The Element of Nature in Military Campaigns

From ancient to modern times, there are numerous examples of the use of weather to win wars. Weather is a powerful support if we can make full use of it, at the same time, it’s a horrible barrier if it is ignored. So, weather is a vital factor in winning a war.

Actually, in history, anyone who attached great importance to weather would get the advantage of winning the war. In 1812 and 1941, both Napoleon and Hitler made a serious fault of ignoring the freezing weather in Russia, as a result, they were both defeated. The weather in Russia has become an icy defender.

Another example in ancient China is the battle of Chibi, Cao led 500 thousand troops against the south of China, he connected all the ships together to make it stable, someone reminded him of the danger of fire attack, but he didn’t care about it, he thought there can’t be south east wind in severe winter.

However, ZhugeLiang predicted a south east wind, at that night, he pretended to “borrow east wind” ,sure enough, the wind came. At the same time, they set fire to Cao’s ships. In a flash, the fire spread quickly in Cao’s ships and all the ships were destroyed by the fire, Cao paid for his mistake of ignoring the weather.

In a word, the weather factors is more than important to a war, it can help someone as well as destory someone, which is depend on how to treat it correctly.