

# China's Plan To Conquer The United States And The West In 3 Simple Steps

Once you see the plan, you realize we're already close to losing



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In 1999, two colonels in China's People's Liberation Army wrote a strategy piece called *Unrestricted Warfare*. It gives guidance on how China can defeat the United States and the West in general.

The 228 pages are a surprisingly easy and entertaining read. They're also illuminating.

Once you see the strategy, you can't unsee it. Moreover, you notice it being implemented everywhere by modern-day China, and the West getting their clock cleaned in just about every theater. But this isn't unusual.

History is a series of breadcrumbs leading down a trail that we're not observant enough to see in the present.

It's why the 9-11 Commission commented that Al Qaeda was at war with the West long before it noticed. This is despite a series of attacks (1992 Yemen, 1993 WTC bombing, 1996 Khobar Towers, 1998 embassy bombings).

There's also the Allies before WWII missing the intentions of Adolph Hitler, although he wrote them down clearly in his manifesto *Mein Kampf*.

It's always easy to connect the dots after the fact, though. And if you spent every available minute attempting to connect every dot possible, you'd miss life altogether, burning down the present while worrying about endless contingencies not likely to happen.

But *Unrestricted Warfare* is different. It's not one of those endless contingencies unlikely to happen. It's happening right now, and has been slowly percolating for about 20 years. The piece is one of those breadcrumbs historians will rave about in the future.

While Western militaries have noticed and wrote much about the document, they skipped the standard civilian. We don't know it exists. We're all too busy streaming, fighting with each other, and watching explosions around us without connecting the dots.

But now we have 20 years' worth of information: breadcrumbs and linked dots. So, what is *Unrestricted Warfare*?

### **The document**

Initially, *Unrestricted Warfare* was China's response to the crushing defeat of Saddam Hussein and his expulsion from Kuwait. Colonels Qiao Liang and Wang Xiangsui instantly realized traditional military entanglements with stronger Western opponents weren't a winning strategy.

So, they produced an alternative path for eventual conflict with the West that didn't involve warfare by traditional military means. It uses 3 tenants:

1. Expand the definition of battlefields and weapons.
2. Expand traditional limits and combine methods.
3. Win by untraditional victory with erosion.

The strategy is simple by design. So simple in fact, the enemy can't see it being enacted until it's too late. They only notice it after they're surrounded on many fronts and are too worn down to fight.

If implemented perfectly, there may be no need to fire a weapon; your enemy just sulks in a corner and gives up.

T.E. Lawrence dreamed of such a strategy while fighting in the Middle East during World War I. In his *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, Lawrence contemplated a war without casualties. By just occupying space and denying the enemy resources, his side could win a war without death.

Xiangsui and Liang worked out a method to do the same thing, except they favor the language of Sun Tzu.

Their plan starts with expanding what a battlefield is and what weapons are.

## The new battlefield and weapons

*“Everything that can benefit mankind can also harm him. This is to say that there is nothing in the world today that cannot become a weapon, and this requires that our understanding of weapons must have an awareness that breaks through all boundaries...As we see it, a single man-made stock-market crash, a single computer virus invasion, or a single rumor or scandal that results in a fluctuation in the enemy country’s exchange rates or exposes the leaders of an enemy country on the Internet, all can be included in the ranks of new-concept weapons.”*

— *Unrestricted Warfare*, Qiao Liang and Wang Xiangsui

The fight isn’t limited to a location where armies or navies shoot at each other. The new battlefield is everywhere. Hence, civilians aren’t exempt from the fallout; they’ll play a big part in the war and its consequences.

This extends to weapons too. Liang and Xiangsui say “Technology is the totem of modern man,” and the West worships and is blinded by it. To the Western mind, the way to improve weapons is to build more expensive versions.

This creates a trap where you’re in an endless circle of spending more and more money to protect yourself. But some of the greatest weapons are cheap. They also don’t resemble weapons in the traditional form when anything can be a weapon, and the battlefield is everywhere.

