necessary to strengthen the Party echelons' leadership over the local military task, streamline the local military organs, and build and improve the contingent of local military cadres. The local military requirements: serving as advisers to the local Party committees in stepping up the local military tasks, guiding and commanding the local forces in construction and combat, and guiding the local people's armed forces.

It is necessary to improve the leadership and guidance of the local military tasks so they can meet promptly the present and future local requirements for national defense and keep pace with the increasingly great possibilities for building and development of the local economies.

To enable the armed forces to master modern technical equipment, grasp and apply military art principles proficiently, and acquire a high combat ability, it is necessary to concentrate on the military training task. This is a very important, permanent task in building the armed forces in peacetime as well as in wartime and a problem of decisive importance regarding the raising of the armed forces' combat efficiency and combat readiness level.

The aim of military training is to defeat the enemy. Thus, training must be consistent with the military tasks and line, the military art requirements, our present situation and the enemy's in each period of time. It is necessary to understand this principle thoroughly: Train the armed forces comprehensively so they can meet all war requirements and acquire a fighting will, an organizational and disciplinary sense, combat behavior, physical strength, and technical and tactical skills, improve the military training in the best way so it can meet the requirements of combat realities, and heighten the cadres' and combatants' offensive will, resoluteness, braverly, resourcefulness, and creativeness in all combat activities.

To meet the requirements of modern war it is necessary, on the basis of understanding the views on combat guidance and our armed forces' military art, to train the cadres and combatants to understand and use all modern technical equipment proficiently and apply properly all principles regarding military campaigns,
tactics, and the organization and command of coordinated combat in the armed branches and forces. The troops must be trained to apply as many tactics as possible, to be skillful in the offensive or defensive in staging mobile assault attacks, in attacking the enemy in his well-defended fortifications, in fighting coordinated or isolated battles, and to be proficient in initiating attacks of various scopes on many different terrains, under all weather conditions, and under all complicated circumstances. Our armed forces must be able and ready to defeat the enemy with ordinary weapons or when he recklessly uses nuclear and chemical weapons.

To win victories in coordinated combat our armed forces must be strong in all their structures, from the upper to the lower levels and from the command organs to the basic units, at all levels, and in all branches and organs. For this reason it is necessary to train individuals, detachments, military groups, command organs, combat units, and preserve forces in campaigns and tactics, to grasp the task of training command cadres and organs, and to concentrate on building very strong and seasoned basic units.

It is necessary to make the armed forces follow closely the enemy's progress in every respect and stand ready to foil all his new combat measures. It is necessary to concentrate on learning from and developing creatively our armed forces' numerous combat experiences, while selecting and learning from the experiences of the armed forces of fraternal socialist states in a creative manner.

In building during wartime or in peace, it is very dangerous if we are self-satisfied with our success and do not improve the military art. Therefore we must closely coordinate the study of military science and the training tasks, develop and improve our military art constantly, pay due attention to recapitulating training experiences, improve training programs and training methods, and insure that our army can always develop its superior military art and its great combat strength to fight and defeat the enemy.

To carry out properly the task of building a modern, regular people's army, it is necessary to build a contingent of cadres steadfast and strong in every respect.
This contingent of cadres must be of a high quality and its number must be sufficient to meet the increasingly great requirements for the revolutionary task. It must represent the increasingly strong development of our armed forces which possess a strong nucleus force, a reserve force and an abundant successor force. It must possess a perfected, balanced structure comprising leading cadres, command cadres, specialist and technical cadres, managing cadres, basic cadres, regular cadres, local cadres, cadres of the permanent force, and cadres serving the reserve force. It must satisfy all requirements of the armed branches and services of our armed forces in wartime as well as in peacetime and now as well as in the future.

To build such a contingent of cadres, it is necessary first to permanently grasp and correctly implement the Party's line on the cadre tasks. This is a line regarding the working class cadres. The problem concerning the working class character of the contingent of cadres is a basic one within this line. Whether this problem is solved properly or not is closely related to the maintenance and development of the revolutionary character of our armed forces, to the armed forces' steadfastness and resoluteness under all circumstances, and to the heightening of our armed forces' revolutionary offensive spirit and revolutionary heroism. In any situation, we must thoroughly understand the Party's line on cadres and must seriously follow the class trend and political criteria for each phase of the revolution's development as pointed out by the Party. It is necessary to hold fast to this principle: Under the conditions of a society facing the problems of class, war and the army, the class nature in building the contingent of cadres of the armed forces must not be neglected.

