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- a. Title: Minutes of a Jun 66 conference on the Assault Youth Group in 1966-67
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- e. Synopsis: Minutes of a conference, held in Jun 66, disclose information on the situation of the organization and missions of the Assault Youth Group in 1966-67.

REPORT

On the situation and missions of 1966-1967
(In a conference convened for cadre in June 1966)

The report comprises 2 major parts: - Situation
- Missions and activities.

SITUATION

I. SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITUATION OF THE RECRUITMENT OF PART
AND FULL TIME SVN LIBERATION ASSAULT YOUTH

During the Binh Gia Campaign, the Liberation Army dealt the enemy heavy blows. A new tactic in the military field was discovered. Before the enemy could recover, our Liberation Army dealt him even heavier blows in the Dong Xoai Campaign. The already-confused enemy became even more distraught and lost more face. Eminent collapse menaced the US Imperialists and their running dogs.

As a result, it was requested that successive attacks be launched upon the enemy, from one campaign directly to another. To fulfill this new military requirement, the primary missions of combat support elements should be explicitly prescribed. Consequently, the 1965 resolution of the Nam Trung COSVN Party echelons required that the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit be activated and that organization of front laborers be stepped up.

To execute the resolution of Party echelons, Group Congresses throughout SVN decided to recruit part and full-time assault youth beginning in March 1965. It was a highly important and crucial task. From that time until now, recruitment of assault youth has been continuously conducted in a number of areas.

Organizationally, the formation of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth manifested the following characteristics:

1. The initial recruitment of SVN Liberation Assault Youth Units:

With the guidance of the Group Congress in organizational procedures, leadership and specific activities, the first SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit C.100 [100th Company] was activated on 24 April 1965. It was composed of soldiers levied from agencies of the Nam Trung.

Although we had gained experience in the organization of assault youth during the Anti-French Resistance, we encountered many difficulties in applying these experiences against the present American enemy. This was due to the fact that in the southern part of VN, there had been no such organization during the Resistance.

a/ We could not clearly define preparation for combat, the specific missions of the unit in combat support, the organization of the unit, its command leadership in its activities, or the degree of development [of the unit].



b/ Cadre were extremely enthusiastic in performing their missions. Since their missions were new and strange to them, they felt like fish out of water. As a consequence, they had to grope about in their tasks. They worked and gained experience in their task simultaneously.

c/ Because of the new unit's organization, no clear plan or policy had yet been outlined. They were organized gradually and in accordance with the unit mission. It was impossible to foresee all events which might occur.

d/ Other agencies, because of an inadequate understanding of the activities of the unit, have not properly implemented the missions of proper utilization and improvement of the unit. This created many difficulties in the training and the protection of the health of unit cadre and soldiers.

2. Conduct on-a-job training and establish machinery to meet leadership requirements.

[Page 2 of original text]

The first SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit was assigned to establish a base and support the middle line [sic]. After the August 1965 Dong Xoai Campaign, 3 Assault Youth O's [companies] were activated and assigned by the Party Committee echelons to support the front line.

They Party Committee echelons recently requested that forces be developed in the shortest possible time so that they could perform their duties according to schedule. However, we encountered many difficulties in the recruitment of forces and did not have adequate time in which to execute our plan. Units had to conduct on-the-job training. They were trained in practical application. Many units departed without holding a departure ceremony.

At first, there were only 2 Group cadre: one directly controlled C.100 [the 100th Company] while the other took charge of the recruitment and development of our troops. General leadership was assigned to a comrade from the Current Affairs Committee of the Central Group Committee. Later, when more units were activated, the number of cadre was increased, and the Assault Youth Command Committee and Party Committee were established.

We continued to encounter many complicated problems in the areas of guidance, development and administration. Personnel of the Party Committee and Assault Youth Command Committee were assigned missions by various O's; this was contrary to the rule. Various Assault Youth O's [companies] were stationed along the middle and front lines. There were only 2 Assault Youth Command Committees. Because of the lack of communication facilities, many tasks were not implemented on time. Furthermore, working procedures and principles were not properly laid out, causing many difficulties in the issuance of equipment and assignment of missions.

3. Organization and composition of cadre:

The [Assault Youth] unit was primarily composed of male and female unmarried youth. Some of them had not yet come of age. Female youth constituted one-third of the total number. The majority of the youth were Vietnamese, from the Y2 [MR II] lowlands. There were 10 Cambodian youth (both male and female).