According to Liang and Xiangsui:

*“Such means and methods include psychological warfare (spreading rumors to intimidate the enemy and break down 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 along); 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); 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); and international law warfare (seizing the earliest opportunity to set up regulations).”

So, when the New Lines Institute explains that Chinese overproduction in mining put many Western mining companies out of business, giving them a stranglehold on raw materials, the strategy makes sense. China also holds a dominant position in refining later down the value chain. It’s resource warfare.

According to New Lines:

*“China’s grip on critical minerals is not limited to extraction. The real chokehold is in processing. China refines 73% of the world’s cobalt, 68% of its nickel, 59% of lithium, and 40% of copper. For rare earths, China is responsible for approximately 61% of global production and 92% of processing. This gives Beijing the ability to dictate global prices, limit availability, and impose export restrictions at will.”*

Lydia Tze at the Asian publication The Diplomat also points out China is taking the same initiative with fluorite. This is a precursor product for “metallurgical processing and electric vehicle batteries to aerospace engineering, nuclear energy production, and semiconductor manufacturing.”

Tze tells us China not only produces almost 70% of the world’s fluorite, but focuses on the processing end of the value chain. They also process over half the fluorite in the world.

This gives China “dominance in purification,” where “downstream products require extremely high purity standards before they can be deployed in semiconductors, batteries or advanced manufacturing.”

Personally, I focused on “drug warfare.” Growing up and working in the heroin capital of the East Coast of the United States has given me a first-hand view of the fentanyl crisis.

#### **Every Day I Watch The Frontlines Of A War America Is Losing**

Its weapons destroy the mind, are cheap, and were prophesized 85 years ago

medium.com

The majority of this comes from China and floods our streets, enabling drug dealers to cut their products with cheap fentanyl so they can conveniently keep their prices down when inflation raises everything else.

As Liang and Xiangsui tell us, “on the battlefield, someone who is injured requires more care than someone who is killed, and unmanned weapons can eliminate increasingly expensive protective facilities.”

So, drugs work as a sort of landmine. This unmanned weapon maims its user, requiring a community to hold them up, siphoning away resources. Furthermore, “casualties can strip away an enemy’s combat capabilities, causing him to panic and lose the will to fight, so this may be considered an extremely worthwhile way to achieve victory.”

You could also encourage Chinese scholars to start campaigns trying to convince people that Aristotle never existed to diminish the cultural prominence of the West (cultural warfare).

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| <p><b>How Aristotle Became A Pawn In A Cold War Between China And The West</b></p> <p>Eastern scholars are saying the great philosopher didn't exist</p> <p>medium.com</p> |  |
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Then, there’s the propaganda radio network China started across the United States (media warfare). This also dovetails with the recent case of a mayor within California resigning after being discovered working as an agent for the Chinese government. She was spreading pro-Chinese propaganda at the behest of a foreign handler.

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| <p><b>I Spent A Year Listening To A Chinese Propaganda Network</b></p> <p>Here's what I learned and why we shouldn't shut it down</p> <p>medium.com</p> |  |
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The Chinese officers call these new forms of arms “kinder weapons,” but these munitions and the new battlefields are just the start.

