified potential vulnerabilities within Western society that must be protected from targeting by an adversary. *Unrestricted Warfare: China's Master Plan to Destroy America* challenges conventional models of war and the traditional actions of states and non-state actors. Qiao and Wang provide insight into what may become the future combat arena. ■

Major Darrell Synnott is a reservist working within the Concepts and Doctrine Development section of the Canadian Forces Aerospace Warfare Centre.