Because our cadres belong to a revolutionary, modern, and regular army, they must acquire a strong political ability, political, military, specialized, and technical skills, and an increasingly high cultural knowledge. The cadre's quality must be revealed in his ability to fulfill all combat missions and tasks entrusted by the Party.

Our cadres must first be absolutely loyal to the Party, the revolutionary undertaking of the proletariat, and the communist ideal; must be endowed with warm patriotism; must serve the
people and fatherland wholeheartedly; must have pure revolutionary sentiments, a strong revolutionary offensive spirit, a determination to fight and win, and a deep hatred for the enemy; must fight bravely and work devotedly; must display a high sense of organization and discipline and a good combat and work behavior; must fear neither hardships nor sacrifices; and must fulfill all tasks under all circumstances bravely, resolutely, resourcefully, and creatively.

Our cadres must widen and deepen their political, military, scientific, and technical knowledge; must possess the necessary economic knowledge; and must have the ability to lead, guide, organize and act. Our cadres must endeavor to study and hold fast to the Marxist-Leninist principles on the war and army; must be imbued with the Party's military and political lines and military science; and must understand our nation's tradition and experiences in the struggle against aggression. Our cadres must attentively study to understand the enemy better, must select and learn from the experiences of fraternal socialist countries in a creative manner, and must be aware of the new achievements of the world's military science. It is necessary to struggle tenaciously to improve cultural, scientific and technical knowledge and to increase the capability to manage and train troops, the capability to carry out leadership and guidance, and the capability to organize coordinated combat of the armed branches and forces.

The building of a modern, regular people's army requires a contingent of cadres well-versed in techniques and steadfast in politics to serve as the nucleus in the use, management, improvement, and invention of modern technical equipment. This contingent of technical cadres must include the cadres of all necessary branches at various levels, ranging from middle-level and high-level cadres to engineers and scientists. They must understand and master modern science and technology and must apply this knowledge creatively to solve our armed forces' technical problems properly while contributing to building our country's science and technology. We must also possess a contingent of cadres in charge of research who have some knowledge of Marxism-Lenism, military science, and the realities of the revolution and revolutionary war in our country, so they can serve as the nucleus in the study and development of military theories and military science.
When dealing with the contingent of cadres of the people's armed forces, we must deal with the reserve cadre force whose important role is connected with the position of the reserve force of the armed forces in wartime. So, along with building the body of cadres of the permanent force, it is necessary to concentrate on building the reserve cadre force. The reserve cadre force must be powerful and of good quality. The number of its cadres must be sufficient. It must possess a perfected, balanced structure to meet the need for developing the strength of the armed forces and various armed branches and services under all circumstances. It is necessary to manage properly the reassigned and demobilized cadres of the army and to build a good system of training reserve cadres and systems of enrollment, statistics and mobilization in various branches, state organs, enterprises, schools and in the civilian armed forces.

The rule of development of the revolution and revolutionary armed forces requires that our Party closely coordinate the cadres engaged in the fight for several years with the young cadres. It is necessary to concentrate positively on strengthening the veteran cadres while forming, improving and promoting boldly the young cadres who have matured in combat and work, who possess revolutionary qualities and abilities, whose future is promising and who can serve in the army for a long time.

To build a contingent of cadres, we must adopt many measures: carry out training in combat and work and form and strengthen cadres at school or while they are on duty. At present as in the future, the network of schools plays an important part. It is necessary to further consolidate the network of schools of our armed forces: the institutes, colleges and training and refresher schools of the armed branches and services and military regions.

Along with building a modern, regular people's army, it is necessary to strengthen and develop the civilian armed forces and to develop the militia and self-defense organizations in the countryside and cities by increasing their numerical strength and quality so that they can acquire an increasingly great combat strength consistent with our country's all-sided development in the socialist construction and with the increasingly great combat requirements of the people's war to protect the socialist fatherland under the present conditions.
These forces must be capable of serving as the nucleus for the entire people in the struggle to protect the localities, must develop their assault role in the task of developing the economy, and must serve as a powerful reserve force for the people's armed forces. This reserve force must become a strong and steadfast basis for the national defense and people's war and must be united with the people's armed forces into a powerful armed force of the socialist state to defeat the U.S. aggressors and all other future aggressors, to fulfill all tasks entrusted by the Party and people, to maintain all the fruits of the revolution, and to safeguard the fatherland's sovereignty, territorial integrity and security.