## Expanding traditional limits and combining them

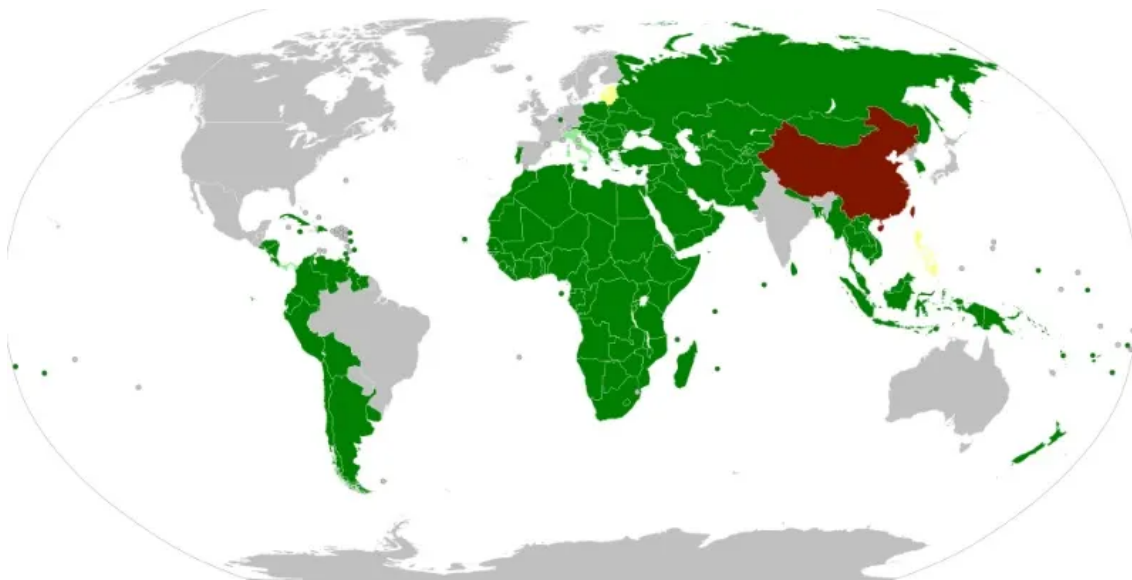
Once you've adjusted your view of what weapons and battlefields are, next is changing strategy. First, a grand strategy often becomes too overwhelming for a strategist. For example, let's take world domination.

You can dominate the world in so many ways that it'll get you moving in too many directions at once, where effectively there's no movement.

So, Liang and Xiangsui recommend "limited objectives" with "unlimited measures." In other words, pick out one limited measurable goal, then throw unlimited resources at it. Also, leverage supra-national organizations, like the WHO, UN, World Bank, WTO, IMF, and OPEC.

For instance, let's say your limited objective goal is achieve dominance by a certain percentage in the previously mentioned cobalt, nickel, rare earths, or fluorite.

Well, you could invest through the government into monopolizing those resources, but that's a limited measure. It would be better to link investments in these resources to your Belt and Road Initiative, which involves Chinese funding of infrastructure through loans to other nations.



Dark Green Are Countries Within China's Belt And Road Initiative (2025) — By [Auguste76840](#) Via [Wikimedia Commons](#)

The *New Lines Institute* mentions these loans are often paid for with minerals, creating what they call "a silent cartel" that locks Western companies out of access throughout Africa and Central Asia. You can also lower environmental requirements dramatically.

Now, let's say you want to work on media warfare with the limited objective of isolating Taiwan. Well, you could leverage the World Health Organization (WHO) into refusing to even mention Taiwan's name during media interviews. Don't snicker, this happened while COVID was raging.

A recent study by Meta also found LLMs created by Anthropic, DeepSeek, Google, Meta, and OpenAI are often a lot less likely to criticize governments that restrict free speech.

Sarah McLaughlin, a writer at the *Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE)*, says, "When prompted to produce 'politically critical materials,' on average, the models refused a shocking 45% requests about China."

McLaughlin thinks that a mixture of cowardice and profitability drives these modifications of the AI. She believes "Executives see the writing on the wall and simply presume self-censorship is a precondition for market access and voluntarily decide to play ball." In this way, China sets a standard through media and technological warfare by implied threat.

Also, just because you've focused on limited objectives doesn't mean you *can't* have a grand strategy. Liang and Xiangsui say the ultimate way to wield these tools is to fire multiple weapons at once in combination, so your enemy is getting hit from so many angles they can't make sense of it.

This leads us to the final tenant.

### **Win by untraditional victory and erosion**

Liang and Xiangsui say all these kinder weapons wear your enemy away by asymmetry. By this, they mean as the West invests more money in things that go bang, smaller investments in kinder weapons give more bang for the buck over time. These advantages go unnoticed, at least for a while.