Apart from a small number with prior Assault Youth service, our cadre were not familiar with youth activities in general and Assault Youth activities in particular. A number of the youth from local areas had very little military experience. A great number of Assault Youth, except for movement cadre, were over 35 years old. For this reason, their character and way of living were quite different from those of the youngsters.

Because our organization lacked good foundations from higher to lower echelons, not all comrades thoroughly understood their missions, nor were cadre confident in their leadership mission.

4. The Assault Youth Command Committee and the Party Committee were established when Assault Youth forces had developed to where they could cope with the US Imperialists strongly-launched dry season offensive

During the 1965-66 dry season campaign, the US Imperialists used all their forces to counterattack us. Consequently, we could understand clearly the significance of our brilliant achievements scored during the Đông Xuan Campaign.

The development of Assault Youth forces for combat support and the establishment of the Assault Youth Command Committee and Assault Youth Party Committee were clear proof of our remarkable achievement.

In studying the process of activating the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit, particular attention should be paid to its characteristics. A completely new organization exposed many of the weaknesses and deficiencies of our cadre and of related agencies.

There also existed fundamentally advantageous points:

a/ The Party Committee echelons always paid particular attention to the organization of the Assault Youth of the Current Affairs Committee Central Group Command and the COSVN Forward Supply Council.

b/ Among the various and repeated achievements of the Army and People of the 2 Regions, the most brilliant was that of the Công Trường [Regiment]. It was assisted by the Assault Youth, thus directly encouraging other SVN Liberation Assault Youth to heighten their combat spirit and to be more optimistic.

[Page 3 of original text]

c/ Cadre and soldiers showed a spirit of self-sufficiency. They possessed high determination to overcome all difficulties in order to accomplish their assigned missions. Added to the above qualities, they had a high sense of SVN youth combat spirit and a deep hatred for the enemy. Consequently, despite a lack of indoctrination, they properly carried out their assigned missions.

d/ The Ninth Regiment Command Committee, Group Headquarters and various rear service areas were zealous in assisting Assault Youth Units. The Province Party Committee and Province (Labor Youth) Group Committee in local areas also actively provided them with effective support.

II. REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SVN LIBERATION ASSAULT YOUTH COMMAND COMMITTEE:

a/ Establishment of bases and activation of units assigned to perform missions:

1) In the beginning, only 1C [company 7] was activated, on 20 April 1965. Since 1966, however, 4 C's [companies 7] have been developed and assigned to Công Trường 9 [the 9th Regiment 7]. Two (2) C's [companies 7] were designated to support Doan [Groups 7] 82 and 85.

2) Later, the Assault Youth Command Committee and Party Committee were also established. Other Sections, such as the Political, Staff and Rear Service Sections, were also organized to meet the leadership requirements. Convalescence centers and dispensaries were being built gradually so that sick and wounded comrades would not have to be evacuated to the Assault Youth Command Committee.

3) Based on the methods for simultaneously performing missions and drafting combat plans, a policy concerning part and full-time Assault Youth in local areas was formulated. This created favorable conditions for the recruitment and development of Assault Youth Units throughout all local areas.

4) C.100 [the 100th Company 7] worked for Doan [Group 7] 83. In addition, it established a base, equipped with trenches and foxholes, set up classes for the youth in weak areas and constructed 2 reserve bases equipped with billets, trenches and wells sufficient to accommodate 1 C [company 7].

At present, one base is being constructed by C.100 [the 100th Company 7] as a recruit training school. C.100 [the 100th Company 7] has prepared food supplies, clothing and other necessities for issue to future forces as prescribed by Party Committee echelons.

b/ Achievements scored in combat:

1) Along the front line:

During the Dong Xuan Campaign, we assigned 3 Assault Youth C's [companies 7] to serve Công Trường 9 [the 9th Regiment 7] along the front line. Only 2 C's [companies 7] operated from the beginning to the end of the campaign. Another began operations in December 1965. During the performance of their duties, the following achievements were scored.

a) Total battles directly participated in by Assault Youth:

There were a total of 3 C's [companies 7]. The 1st one participated in 7 battles; the 2d one, 6 battles; and the 3d one, 3 battles, not including a number of battles during which no achievements were scored.

The missions of the Assault Youth were to transport ammunition, medicine and food supplies; evacuate the wounded; deliver rice to units at the front and to the wounded; provide effective support to engineer and signal units, and to units in charge of burying the dead. Of the above missions, the most important one was the transportation of ammunition; the most **arduous** was the evacuation of wounded.