Building strong, broad civilian armed forces under all circumstances and in peacetime as in wartime is a concentrated manifestation of our people's high revolutionary vigilance. In the current anti-U.S. national salvation undertaking, it is necessary to intensify the building of the civilian armed forces in order to contribute to protecting and building our socialist North and to defeat all war schemes and acts of the U.S. imperialists. After our protracted and hard resistance against the aggressive U.S. imperialists ends successfully and after our people regain complete independence and freedom and start rebuilding the country in peacetime, our permanent armed forces at that time may be reduced. We must therefore intensify the building of the civilian armed forces to readily cope with any situation and must closely coordinate the economy with national defense and national reconstruction with the preparations for national defense.

As we all know, the masses' armed forces are one of the two fundamental components of our state's military organization. The militia and self-defense forces are one of the three troop categories of our people's armed forces. Since the militia and self-defense forces are the Party's revolutionary armed organization, they must be built according to the common lines, concepts, and principles regarding the building of the revolutionary armed forces. This is a matter of principle that we must never neglect. The militia and self-defense forces are not permanent armed forces because they are an armed organization that cannot be dissociated with production and because their members are at the same time civilians and military men. Consequently, the
militia and self-defense forces are different from the regular and regional forces which are permanent armed forces. It is necessary to clearly see the differences between the militia and self-defense forces and the people's army in order to step up the building of the people's armed forces and vigorously develop the very important strategic role of the militia and self-defense forces.

The militia and self-defense forces are the masses' large armed forces that reflect most concentratedly and most directly the mass character of the proletarian state's military organization, a character that originates from the liberation of the working class as Engel has predicted. These are the armed forces that can coordinate most closely and most directly with the political forces. The combat strength of the militia and self-defense forces originate directly from the strength of the masses in the localities and installations. Therefore, in building the militia and self-defense forces, it is very important to develop their numerical strength and to mobilize the greatest number of people in the local political forces to participate in this task.

The militia and self-defense forces are the armed forces that cannot be dissociated with production because they directly engage in production while directly participating in combat in order to protect production and the lives and property of the people. All military activities of the militia and self-defense forces are closely related with other production, economic, and cultural activities. The source of strength of the militia and self-defense forces lies in the comprehensive strength of the production organization. In the countryside, the combat strength of the militia is closely linked with the strength of the cooperatives. In cities and industrial areas, the strength of the self-defense corpsmen is closely linked with the comprehensive strength of the plants, enterprises, and industrial sites. Therefore, in building the militia and self-defense forces we must always associate production requirements closely with combat requirements and economic requirements closely with national defense requirements. If we do not respect this principle, we cannot successfully build the militia and self-defense forces and these forces cannot have combat strength.
The militia and self-defense forces are armed forces that are linked most closely and most directly with the installations and localities. They are the main force of the people's administration at the basic level. They are organized and guided by the local Party organization and built up according to the concrete conditions and circumstances in each locality and installations. The combat quality of the militia and self-defense forces must be reflected, first of all, through their ability to fulfill their combat and production missions right in the localities and installations.

In building the militia and self-defense forces, we must necessarily base ourselves on the combat and production requirements of each locality and each installation and on the real situation in the political, economic, military, and geographical aspects of each locality and each installation in order to have appropriate guidelines and measures to build the militia and self-defense forces and avoid the tendency to imitate mechanically.

The militia and self-defense forces are armed forces that carry out combat missions mainly by adopting the method of dispersing troops to fight the enemy, by applying guerrilla fighting methods, and by staying close to the people and holding on to the land in order to fight the enemy right in their production installations and native land. The militia and self-defense forces have the mission to seriously decimate or partially annihilate the enemy's strength and to directly maintain and protect the lives and property of the people in the installations and localities. Therefore, in building the militia and self-defense forces, we must not imitate in a mechanical way the method of building the regular and regional forces which are concentrated armed forces operating according to the principle of launching concentrated attacks with the use of regular troops at different levels.

The present northern militia and self-defense forces have been developed on the basis of a more and more consolidated and strengthened socialist regime. Therefore, it is necessary to thoroughly understand the characteristics of the socialist regime regarding production relations, class structure..., to bring into full play the political, spiritual and organizational superiority of the socialist regime and to thoroughly use the new potential of equipment and of the level of the comprehensive development of man in the collective workers' and peasants' class, in order to develop the militia and self-defense forces vigorously and constantly.
First of all we must considerably develop the militia and self-defense forces quantitatively. This is a very important requirement of the task of building the masses' armed forces. Lenin pointed out clearly: "The success of the revolution depends on the quantity of the proletarian masses and peasants that arise to defend the revolution..." (Footnote: Lenin, The First Success Of The Revolution, Quan Doi Nhan Dan Publishing House, p 122).

