

## CHAPTER 2

### THEORITICAL REVIEW

#### 2.1 SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR

*The Art of War* by Sun Tzu is an ancient military tactic which it is still use by many countries such as China. *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu also use and interpret in many aspects of life such as politic, medical and politic. However, it is still arguable whether it is him or somebody who is close to him that write Art of War. Many years after it is published, many translators tried to change Art of War into English version and other languages. The researcher then took Lionel Giles version which is translated by him in 1910. Based on Giles translation, Sun Tzu's Art of War divided into 13 chapter but the researcher only took 4 chapter as the main points to strike the enemy.

The points taken by the researcher are the forces needed by an army and the variation in strategy. The forces consist of 6 points. The forces here mean as the resources possessed by both USA and China to win the war. These forces are consisting of the moral law, heaven, earth, the commander, method and discipline, energy. These six points are needed to build a strong power to win the war within the army. The strong army also need a great tactic to win the war. The researcher then put the various tactic based on Sun Tzu and the developer point of view to know how USA and China orchestrate the forces to win the war.

##### 2.1.1 THE MORAL LAW

The moral law is about the obedience of general's follower to their general. If the general consider as a Nobel and worth to be followed, he will not break the rule and obey, otherwise the follower will not follow the general. This is the key to conquer the enemy (Giles, 2000:3). It is a nature of general to control the army in order to execute the plan the general creates. The moral law itself can create a powerful soldier

who is eager to sacrifice his/her life for the general. It is because the general is considered as true inspiration and prophet in leading the army to victory.

It is stated by Giles that virtues of wisdom, benevolence, courage and strictness is the general stands for the army (2000:2). The supremacy of the entire army is based on the general's action which is the fuel for the army in marching a war. If the general is not imbued by the moral law, the army will be crumbled and easily attacked by the enemy. Imagine, if the general is a temperamental person and the enemy knows it, the enemy then seeks to irritate the general and because the general is impatient due to the enemy's work, the general will send the whole army to strike without considering every aspect. This condition will lead the army to enemy's trap and killed within an hour or less (2000:4).

### **2.1.2 HEAVEN**

The heaven in Sun Tzu's Art of War is not a literal meaning of place where the good men go after they died. It is meant that the nature is gifted from God or heaven that help the general to strike the enemy. By knowing the nature, the general can create an opportunity to strike the enemy by using military method and nature aspect. As it stated by Lionel Giles "all warfare are based on deception" (2000:3). If the general can pick the perfect time for example is night raid, setting a camp higher than enemy's base and surrounded by fog, this general has already followed the heaven constant of war.

As it stated by Lionel Giles the signification of day and night, cold and heat, times and seasons, the direction of wind are the heaven gift. The general who observe the signification of heaven shall overcome the opportunity to strike the enemy (Giles, 2000:1). As it stated before, the general who followed the heaven constant of war shall find an opportunity to strike the enemy and evade the enemy's attack. The heaven is the big resource for the general and soldier. If the general or the soldier is isolated from the army, it is a wise move for the general and soldier to use the opportunity from nature to evade the enemy's attack. If the general has lesser number, he must prepare a trap by using the surrounding.

### **2.1.3 EARTH**

Earth is a condition of battlefield and enemy's hideout (Giles, 2000: 1). The general must know the condition of earth to execute the plan perfectly. It is almost the same from heaven which is refer to nature but Earth stays for a long time and heaven in a short period. The general who knows exactly the condition of earth near to general's camp will knows when the enemy appear and ready for the retaliation. The enemy's territory exposed by general is an advantage for the general.

The earth itself can be very dangerous or advantageous for the general whether the general knows the condition of earth or not. The movement of army is depended on nature. Those who walk the narrow phase shall endangered them by the trap of the enemy (Giles, 2000:43). It is very dangerous especially for troops that march on the narrow jungle and surrounded by cliff. Those who marching on wide area will expose them self in enemies vision (Giles, 2000:43). The wide area can be dangerous if the general can't depict the enemy's movement and unconsciously surrounded by enemy. The general must pay attention of the earth if he want to save the army and win the war.

### **2.1.4 THE COMMANDER**

If the moral law stand for the characteristic of general, the commander stands for the troops. Generals must stand for virtues of wisdom, sincerely, benevolence, courage and strictness (Giles, 2000:2). If a general hold tight on moral law, he will succeed in controlling his whole army. Therefore, it is important for the commander to understand the morale, emotion, endurance, and power that are possessed by general's army. The supremacy then can be made by understanding these aspects.

The commander is the main point in rotating the movement of an army. If the center of body is mind, then the center of an army is the general. The great general can also trick the enemy in a trap where

it is lured by an army and create a diversion of an army and strike the enemy (Giles, 2000:19). The general who is not prepared for ambush shall lead the army into a massacre and if the general survive, he will live in shame.

### **2.1.5 METHOD AND DISCIPLINE**

The method and discipline is a way to construct and marshaling an army, placing the right man in proper place, distributing the supply and expand territory (Giles, 2000:2). The general must pay attention on previous points to maintain the war and in result the general becomes the winner. Method and discipline is like a nerve system in human's body where it is a road for the brain to activate organs to stimulate and fight the virus. If the nerve system is broken, the body will easy to be attacked by virus.

