forced to it by the necessities of the nation. A sovereign must never send his army to the field to gratify his annoyance and never attract unnecessary risk. Only if it is to your people's advantage to fight should you fight. The people's survival is of the greatest importance for after a time a sovereign's momentary anger will change to enduring gladness and a general's annoyance will be followed by contentment. But once to fight entails risk of defeat and a people destroyed can never again flourish, nor can the dead ever again be brought to life. In conclusion the wise sovereign is full of prudence and the good general is full of security. This is the way to keep the world at peace and an army intact.

CHAPTER 13 A Postscript on Accurate Information

Raising an army and moving the men great distances places heavy burdens on the people and a great strain on their government. The expenses will be enormous and there will be painful disorder at home and abroad. Many will die exhausted by their exertions and everyone will be obstructed from his life's work. Large numbers of people will suffer and struggle years for the diplomatic decision which is concluded in a single day. This is a very sad truth. The general is unnecessarily cruel if he can't bring the war to an end simply because of his lack of accurate information. If he lacks this information because he refuses to barter away a little money or a few honors or a