The Assault Youth were compelled to work very hard. During combat, they were usually busy 3 successive nights transporting the wounded. In the morning, they were able to obtain only a 4-hour rest. Sometimes, they were obliged to work the entire morning. As a consequence, many of them became ill after the battle.

[Page 4 of original text]

On the average, Assault Youth working at the front and in the rear (during many battles) accounted for 70 percent of the total combat strength.

b) Capabilities of Assault Youth Units:

On the first occasion in which Assault Youth performed their duties, everyone was ordered to carry from 12 to 17 kilo loads and transport the wounded for 10 to 30 minutes (without carrying personal equipment). Each stretcher was borne by 6 to 8 persons.

At present, comrades are classified into 3 categories: A, B and C. Comrades of category C were expected to carry loads of 17 kilos. Those of category A were expected to carry loads from 27 to 35 kilos if they were not carrying personal gear, too. A very small number of comrades was able to hump loads from 40 to 45 kilos.

Each unit should not carry wounded soldiers exceeding 60% of its authorized weight. Comrades of category A and B were able to transport wounded soldiers. Some comrades switched their stretcher carrying with others every 20 to 40 minutes. At the front, six youths can carry one stretcher of two to four wounded for a period of a half-day.

2) Supporting the middle line:

Generally speaking, these missions were efficiently accomplished. A number of comrades increased their transportation ability. For example: C.29 [the 29th Company] used to need 4 male and 6 female comrades to transport a bag of rice (120 liters). Now, only 3 male and 4 female comrades are needed. Some male comrades were able to carry 50 liters of rice and some female comrades, 40 liters. Now, a number of female comrades of C.2012 [the 2,012th Company] can use pack bicycles to transport rice in loads of from 120 to 180 liters. During an emulation phase, comrades of C.2163 [the 2,163rd Company] who had previously transported rice 4 times in half a day, now do so 11 times.

c) Achievements in political, military, cultural, entertainment, physical and sports training:

All comrades were trained in the above subjects when they were first recruited. Later, their unit leaders continued to train and improve them. However, training programs must be appropriate to the requirements of each period. Assault Youth were very happy to be trained in every field. As a result, after one-year's training as a SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit, every member had:

* Heightened his concept of self-sufficiency, and overcome all difficulties to accomplish the mission assigned by the Party.

* Heroically fought against the enemy; enthusiastically performed labor tasks and continuously worked day and night.

* Strictly executed the order: "never return home before the mission assigned is completely accomplished".

* Become ~~as~~ one with the people and the armed forces.

The above 4 traditions were discussed in detail in other lessons; here, we only point out some of the main points.

In short, the above achievements have been demonstrated by hundreds of Letters of Appreciations, Certificates of Commendation, and Second-Class Liberation Medals awarded by the Central Party Committee to all the members of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth.

Four units and 4 individuals were awarded Second- and Third-class Liberation Medals. Six cadre and 12 [labor youth] group members were issued Certificates of Commendation as outstanding cadre and group members by the Central [Labor Youth] Group Committee.

III. CRITIQUE ON A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC TASKS:

In this part, we will point out some strong and weak points so that they may be developed or overcome.

[Page 5 of original text]

1. Recruitment:

Strong points:

1) Based on the Group system and with the assistance of Group cadre, efforts were made to recruit more Assault Youth.

2) Particular attention was paid to taking advantage of several conditions favorable for the enlistment of Assault Youth, in order to activate new units on time. The recruitment of Assault Youth was first conducted in 3 Provinces: Long An, Binh Duong, Tay Ninh. Later, it was expanded to other provinces.

Weak points:

1) No experience on the conduct of activities was exploited. The 5 [Nam] Truong [COSVN] Forward Supply Council was informed of some of the shortcomings of lower echelons in the recruitment of Assault Youth.

For example: Sick or weak Assault Youth and those suspected of working for the enemy were sent to the Forward Supply Council by lower echelons. After sending Assault Youth to the Council, lower echelons continued to recruit more members. These recruits were trained for 3 to 6 months. At present, in Assault Youth Command Committee agencies, there still exists a large number of the above Assault Youth, hindering our activities in many fields.

2) The recruitment of Assault Youth did not receive close coordination. The Forward Supply Council did not thoroughly understand the regulations for the enlistment of new recruits, taking personnel from other units, in some cases.

2. Political indoctrination and ideological leadership:

a/ Attitudes of newly-enlisted Assault Youth:

Fearing malaria, newly-enlisted Assault Youth refused to go on night missions in the forest. A great number of female youth were afraid of leeches.

