standstill   and fragment.   But combinable men under growing stress   will   stick   together   ever more tightly   and   will   go

bounding along with increasing power.   At   the   moment   of battle   the power developed by combinable   men is like   an immense boulder hurtling

fighting

down   a precipitous mountain. Enough for now on the   subject of combining energy.

6

CHAPTER 6 Strength   Against   Weakness   Whichever   army is first   to   the   battlefield   and waits   for the enemy, will

be rested   for the   fight;   whichever is second and must   rush   to   give battle, will   begin exhausted. The   intelligent   fighter forces

his decision on the enemy but   he never allows the enemy's decision to be forced on him. He fights   only where and when he wishes   or he doesn't fight.

By offering baits we can lure the   enemy to approach at our decision or by making   obstacles   we can choose to   make   it   very difficult   for him

to approach. When the enemy is quietly recuperating, we can fatigue him; when he is well supplied, we can starve   him out; when securely encamped, we can make

him   march.   When we suddenly appear at vital   places which he must   defend he will   quickly abandon his ease, his storehouses and secure encampment.

An army may travel   great   distances   with   little   difficulty if it   moves   through   places   where there   are no enemies. We will succeed in