On the basis of the superiority of the socialist regime, we are fully able to organize a large number of the people in organizations for combat and serving combat demands in the localities and to increase the percentage of militiamen and self-defense combatants among the people, thus making the militia and self-defense forces the broad form of military organization of the working class. We advocate universal military training to enable all strata of our people, regardless of age and sex, to receive necessary, appropriate military preparations to fulfill the aspiration to participate in fighting the aggressors and defending the country. We are determined that when the aggressors recklessly wage a comprehensive war of aggression against our country they will encounter counterattacks, not by a few hundreds of thousands or a few millions but by tens of millions of people, that is, all our people from the mountains to the plain, from the midland to the coastal areas and from the rural areas to the cities will simultaneously stand firm in their localities and closely coordinate with the people's army to counterattack them everywhere in every way and with all kinds of weapons.

The strength of the masses' armed forces in the socialist regime does not lie only in quantity, but also in quality, in the political and spiritual strength, in organization, in equipment and weaponry, in combat methods..., but above all in political and spiritual strength. Therefore, it is necessary to thoroughly understand and apply the Party's principles of developing armed forces to militia and self-defense forces, constantly consolidate and strengthen the Party leadership over the militia and self-defense forces, attach utmost importance to the political task, be clearly aware of the class lines and political standards in organizing the militia and self-defense forces and make the militia and self-defense forces always be the sharp, trustworthy tools of the proletarian dictatorship at the basic levels. The militia and
self-defense forces' level of political awareness is linked most
directly with the working people's political level. Political­
ideological education for the militia and self-defense forces is
not separated from political-ideological education for all the working
people in the localities and installations and must be concertedly
conducted by the local Party organizations, mass organizations,
administrative organs, production installations and military organs.
Regarding the content of the political-ideological education,
besides general requirements for each citizen, it is necessary
to attach importance to make the militia and self-defense forces
thoroughly understand the duties of revolutionary armed forces
in general, and of the militia and self-defense forces in particular
and be thoroughly aware of the local military task. The militia
and self-defense forces must also heighten their revolutionary
vigilance, national defense consciousness and the spirit to fight
and sacrifice to protect the people's life and property in hamlets,
wards, cooperatives and factories, defend the people's administration
and the localities and develop collective ownership in defending
and developing the country.

Organizationally we must pay attention to building the militia
and guerrilla forces in the rural areas and cooperatives, and at
the same time to building the self-defense and combat self-defense
forces in the cities, industrial centers, worksites, state farms,
organs, schools.... Together with development of socialist
building, new industrial and economic areas are increasing, and
the ratio of workers, cadres, civil servants, and laborers in
the cities among the people is mounting. New changes are being
noted in the rural areas. Agricultural cooperatives are being
improved in production relations and strengthened in regard to
material and technical bases, and the collective peasantry is
increasingly maturing. This situation determines the increasingly
important role of the self-defense force, besides the militia force,
and consequently establishes the necessity to pay due attention to
building both the self-defense and militia forces. The self-defense
force must correctly reflect the overall development and combat
strength of the workers and laborers in the cities, and the militia
force must correctly reflect the overall development and combat
strength of the collective peasantry and the socialist rural areas
in the northern part of our country.
Our country has different regions covering mountains and forests, the midland, delta, and the coast. It has a large rural area, cities, and industrial centers. Each region has a different degree of importance in political, economic, and national defense matters, different characteristics in geography, population, customs, and habits, and different potentials in various respects. We must base ourselves on the characteristics, conditions, and situations in the localities in setting forth the tasks and trends for building the masses' armed forces in a suitable manner in various areas: these tasks and trends must vary from the mountain region to the delta, the coastal area to the hinterland, the rural areas to the cities, industrial centers, and areas along strategic communications lines. Only by so doing can we make the militia and self-defense forces in the localities bring into full play the capabilities in manpower, equipment, local logistics... of their own localities in order to build them into seasoned local forces with special combat and combat support capabilities suiting the conditions in each locality, and serving them as the core forces for vigorously developing the people's war at the basic level and as a shock force in building and developing the local economy.

