

Historic Lao Dong Documents (Hanoi Feb 3, 1970)
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The Problem of Organizing Self-Defense and Small Guerrilla Units
(25-27 September 1941)

1. It is necessary to differentiate between self-defense and guerrilla units. Guerrilla units are those revolutionary, main force units which participate directly in armed combat against the enemy. As for self-defense units, they only are responsible for guiding and protecting organizations and revolutionary soldiers and participating in struggles and espionage activities for guerrilla units. Those who do well in self-defense units will be selected for duty with guerrilla units. The requirements for enlistment in self-defense units are lighter and attract a great many more people.

It is necessary to explain these different conditions so that the self-defense unit members will clearly understand them.

4. Depending upon the locality, that is, whether it is close to the mountains, lines of communications, or army camps, it is necessary to select elements from among the self-defense unit members and to organize them into small guerrilla teams. They must operate independently and receive special training in order to be prepared to fight the enemy in miscellaneous battles, destroy lines of communications and transportation, and so forth. The guerrilla team is the sapling of the future guerrilla unit in the delta.

Resolution of the Bac Ky Cadre
Conference on 25, 26, and 27
September 1941