Many youth preferred to carry weapons rather than bear ammunition during operations, and thought that transportation of the wounded was a dishonorable task.

Along with a spirit of enthusiasm for the Revolution, bravery during combat, and a liking for working at the front, Assault Youths were afraid of violent bombings and artillery shellings, and, were unable to endure hardship and misery. Because of a tendency towards rightism, they did not devote themselves to combat. Their individualism was deep-seated.

Behavior of the Assault Youth was bad. Love affairs still occurred at inappropriate moments.

Through combat training, however, the Assault Youth have become self-confident, fond of their work and loyal to their unit. Since SVN youth, in particular, and the Vietnamese, in general, have a revolutionary spirit, it was easy to motivate them.

b/ Some characteristics of the training:

1) The subjects of training documents included:

- The situation of 1965's mission
- Revolutionary heroism
- The missions and nature of the Assault Youth Group
- Uncle HỒ's letter
- Good examples of heroes
- Miss HỒNG's example
- The five "do's" and the 5 "don'ts".
- Policies pertinent to civilian proselyting, the dead and wounded, surrenderers and prisoners, and war trophies.

[Page 6 of original text]

2) The first training method is to determine the characteristics of the recruits' ideology; and thoroughly understand their strong and weak points during movement. If recruits ask to return home, try to detect their motives so as to dispel their worries. In this way, we can easily and effectively motivate them.

Usually, upon the arrival of recruits, the following steps should be carried out:

a) Step 1: Reception and arrangements of mess and billeting for recruits.

b) Step 2: Based on biographical data and letters of introduction, follow up the background investigation of recruits. Report on their situation during movement. Conduct critique sessions and recommend those who set a good example during movement.

c) Step 3: Praise those comrades who joined the Assault Youth Group in complete defiance of their families. If necessary, award and cite them. Study documents pertinent to unit missions.

Recruits then should take a reorientation course on the situation of their missions. They should be trained to imitate the good examples of those such as Miss Hông. They should be briefed on US Imperialist's heinous crimes, in order to promote their hatred of the enemy. Based on this hatred, motivate all comrades to nurture a high determination to defeat the US Imperialists. This determination was demonstrated in the concentration of all efforts to serve the campaign and to understand the unit's missions.

The length of the training course varies according to the time available. Sometimes, recruits were trained only in the main points of the training course and then sent to work.

In their units, they continue to receive training. In addition to studying documents, they receive practical exercises. Making comments on the selection of outstanding members for awards is also a method of training.

They must study in depth all special topics, concerning every kind of task which they are supposed to perform.

In addition to studying politics, they were trained in military and cultural subjects, entertainment, sports and physical training.

3. Our training policies are to develop strong points and comment on weak points in order to limit them. As youth, they possess some good characteristics; they assimilate newly-trained subjects very quickly and correct their weak points promptly.

* Comments on the general political indoctrination task:

Strong points:

1) The task of indoctrinating the entire unit in the 4 traditions was effectively carried out. These traditions were demonstrated during the performance of each member's duties and during each battle.

2) The youth indoctrination guidelines were well understood and effectively put into practice.

For example: Develop the strong points of all comrades at home, as well as during movement, training and while performing missions. On that basic, promote the youths' aggressiveness. Avoid hurting their pride. On the 1st day of the training, almost all the recruits seemed flagging, discouraged, idle, and unable to endure hardship and misery. Some of them asked to return home. As leaders, we should know that this is very natural, because they had been changed from a familiar way of life and made to adapt to a new one. However, all of them had a high revolutionary spirit, because they volunteered to join the Assault Youth Group. From this viewpoint, trust in them and strive to thoroughly penetrate into their thinking, so as to indoctrinate them. For this reason, we were able to change their thoughts quickly.

3) Emphasis was placed upon the Party Resolution in training subjects. Efforts were concentrated on meeting the requirement of increasing the determination of comrades to defeat the US Imperialists.

Paralled to political indoctrination, particular attention was paid to military and cultural training; entertainment, sports and physical training. All this training was necessary for unit members, and heightened their knowledge and skill. Comrades task great interest in their work day after day.

4) From our training methods, we obtained highly satisfactory results. Thoroughly understanding the youths' strong and weak points, psychologically, and indoctrinating them in an appropriate manner, it was easy for us to initiate an ideological campaign among them. The following methods were used: Conduct a reorientation course; promote hatred of the enemy; conduct critique sessions on the tasks performed; select outstanding members for awards; and heighter heroism through innitation of the examples of recent heroes.

