

I. "GUERRILLA WARFARE HAS INCREASINGLY
ENHANCED ITS STRATEGIC ROLE" - NHAN DAN

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[Nhan Dan article: "In July, August, and September, guerrilla warfare developed throughout the South"]

In coordination with the main force units' offensive gunfire, guerrilla warfare developed throughout the South in July, August, and September. The guerrillas relentlessly attacked the enemy throughout the mountain, delta, and urban areas, unrelentingly encircled and attacked him in his fortifications, and repeatedly attacked the Americans' and puppets' defensive positions.

During the months of the rainy season, the Americans and puppets have intensively taken precautionary measures against the guerrillas' attacks. They have sought by all means to alienate the PLAF from the local people and, at the same time, have strengthened their defense structure and have intensively used technical equipment, bombs, and other ammunition in the hope of deterring the guerrillas' attacks against their defense network.

Developing their offensive spirit, relying on the assistance of and coordination with the people, and overcoming all difficulties and hardships, the guerrillas and regional troops took the initiative in besieging thousands of the enemy's positions and in continuously attacking his field positions. In close coordination with some main-force units of the PLAF, the guerrillas unleashed successive waves of offensive activities in the localities, attacking many enemy military posts within a short period of time.

During the past three months, the Tri Thien guerrillas attacked more than 100 U.S. -puppet positions in seven district capitals and military subsectors, from Dong Ha to Phu Vang and Phu Lap. In the Central Trung Bo provinces, the guerrillas attacked hundreds of the enemy's positions within short periods of time, razing dozens of military posts in each wave of vigorous offensive activity in August and September. In various localities--such as Binh Dinh and Phu Yen--guerrilla warfare was further developed. This new development was demonstrated by successive waves of attacks against the enemy's occupation and control network in Hoai Nhon, Phu My, Phu Cat, Tuy Phuoc, Binh Khe, Tan Dinh, Tan Hoa, Lien Hoi, Phu Qui, Cung Son, Phu Thanh, Tuy An and Tuy Hoa.

In the Mekong Delta, guerrilla warfare was developed even more vigorously. The guerrillas in the provinces of Ben Tre, My Tho, Can Tho, and Rach Gia attacked hundreds of enemy positions and unleashed concerted waves of attacks against about one dozen district capitals and military subsectors in a single night, razing hundreds of military posts and completely annihilating hundreds of puppet civil guard and militia platoons and squads in their fortifications. In only two weeks of August, the guerrillas in An Bien district annihilated six military posts and razed one defense area of the enemy. Along with encircling and attacking the enemy's military-post network, the guerrillas relentlessly attacked his bondage system, directed a strategically serious blow at the Americans' and puppets' occupation and control forces, and smashed their defense positions in many localities.

During the past three months, the southern guerrillas launched violent attacks against the Americans' and puppets' communication lines, creating many difficulties for them in their military movement operations. Determined to turn the enemy's communication lines into a battleground and to annihilate him, the southern guerrilla combatants and compatriots wrecked hundreds of bridges and intercepted and vigorously attacked the enemy while he was conducting supply operations.

The Tri Thien guerrillas laid many outstanding ambushes against the enemy along various ground and riverine communication lines. In northern Quang Tri, despite the enemy's defensive maneuvers, the guerrillas repeatedly launched dozens of attacks against and destroyed many of his military vehicles along the Tan Lam-Dau Mau route. The guerrillas also sank many enemy ships and combat launches along the Cua Viet river. The Quang Nam guerrillas on many occasions gained control over various sections of route #1 and successively derailed seven enemy military trains running from Hue to Danang. The guerrillas in Quang Da, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, and Binh Thuan, repeatedly cut route #1, attacked the enemy's railroad, and ambushed him along various roads running from the east to the west, destroying hundreds of military vehicles and seriously mauling many enemy transportation units.

The guerrillas in the highlands also launched hundreds of attacks against the enemy along routes 14, 21 and 19, especially along the An Khe-Fleiku and Tra Tan-Gia Rai sections of these routes. In some of these attacks, the guerrillas destroyed dozens of military trucks and armored vehicles.

In Tay Ninh, Binh Long and Bien Hoa, the guerrillas and regional troops continuously attacked the enemy along routes 15, 16, 20, and 22 and along the Vam Co river, annihilating many truck convoys and creating many difficulties for the Americans and puppets in moving troops and supplies to Cambodia.

The guerrillas in the Mekong Delta provinces regularly threatened the enemy's strategic communication lines--such as routes 4 and 20 and the Ham Luong, Long Tao, Vam Co, Ong Doc, Binh Dai, and Giong Trom rivers. The My Tho guerrillas gained control over many sections of routes 4 and 40, and sank many enemy ships and boats along the Nguyen Tan Thanh canal. On 16 August the My Tho guerrillas annihilated four enemy ships. The Ben Tre guerrillas repeatedly attacked the enemy's small - flotilla base and destroyed many ferry stations.

The guerrillas in Rach Gia, Ca Mau and An Giang on several occasions gained control over the rivers and opened fire on and sank or set ablaze many enemy ships and motor-boats. In the Kinh Xang-Keo Ro area, in a wave of counterattacks against the enemy who was conducting plundering operations the guerrillas sank 15 enemy ships and motorboats. Within 15 days of August, the guerrillas annihilated eight enemy ships along the Ong Doc river.

