

War as Pedagogy

(handouts)

Questions

- Who was schooled?
 - Vietnam?
 - The Chinese leadership?
 - The Chinese generals?
 - The Soviet Union?
- What role did the American president and his National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski play in these events?
- On what basis do we assess victory and defeat?
- How is the Sino-Vietnamese War of 1979 relevant in the 21st century?

War is . . .

- “an act of force to compel our enemy to do our will.” (Clausewitz)
- “the continuation of policy by other means.” (Clausewitz)
- “a great affair of the state. The field of life and death. The way of preservation and extinction.” (Sunzi a.k.a. Sun Tzu)
- “organized violence carried on by political units against each other for political motives.” (Colin Gray)

CARL VON CLAUSEWITZ

ON WAR*Indexed Edition**Edited and Translated by*

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*Introductory Essays by PETER PARET,
MICHAEL HOWARD, and BERNARD BRODIE;
with a Commentary by BERNARD BRODIE*

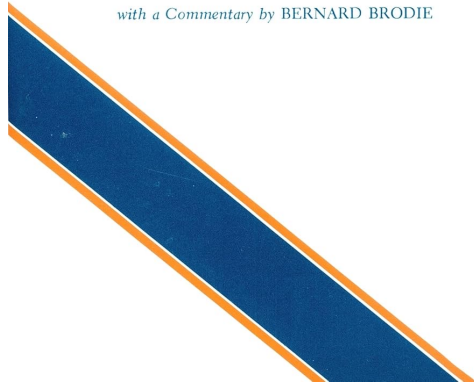
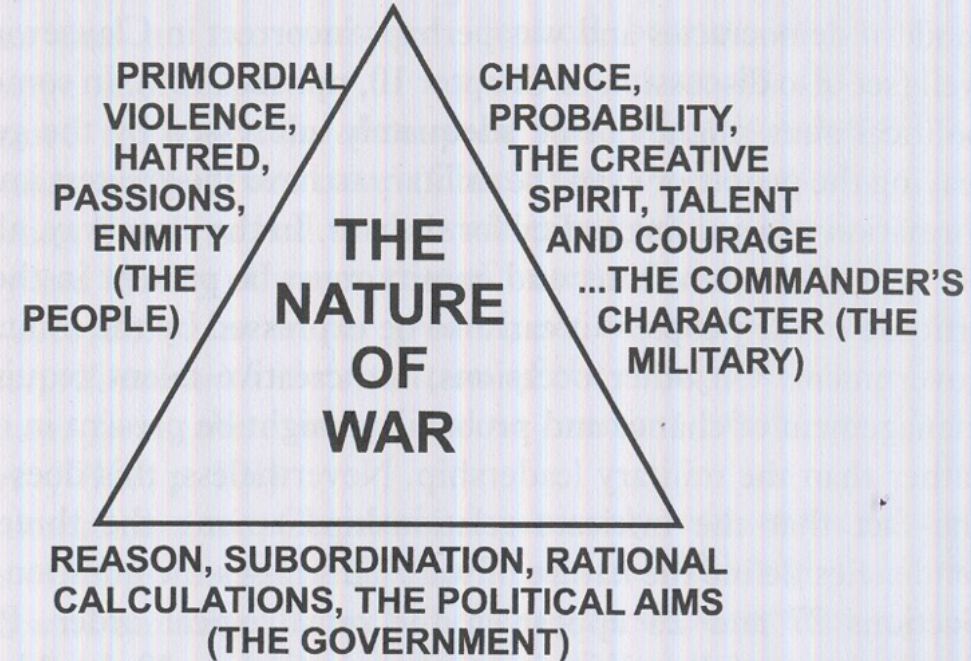


FIGURE 9.2
THE THREE DOMINANT TENDENCIES OF WAR



Clausewitz's
“wondrous trinity”