The militia and self-defense forces perform the military task along with the production task or other tasks and missions in the state machinery. Therefore, in organizing the militia and self-defense forces we must take into account the situation at the time, production conditions, and the people's activities and study task, and base ourselves on such production bases as the production teams, cooperatives, factories, worksites, state farms, organs, schools, villages, hamlets, and city wards. Thus we will be able to insure that the militia and self-defense forces' activities closely coordinate combat and production activities with other tasks under all circumstances in wartime as well as in peacetime.

We must exploit and develop to the highest degree the available and increasingly developing capabilities of the national economic branches and other branches of activity in society, and rationally organize and use the militia and self-defense forces in these branches in order to improve combat efficiency and insure the combat and combat support tasks of these forces.
During the years of fighting against the war of destruction, self-defense organizations were formed in a number of cities and industrial sectors in the various branches, such as the machinery, construction, overland and water transportation, postal and medical branches, other branches of activity on rivers and seas, and so forth. Experiences show that if we know how to develop the technical and professional abilities of each branch, classify militia and self-defense forces according to their various missions, and base ourselves on that to set forth the correct trend for building and use of these forces and in rationally organizing and assigning tasks to them, the masses' armed forces will have new great capabilities to meet the new requirements of modern war, efficiently coordinate their activities with the local and main force troops, and replenish our VPA armed services and armed branches.

Regarding equipment, basing ourselves on combat requirements and terrain conditions, we advocate gradually equipping the guerrillas and combat self-defense forces with some suitable and fairly modern weapons and war means, while continuing to pay attention to developing the rudimentary and improved weapons. The technical revolution in the northern part of our country is aimed at building new socialist material and technical bases and at transforming handicraft laborers into mechanical laborers, thus giving another meaning to the motto "Equipped with whatever means available." This motto mainly referred to rudimentary techniques, but now it has a tendency to be related increasingly to modern techniques. With new capabilities in the localities at the present time, we must pay attention to using exhaustively modern and relatively modern weapons and equipment available to equip the key units of the militia and self-defense forces. However, we must not pay undue attention to rudimentary and improved weapons and equipment. The combat facts in our country show that rudimentary and improved weapons and equipment prove to be highly efficient, and that they have great power which enables all our people to take part in the fight against the enemy with many lively and resourceful fighting methods for self-defense in their own country. On the other hand, however developed the industry of a nation may be, it cannot practically arm all its people. Therefore, while key units of the masses' armed forces are equipped with new or relatively modern weapons and war means, the majority of the people must still use exhaustively all kinds of
improved rudimentary weapons and equipment to annihilate the enemy. Otherwise the solution to the problem of arming the entire people and the broad masses will certainly be limited.

It is necessary to step up the building and development of specialized cells, teams, and units having the characteristics of various armed branches in the militia and self-defense forces. This is a development step with the characteristic of a law in the task of improving the fighting strength of the militia and self-defense forces in the conditions of modern warfare, wherein the equipment of the militia and self-defense forces are further improved and strengthened each day, and in a situation in which our people are proceeding with socialist industrialization and the building of the material and technical bases for socialism.

Thanks to the Party's correct policies, during the years of struggling against the war of destruction, many antiaircraft machine gun, antiaircraft artillery, and ground artillery detachments, many engineer, signal, and fire fighting cells, and many fire detachments equipped with mortars and a number of other sophisticated weapons emerged in the militia and self-defense forces. The combat and combat support efficiency of the militia and self-defense forces has manifestly been improved. The militia and self-defense forces in various localities have downed many U.S. aircraft, set fire to U.S. warships, quickly and neatly annihilated enemy commando teams, skillfully manned relatively modern and modern equipment, made important contributions to detecting and demolishing sophisticated U.S. bombs, mines, and water mines, repaired and renewed roads, bridges, and airfields, built projects, and have produced much modern technical equipment for the antiaircraft artillery, missile, signal, engineer, and naval forces. This reality allows us to confirm that the militia and self-defense forces in the socialist North are totally capable of using satisfactorily various types of modern weapons and war means to fight the enemy and support combat in time. This capability will increase each day, because the cultural and technical knowledge and the organizational level of our people are being constantly improved and because we have a very great force of transferred and discharged soldiers serving as the core of the masses' armed organizations everywhere and consisting of cadres and combatants of various armed services and army branches of the people's army.
We must pay attention to the task of providing military training for the militia and self-defense forces and for all people. Basing ourselves on our methods of conducting the war and military arts, on the combat requirements and duty of the localities in different war situations, on our combat targets, and on the real situation concerning the militia and self-defense forces' TO/E, production activities, and tasks, we must study hard and determine the training contents and methods of training militia and self-defense forces in an appropriate manner.