When applying method and discipline, general must act as a dictator. If the general appears weaker than the soldier, the army will suffer the disadvantage from the ruler and if the general appear stronger than an army, it would be a result of crumbling army (Giles, 2000:30). The general should know the intact level of the army and themselves and within a proper training, the army shall achieved a strong ability and always follows the general.

### **2.1.6 ENERGY**

The energy itself is a power possessed by an army. The general must know how to control this power just like shooting a deer with arrow (Giles, 2000:17). The army is also similar with cooking and constructing a song which the ingredients must be choose wisely (Giles, 2000:15). It is mean that a general should know where to put the best men in cavalry, foot soldier, and archer to knows how to strike the enemy within time and when to launch the best men to overcome the battle.

In releasing the army, general must know if the army is eager to march or not. It is the role of general also to enlighten the spirit of the army (Giles, 2000:16). If the army appear weaker in morale, the

general will see the entire army slaughtered in fear, but if the army in high morale, it is possible to strike the enemy even the army is fewer than the enemy has.

## 2.2 VARIATION IN STRATEGY

In war, the general receives his commands from the sovereign, collects his army and concentrates his forces (Giles, 2000:30). The variation in tactic is the method of mixing the five constant of war which is important in striking an enemy, setting a camp, distributing supply. In setting a camp, the general must not separate his army into little fragment which is a result of isolation of small group army especially in difficult country or enemy's territory (Giles, 2000:30). In distributing supply and striking an enemy, the general must pay attention in earth and heaven to know which road is affordable and which is not and ready for the unexpected (Giles, 2000:30). The variation of these points can save many soldiers and move in silent and attack where the enemy never expect the general attack them.

Variation in strategy is also the foundation of proper attack which is the general setting the attack and knows advantage and disadvantage of the earth. Imagine if the enemy base is in the highest mountain and the troops can't march into the high mountain. It is a choice for general to wait the enemy out from their base or lure the enemy out. This will show how the general act is acceptable for the army or not. If the general is not qualified, he will decide to wait the enemy and losing the advantage to strike the enemy. If the general is qualified, he will lure the enemy out from the base and strike them while they are unprepared for the attack.

## 2.3 PREVIOUS STUDIES

There are many researchers all over the world who have done a research on Sun Tzu Art of War in every aspects such as political aspect, psychology, environment, life control and etc. the first previous study which the researcher put an interest on it is from Colonel Gregory L. Wilcoxon strategic research about SUN TZU: THEORIST FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. In his research, he argues about how

USA act in the constellation of world especially with US act on securing safety by using indirect attack or battle avoidance to win the war. It is stated by Wilcoxon that US must apply Sun Tzu's method in battle avoidance due to modern war theories are based on many factors: culture, technology, environmental issues and lessons learned by observing the conduct of warfare.

As history progresses, the core tenants of war theory continue to draw from the human dimensions of armed conflict (2010:9). From this point, Wilcoxon think that war with armed force is unnecessary in 21<sup>st</sup> century because of the massive escalation of many aspects that drawn people's intention in spilling the blood of innocents. The indirect attack of Sun Tzu is the best applicable method to use for USA in order to repel the global threat. To maintain the security of the world, nations must ensure that prosperity is wide distribute in every country to strengthen the relationship among all and if one country is in threat, the guardian of peace must save it by political approach and if it is failed, then the military way is the last way however, the military movement must avoidable for every country (Wilcoxon, 2010:10). This research is only concern about political strategy to maintain peace within nation and to ensure it, political approach is needed just like Sun Tzu indirect attack to maintain peace and prosperity.

Second research is from Sheikh Shamim Hasnain from University of Bedfordshire. The research from Hasnain is the implementation of military knowledge by Sun Tzu which is transferred to academic world. By implementing the military knowledge from Sun Tzu, Hasnain concluded by using the same method as Sun Tzu for example : drum, bell and ring, intelligence agency, military corps signal the actor of knowledge sender will be easy to deliver the knowledge and the receiver will get the knowledge from the signal messages that encrypt the receiver's mind (2017:41).

The reason why Hasnain choose Sun Tzu as the method for transporting knowledge is the ability of Sun Tzu in managing the army. If the management of military applied in knowledge transport, then victory or the goal of the sender will be fulfilled (Hasnain, 2017: 41). By using the drum, bell and flag, Sun Tzu can signal the whole army to execute the strategy. If the drum, bell and flag replace by the media used for transporting a knowledge, the receiver will get full meaning of information (Hasnain, 2017: 43).

What the researcher do in this research is to elaborate these points: Laying plans, Energy,

Variation in tactics, terrain. These points are taken from Sun Tzu Art of War which are a requirement for an army to strike an opponent. Wilcoxon research only concern in indirect attack or battle avoidance which is a political strategy to put down an enemy and Dr. Hasnain's research only concerns about transporting knowledge by using Sun Tzu's Art of War. this research only concerns about the forces used by both China and USA in *Ghost Fleet* and see how both USA and China implicate the Art of War as their strategy.

As far as writer's concerns about *Ghost Fleet*, the researcher found a difficulties in searching the research about Singer's *Ghost Fleet* in every resources such as libraries and online libraries. This lead into fact that this research is the first research about *Ghost Fleet* due to non-existing of the research. However, if there is one or more research out there before this research happened, the writer would be grateful for it because this novel is not arguably the great novel for other researchers to be found.

