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Weather hazards in war! A weather hazard for one side may be a boon to the other. Almost any weather element may be a hazard. Rain, in addition to making fields and roads muddy, may turn creeks into rivers, making crossing difficult and even impossible. Sometimes artificial flooding is resorted to in order to impede the attacking or pursuing enemy. Hot weather is responsible for many ailments and sunstroke; and if accompanied by wind, dust storms may result; also mirages are then frequent, causing disconcerting visual effects. Cold weather has its advantages, but is generally considered poor for the attack. Clouds, fogs, mists, and often rain play important parts in screening certain operations of war.