We must train the militia and self-defense forces to possess a high offensive determination, to fully understand guidance and combat ideologies, to maintain a firm grasp on combat methods of guerrilla warfare in modern conditions, and to have good technical and tactical knowledge and good professional skills in accordance with the combat requirements in the localities. We must make the militia and self-defense forces familiarize themselves with the localities, possess an excellent independent fighting ability, and at the same time know how to extend close combat coordination with other combat armed forces in the localities. We must combine the military training of the militia and self-defense forces closely with production. In branches with enough conditions it is necessary to cleverly combine the task of improving combat and combat support skills with production skills. It is necessary to seriously consider the militia and self-defense forces' methods of fighting the enemy as an art and an important content of our military science, and on this basis properly set forth the problem of recapitulating the combat experiences of the masses' armed forces in both parts of our country, and study, build, and develop ceaselessly the art of fighting the enemy for the masses' armed forces in our country.

Along with the task of training the militia and self-defense forces and the reserve force, we must strengthen the task of military study within the Party and step up popular military education among the people. To build the nation's gallant tradition of protecting the country, our ancestors in the past centuries of independence brought into use many methods to encourage the people to undergo training in the martial arts, such as holding festivals with competitions in martial arts, wrestling, archery, and swordsmanship. We must solve this problem more satisfactorily
and advance toward promulgating a system of popular military education among the people in order to heighten realistically the national defense consciousness, improve military knowledge, and develop the gallant tradition of the entire people. It is necessary to develop strongly the military physical training movement and provide it with an ever richer content fully reflecting the requirements of the people's war in our country under present conditions. It is necessary to popularize military knowledge widely among the people in various forms suitable to each age—first of all to boys and girls—and step by step study to develop mass organizations for military study and research such as aerospace, communications, and chemistry clubs. It is also necessary to step up the movement to establish brotherhood between mass organizations and army units.

A modern regular army must essentially possess a well-organized, strong reserve force. The civilian armed forces are an abundant source of reserves for the people's armed forces. The building and management of a reserve force assumes very important significance because it meets the requirements for replenishing the armed forces in wartime and for preparing our country to cope with any situation in peacetime. The reserve force must be good as regards quality and strength to meet the requirements for expanding the force and replenishing the infantry and other armed branches and services of the people's armed forces. There must be a policy, system, and plan to build and manage the reserve force properly. Major attention must be paid to the enrollment and management of demobilized and re-assigned armymen who are qualified to serve in the reserve force. There must be a plan for military rehearsal and mobilization to restore and develop our armed forces rapidly when necessary. There must be a proper training system to help the cadres and combatants of the reserve force follow and keep pace with the development of the modern army and modern military science, develop their key role in the local armed forces, and serve the armed forces when necessary. Major attention must be paid to the system of managing and training reserve cadres in the ranks of cadres of state organs and college students... as was mentioned above. We must have a plan according to which the reserve troops in a certain branch or locality should be assigned to reinforce a certain armed branch or service or a certain local force so that
the best results can be obtained. For instance, the engineer force will build a reserve force in the architectural branch, the signal force will build a reserve force in the postoffice branch, the medical branch will build a reserve force of medical cadres, and the navy will build a reserve force in the economic branch operating in the rivers and sea and among people in the coastal areas or along the riverbanks.... In this way the cadres and combatants reassigned to the army will be able to acquire and maintain a technical and professional knowledge in the armed branch or service they will serve. Later, when they are demobilized and sent to work in the former branch, they will become the nucleus of the civilian armed organizations and at their bases of operations and will be able to develop their latent technical and professional abilities in order to boost production and raise their work efficiency. This is therefore very advantageous to combat, construction, national defense, and economy in both wartime and peacetime.

Arming the masses according to our Party's viewpoint means organizing, educating, training, and equipping the masses in addition to positively consolidating the rear in the political, economic, and national defense fields and building a stable foothold for the people's war at bases and in localities.

The strength of the rear in the people's war throughout the North as well as in each locality depends on the success of our people's socialist construction. Thus, to build a stable and strong rear we must strive to carry out properly the three revolutions in the socialist revolution undertaking and make the localities politically steadfast, economically prosperous, and strong in national defense. While stepping up the building of local economies we must have a plan to closely coordinate the requirements for economic building with the requirements for consolidating national defense in the agricultural, industrial, communications, transportation, postoffice, medical, cultural, and architectural branches.