The southern guerrillas also intensively harrassed the enemy's air movement. In Quang Tri, the guerrilla combatants once annihilated five enemy helicopters in a single day. During the first three days of August, the Lam Dong guerrillas downed three U.S. aircraft, including one E-57, killing one U.S. general aboard one of these aircraft. The Rach Gia and Ca Mau guerrillas downed about one dozen enemy helicopters in a single day.

During the past three months, the southern guerrillas continuously attacked the enemy's communication lines, mauling or annihilating his troops strength and mobile units and creating great difficulties for him in the movement of troops and supplies.

Persistently attacking the enemy outside his fortifications and thwarting many U.S. -puppet pacification and encirclement breaking operations, the southern regional troops and guerrillas scored outstanding achievements in countering the enemy's pacification operations.

Employing locally available forces and fighting from their pre-established battle positions, the guerrillas in various localities

intercepted in time the Americans and puppets when they set out to carry out acts of robbery. The guerrillas also thwarted thousands of the enemy's tactical operations and annihilated tens of thousands of his troops outside their fortifications. The Tri-Thien guerrillas fought very stalwartly, thwarted hundreds of enemy operations in the districts of Hai Lang, Trieu Phong, Phong Dien, and Quang Dien and in the suburban areas of Hue, and firmly protected the newly created guerrilla zones (Khu Du Kich --Ed) in the enemy's rear. The Quang Nam and Quang Ngai guerrillas thwarted many U.S. -puppet operations in Que Son, Thang Binh, Hoi An, and Tam Ky areas and in the western area of Danang, courageously counterattacked units of the U.S. Americal division and the puppet marines who were conducting protracted operations in the Kham Duc, Thuong Duc, Tra Mi, and Ben Rang areas, and annihilated thousands of enemy. In Binh Dinh and Phu Yen, the guerrillas thwarted a large-scale operation conducted by the Pak Chong-hui troops in the (? Son Cuoc) area, annihilating hundreds of them. The guerrillas in southern Trung Bo, eastern Nam Bo, and the highlands intensively intercepted the enemy who was conducting operations, and annihilated tens of thousands of U.S. puppet, and satellite troops. In the Mekong Delta, in coordination with some liberation main force units, the guerrillas in Rach Gia, Ca Mau, Ben Tre, and My Tho thwarted almost all of the enemy's big and small operations.

In August and September, the liberation combatants completely annihilated four enemy battalions, seriously mauled many puppet main force battalions and civil guards intergroups/^{put}out of action dozens of companies and platoons, and directed staggering blows at the puppet 7th, 8th, and 21st divisions.

In the Mekong Delta, guerrilla warfare continued to bankrupt the small-flotilla and helicopter-borne tactics employed by the enemy in his plundering operations.

During the past three months, stalwartly countering the enemy's operations, the southern guerrillas, in coordination with the liberation main force units, foiled the Abram clique's encirclement-breaking and pacification operations, firmly protected the liberated areas and the guerrilla zones, constantly harassed the enemy, continuously besieged him, extensively mauled or annihilated his forces outside their fortifications, and weakened his mobile units. The southern guerrillas also launched deep-penetration attacks against the enemy's lairs, threatened his rearbase, and supported the arising compatriots in regaining control over their hamlets.

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During the past three months, guerrilla warfare continued to develop in the southern urban areas. The armed self-defense combatants launched hundreds of attacks against the enemy, annihilating many stubborn tyrants. Despite the enemy's feverish precautionary measures, the guerrillas' offensive gunfire continued unabated in various large cities, such as Hue, Danang, and Saigon. The armed self-defense combatants in Hue wrecked the Truong Tien bridge and opened fire on puppet policemen in a cinema, annihilating 50 of them.

The Danang armed self-defense combatants launched many attacks against the enemy along Trung Nu Vuong and Trinh Minh The streets. The guerrillas also were active in the suburban areas of Danang.

In Saigon, the self-defense combatants continuously held armed propaganda sessions in various precincts, repeatedly punished the diehard policemen, shelled the U.S.-puppet ringleaders' lairs, and wrecked many police stations.

In the township of Qui Nhon, Nha Trang, Dalat, My Tho, Ben Tre, Phan Thiet, Banmethuot, and so forth, the guerrillas increasingly intensified their activities. Developing guerrilla warfare in the cities, the urban self-defense combatants supported the widespread, seething struggle movement of the urban compatriots demanding that the Americans go home and that the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique be overthrown. This struggle movement has rendered the Americans' and puppets' (words indistinct).

Taking the initiative in intensively and relentlessly attacking the enemy everywhere, the southern guerrillas annihilated the enemy's control forces chunk by chunk and supported the arising compatriots in regaining control over hundreds of hamlets. Intensively and extensively developed by the southern armed forces and people, guerrilla warfare has increasingly enhanced its strategic role in the people's war and has made an important contribution toward completely frustrating the U.S. aggressors' Vietnamization-of-the-war scheme.