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

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 case, 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