We must step up the building of combat villages, combat wards, combat clusters, and mutual support combat areas, while insuring readiness to cope with all war circumstances and conveniences for production operations and the people's activities
in peacetime. They must be stable offensive and defense battle­
grounds of the three troop categories and solid props for the
people to fight and continue production under fierce war circum­
stances. We must make careful preparations and guard against
the use of nuclear weapons by the enemy. We must build combat
villages and wards comprehensively. We must have a strong
Party organization, a powerful civilian political force, strong
militia and self-defense forces, a plan to alter terrain features,
a combat plan, and a plan for training the local armed forces
as well as the entire people. We must make practical prepara­
tions to transform each hamlet, village, and ward into a solid
fortress of the people's war at bases and each province into a
strategic unit of the all-people national defense.

In building the civilian armed forces, in addition to strength­
ening the local Party committees' leadership and the local military
organs' guidance, it is very important to build a contingent of
strong cadres for the civilian armed forces and militia and self­
defense organizations. This contingent must respond to the
increasingly strong development of the civilian armed forces as
regard strength, quality, organization, equipment, and the method
of fighting invaders, and it must meet the increasingly heavy and
complicated requirements for consolidating national defense and
conducting the people's war at bases.

The cadres in charge of the militia and self-defense forces
are military cadres who cannot be dissociated from production
because they must fulfill both production missions and military
missions, and because their work and combat are closely linked
with the people's activities in the installations. It is necessary
to pay great attention to quality and firmly grasp the class
guidelines and political norms in developing the contingent of
cadres in charge of the militia and self-defense forces. In addition
to meeting all common requirements for political qualities that
all cadres of the revolutionary armed forces must possess, the
cadres in charge of the militia and self-defense forces must fully
understand the Party's lines and political and military missions
and the political, economic, and military missions of the localities,
and must be determined to implement all resolutions of the Party
committee echelons and instructions of the local administration
and all instructions and orders from upper military organs. The
cadres in charge of the militia and self-defense forces must
possess the necessary military knowledge and general knowledge
of the political, economic, and cultural situation in the localities.
They must understand the situation in the installations and must know how to link the military task with the economic and other tasks. They must have the ability to help the Party committee echelons exercise leadership over military activities, and they must possess leadership and command capabilities and the capability to organize good implementation of the construction, combat, and combat-support missions and the missions to assist the frontline, to popularize general military knowledge among the people, to develop the reserve forces, and to implement the army's rear policies as well as to implement well other tasks related to the national defense mission in the localities.

It is necessary to base ourselves on various revolutionary motivation drives in the localities and on combat and work realities to select outstanding brothers and sisters for the contingent of cadres in charge of the militia and self-defense forces. It is necessary to link this with Party development and mass organization development in the localities in order to create a source of cadres for the militia and self-defense forces. It is necessary to distribute proper work to create conditions for them to assume specialized missions, accumulate experience, and fully develop their abilities to fulfill all missions in the localities.

If we firmly grasp and properly carry out these tasks, from developing very highly the quantity of the militia and self-defense forces to constantly improving their quality in the political, ideological, and organizational fields and in the fields of equipment, training, establishment of rear bases, and improving the quality of cadres, we will carry out venerated Uncle Ho's instructions that each citizen is a valiant fighter, each village, hamlet, or city ward a fortress, and each cooperative or enterprise a rear base of the people's war, and thus the entire nation is a common battleground to exterminate all enemy aggressors.

Our people are living through the most glorious days in our history, because we are engaging in a very victorious and extremely heroic and creative fight against very cruel invaders, the U.S. imperialists, and because we are participating in a creative labor undertaking to build a new and very good socialist regime in an era of independence, freedom, and socialism for our fatherland.
The present anti-U.S. national salvation resistance causes us to remember with legitimate pride and very high sense of responsibility the overall history of our people's glorious struggle against foreign invasion, and in particular our people's very successful struggle under the Tran dynasty. At that time our people had to cope with and successfully coped with the Yuan-Mongolian invaders—the cruelest enemy of our people in the past, and also the cruelest enemy of mankind in the Middle Ages—who trampled on Asia and Europe and dominated and erased the names of many countries from the world map. Our people fulfilled outstandingly our sacred national mission, opened the way for the collapse of the Yuan-Mongolian imperialists, and made a worthy contribution to the anti-aggression struggle of many countries and peoples at that time.