So let's say if a global war does break out, China produces more steel than all other countries combined, builds over half the world's ships, has a stranglehold on rare earth minerals, and accounts for nearly 30% of global manufacturing.

All this before a shot is even fired. But Liang and Xiangsui's true goal is to win without firing a shot. The best win is by erosion. What's that look like? Well, I'll lay out an exercise involving Taiwan.

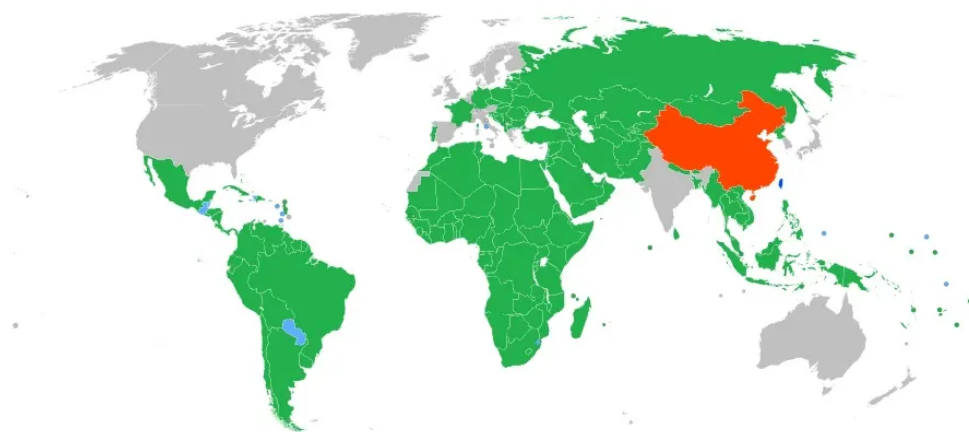
The *Center for Strategic and International Studies* has a scenario where China can defeat Taiwan without the invasion everyone fears. It would involve a quarantine.

Instead of invading the island or blockading it, China could use its huge coast guard to sit off main Taiwan ports and stop every ship coming in, then inspect them. It wouldn't be an act of war, more an act of annoyance.

The delays would wreak havoc with Taiwan's economy and slow down the resupply of energy critically needed for the island nation, weakening it over time and eventually causing it to give in to Chinese demands.

Since shots aren't being fired, it would lead to confusion with a global response. Also, China has other cards to play if others do complain. For instance, it's already convinced main officials from the WHO not to say the island's name and has many nations on the hook for loans.

Moreover, China has already got 74% of the countries within the UN to declare that Taiwan is part of China. After all, why wouldn't you? They could limit your access to trade, money, or pummel you with a media blitz.



Nations That Recognize Taiwan As Part Of China In Green — By [The Account 2](#) Via [Wikimedia Commons](#)

So, when China conducts their quarantine, most will shrug their shoulders. They've effectively eroded the will to fight for many and win by untraditional victory.

Consider the advantages China has in manufacturing, steel, and mineral production, along with their willingness to pursue these. Now, think about how many people in the United States lose their mind when gas goes up a few dollars. Is the West really going to inconvenience itself for Taiwan?

Why raise a fuss? Just let the communist party have what it wants (90% of the world's advanced microchip manufacturing ability) and enjoy a cat video on TikTok. Conflict would be too hard. This is erosion, and the West has been effectively eroded.

This strategy won't stop at Taiwan either. It'll continue to wear us away until we sink in a corner and just give up altogether, just as Liang and Xiangsui predicted.

Honestly, it's a brilliant plan, and you can't help but see it everywhere. If we survive — and I mean if — it'll make us stronger and more resilient since our affluence started sucking away our strength over the generations.

Just think about this as we fight amongst ourselves over the regular nonsense the media puts out every day. A strong determined government is at war with us, firing every “kind” weapon they have at their disposal.

We just haven't noticed it yet.