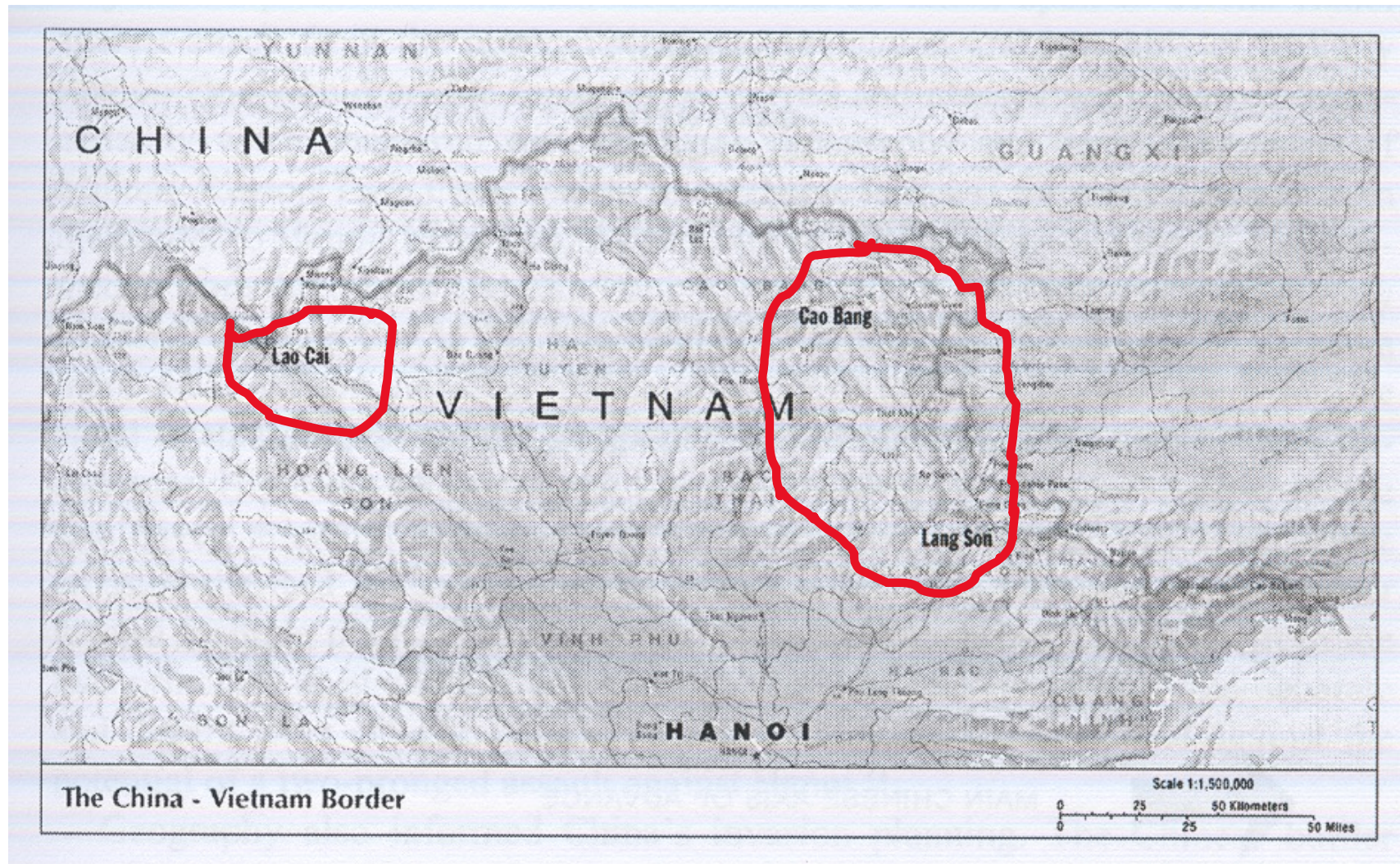
Carl Philipp Gottlieb Clauswitz (1780-1831)

Levels of warfare

H-4

- **Grand strategy**
 - use a **combination** of instruments of power—including military, diplomatic, economic, cultural . . . to achieve national goals.
- **Theater (military) strategy**
 - Use the military instruments to achieve the goals set by grand strategy within a given theater of war
- **Operations**
 - the movement of larger military units, including army divisions, naval task forces, and wings of aircraft to achieve a theater (military) strategic goal.
- **Tactics**
 - Using small units (platoons, companies, ships, and squadrons) in a battle space to achieve specific goals (a.k.a. killing people and breaking stuff).

The two-theater war plan: west and east



Soc Giang

H-6