Now, in the new era of mankind's history that was opened by the great October Revolution in Russia and in the Ho Chi Minh era in our country, once again, under our Party's leadership, our people have gloriously defeated the U.S. imperialists, the cruelest and most powerful enemy of our people at present and also the number one enemy of the world's peoples. The anti-U.S. national salvation resistance is the most glorious and greatest resistance in the history of the heroic Vietnamese people's struggle against foreign invasion. This resistance is now considered as the center and forefront of the world's peoples' movement to oppose the aggressor U.S. imperialists.

Our people understand clearly and fully our sacred national mission and our lofty international duty. We have the determination and strength to advance and defeat completely the U.S. aggressors, liberate the South, protect the North, and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the fatherland, thus marking a turning point in the historic collapse of the U.S. imperialists' neocolonialism and making a worthy contribution to the world's peoples' revolutionary struggle movement.

The key to our people's successes in the 13th and 20th centuries, as well as in the history of the struggle we waged for survival and development against aggressive powers that were bigger and more powerful than ourselves, lies in the fact that we relied on all the people's patriotism, developed the strength of the
entire country, mobilized all the people to arise and fight the aggressors with the entire country's combined strength, staged all the people uprisings and waged people's warfare in which the army and the mass armed forces played core roles. Tran Quoc Tuan's "Joint efforts by the entire country" ideology and the strategy of "Turning all the people into combatants" in the 13th Century were constantly developed—with increasingly inspiring content, increasingly high quality, and ever greater strength—until they culminated in President Ho's great military ideology: "All the people unite," "The entire country fights the aggressors," and "31 million compatriots are 31 million courageous American-annihilating combatants."

Today our people have the Party's correct, independent, sovereign, and creative political, military, and internationalist lines, an advanced social system, and increasingly stronger political-moral and material-technical forces. Our people also enjoy the positive assistance of countries in the socialist camp, and the sympathy and support of all progressive mankind. In the new era we have the invincible strength inherent in the militant unity of all the people and the entire country. This unity is based on the worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class. We have powerful political and armed forces. The people's armed forces have the regular and modern people's army, and strong and widespread mass armed forces. We will certainly fulfill outstandingly our sacred national duties and noble internationalist obligations.

The ideology whereby "The entire country makes joint efforts and all the people are turned into combatants" and "All the people unite and the entire country fights the aggressors" and whereby military organizations are formed through "Arming all the people and combining the army with the mass armed forces" is a distinctive feature of Vietnamese military ideology, a military ideology adopted by a small country to defeat big aggressor enemies in a just national struggle for independence and freedom. The principle of "Arming all the people, combining the people's army with the mass armed forces and conversely, using the mass armed forces as the basis for the people's army, using the people's army as the core of the mass armed forces, and developing the three troop categories of the people's armed forces" is a very important content of the line for building the
people's armed forces in particular and our Party's military line in general, and is a very important content of Vietnamese military science in the present era. The establishment of this organizational principle is a very great creative achievement and a very great success for our Party and people. Experience clearly shows that in the revolutionary struggle in general and the armed revolutionary struggle in particular, once correct lines have been adopted it is extremely important to solve the organizational problem correctly in order to achieve victory.

This military organizational principle is a valuable weapon in the treasure of experiences of various nations, especially small nations which are victims of aggression and enslaved and which arise to fight and triumph over imperialism and colonialism in order to achieve national independence, democracy, and social progress.

We must firmly abide by this principle under all circumstances. We constantly keep ourselves abreast of social and war realities and the realities emerging from the development of production, science, and technology. We learn positively and discriminately from the experiences of the fraternal socialist countries and other nations in the world. In the violent struggle between us and the enemy we have consistently based ourselves on the specific historical conditions and situations in each epoch to apply the Party's military line and military organization principle, have continuously and creatively applied and continuously developed this line and this principle, have not allowed conservatism to arrest our progress along this line, and we have not applied this line and this principle in a mechanical and stereotyped manner. We have done so to constantly increase the fighting strength of all our people, vigorously develop the Vietnamese people's warfare, firmly consolidate Vietnam's national defense, and build and develop the Vietnamese people's armed forces into increasingly powerful armed forces.

Our people and nation are resolved to advance resolutely toward winning total victory in the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle and to build a peaceful, independent, unified, democratic, prosperous, and powerful Viet-Nam.

Our people and nation will eternally defend the beautiful country left by our forefathers and will maintain eternally and firmly the independence of the beloved Vietnamese fatherland.