

WAR WITHOUT RULES



CHINA'S PLAYBOOK FOR
GLOBAL DOMINATION

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most rapid development possible, there is a real danger that the slightest increase or decrease in any variable would be enough to touch off an ecological holocaust.

Again, I have to note how savvy the colonels were about terrorism and their reference to Osama bin Laden, more than two years before 9/11. They understood that traditional militaries—including the world's sole remaining superpower—were unprepared for a fight against terrorists willing to ignore international laws and norms of combat. They saw that the politics and bureaucracy of the United States would make it very hard to identify and stop terrorists who engaged in unrestricted warfare. The metaphor of “using a sledgehammer to kill an ant” is a depressing but not inaccurate way to describe the Bush administration's War on Terror.

The authors also understood that a successful plane hijacking or biochemical attack would have repercussions far beyond the actual number of casualties, as could cyberattacks that wipe out bank accounts or disrupt electrical grids. It's not that they were neglecting these specific tactics to the CCP, but they were taking an inventory of all the possible options for unconventional warfare. This ruthless inventory of options must concern our national security types, especially after the extended crisis caused by the coronavirus—or are we too fixated to recognize the kind of opportunities the CCP would eagerly exploit?

The next part, about ecological warfare, sounded crazy to me when I first encountered *UW*. Yet twenty years later, we have a much clearer picture of the long-term threat of climate change and China's role in making it worse. The CCP leads the world in emissions of carbon dioxide, which is heating up the planet at increas-

ing speed.* China is also the worst offender in overfishing the oceans in its never-ending quest to feed its massive population.† As with every other subject the CCP comments on, we can't believe a word about China's intent to fight climate change, despite its signing of the Paris Agreement. For instance, China has been going full speed ahead on fracking.‡

Nevertheless, climate activists like Greta Thunberg never seem to criticize China for its role in widespread ecological devastation over the past two decades. Instead, they tend to focus on the sins of the West and often fall for misinformation about China's efforts to go green. These misinformation campaigns, launched by the CCP and amplified by climate activists and international organizations like the UN, are an example of information warfare intersecting with ecological warfare. The UN also looks the other way in part because of the CCP's widespread graft and influence efforts against its bureaucrats.

Meanwhile, Americans accept damaging restrictions to their economy for the sake of climate change, accelerating widespread job losses as “dirty” manufacturing jobs continue to move offshore—often to China, where companies can pollute with little or no restriction. And American politicians want to ban fracking, even

*Andriy Blokhin, “The 5 Countries That Produce the Most Carbon Dioxide (CO2),” Investopedia, August 28, 2021, <https://www.investopedia.com/articles/investing/092915/5-countries-produce-most-carbon-dioxide-co2.asp>.

†Matthew Carney, “China's Super Trawlers Are Stripping the Ocean Bare as Its Hunger for Seafood Grows,” ABC News, September 29, 2018, updated October 4, 2018, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-09-30/china-super-trawlers-overfishing-world-oceans/10317394>.

‡Steven Lee Myers, “China Experiences a Fracking Boom, and All the Problems That Go with It,” *New York Times*, March 8, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/08/world/asia/china-shale-gas-fracking.html>.

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though the dangers of the process are exaggerated and it has helped drive our cost of natural gas to the lowest in the world.*

I'm not sure that a man-made El Niño climate effect is likely, but China's use of climate change as yet another opportunity to deceive and manipulate the West is deeply disturbing.

MORE TYPES OF NONMILITARY WARFARE

Aside from what we have discussed above, we can point out a number of other means and methods used to fight a non-military war, some of which already exist and some of which may exist in the future. Such means and methods include:

- *Psychological warfare (spreading rumors to intimidate the enemy and break his will)*
- *Smuggling warfare (throwing markets into confusion and attacking economic order)*
- *Media warfare (manipulating what people see and hear in order to lead public opinion)*
- *Drug warfare (obtaining sudden and huge illicit profits by spreading disaster in other countries)*
- *Network warfare (venturing out in secret and concealing one's identity in a type of warfare that is virtually impossible to guard against)*

*Christopher M. Matthews, "What Would Happen If the U.S. Banned Fracking?" *Wall Street Journal*, November 19, 2019, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/what-would-happen-if-the-u-s-banned-fracking-11574208146>.

THE WAR GOD'S FACE HAS BECOME INDISTINCT

- *Technological warfare (creating monopolies by setting standards independently)*
- *Fabrication warfare (presenting a counterfeit appearance of real strength before the eyes of the enemy)*
- *Resources warfare (grabbing riches by plundering stores of resources)*
- *Economic aid warfare (bestowing favor in the open and contriving to control matters in secret)*
- *Cultural warfare (leading cultural trends along in order to assimilate those with different views)*
- *International law warfare (seizing the earliest opportunity to set up regulations)*

In addition, there are other types of non-military warfare which are too numerous to mention. In this age, when the plethora of new technologies can in turn give rise to a plethora of new means and methods of fighting war, (not to mention the cross-combining and creative use of these means and methods), it would simply be senseless and a waste of effort to list all of the means and methods one by one.... Faced with a nearly infinitely diverse array of options to choose from, why do people want to enmesh themselves in a web of their own making and select and use means of warfare that are limited to the realm of the force of arms and military power? Methods that are not characterized by the use of the force of arms, nor by the use of military power, nor even by the presence of casualties and bloodshed, are just as likely to facilitate the successful realization of the war's goals, if not more so.... This prospect has led to revision of the statement that "war is politics with bloodshed," and in turn has also led to a change in the