5) Awards were presented to outstanding members promptly after each battle. Départure ceremonies were held when recruits received their mission assignments. Naming great achievements scored by the Assault Youth Group after names of local areas or after cover designations, according to local or revolutionary traditions, made excellent and profound impressions upon our comrades.

Weak points:

1) There was not an overall task plan concerning political indoctrination. Training documents were sent to comrades as they went out on missions. Based on a general policy, the Command Headquarters of various C's [companies] prepared topical outlines or conducted a complementary course with additional documents they had obtained. For this reason, a C [company] with an irresponsible or unresourceful command Headquarters was learned little or nothing.

2) The most serious weak point was that the youths were not trained in any class viewpoint or on current events on a continuing basis.

3) There was no close relationship between Assault Youth going out on missions and Province Labor Youth Group Committees. For this reason, no information on the achievements scored by the Assault Youth Groups was obtained to propogandize and encourage the youth in local areas. Furthermore, committees were unable to motivate the youth by means of an Assault Youth Movement initiated in local areas.

4) The "dead and wounded" policy was not properly implemented. Notifications of death were not made out promptly, nor was the problem of the assignment of appropriate jobs to the wounded solved quickly enough.

5) Achievements scored by the Assault Youth were not broadiast and published in newspapers on a broad front. Although the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Group has been in existence for 1 year, various organizations, echelons and even many of our troops have never been informed of it.



6) Aged command cadre lived with Assault Youth. For this reason, youth usually relied on aged cadre, not developing self-confidence or their own characters.

4. Awards and emulation:

A general emulation movement was initiated. Before departing to perform its mission, each unit was motivated to participate in an emulation campaign. In general, though the emulation movement was implemented, it was not standardized. The following weak points were recorded:

1) Though there was a general emulation movement, the plan for establishing the Party Chapter and the Labor Youth Group Chapter during the movement was not well disseminated. Hence, the emulation movement did not spread from the inside to the outside.

[Page 8 of original text]

2) The Assault Youth Command Committee was at first located far from the various C's [companies]. It did not obtain any information on the emulation movement of various C's [companies], thus the guidance of preliminary and final emulation phases was slowly carried out. Propaganda activities were not promptly conducted in order to develop the emulation movement. The method whereby typical persons are used to indoctrinate the unit was not applied.

3) In award standards, the way that marks were given and the scope of awards were not specifically delineated. Emulation cover designations for the Assault Youth were not recommended to Party Committee echelons in time, thus hindering unanimity of guidance and rendering the emulation movement discontinuous and less vigorous.

4) Party tasks:

a) Some characteristics of the ideology and organization of Party Headquarters:

Organizationally, cadre were trained to meet the development of various C's [companies]. Party members were sent from various local areas. Apart from a number of cadre, most Party members were newly-official and a few were probationary. For this reason, they had very little knowledge of the Party. There was a great difference between Party members and cadre. There were no female Party members. The number of Party members represented only 13 to 15 per cent of each C's [company's] total strength.

Ideologically speaking, rightist spirits still exist. Party members were unable to endure hardship and misery, and were afraid of violent air raids and artillery shellings. One Party member asked to return home; another escaped to a local area (1 Party member served in 4 units). A number of cadre did not perform their tasks with peace of mind. This was partly due to their inaccurate assessment of the future. They lost zeal in their work. They did not strictly observe disciplinary rules nor the concepts of thrift.

b) Strong and weak points of the Party Headquarters:

Strong points:

Party members set good examples in performing their missions as well as in combat. All of them had well-founded

ideological beliefs and executed their missions in compliance with the resolutions and plans of the Party.

2) The Party Chapter accomplished its leadership mission very satisfactorily.

3) Activities of the Party chapter, particularly of sub-cells, were carried on regularly.

4) On the occasion of the anniversary of the establishment of the Party, certain Party Chapters conducted training courses for Party members, during which they studied the Party's history and its policy lines, purposes, missions and principles of organization.

Weak points:

1) Party members had little knowledge of the basic problems concerning the Party. The degree of guidance provided Party members was low in every field, especially in ideological matters, combat, civil activities and internal struggle.

Because of the above shortcomings, the Party Chapter was unable to play an overall leadership role. Most of its guidance was provided by the Chapter Party Committee.

[Page 9 of original text]

2) The Party Committee has not drafted a plan for the strengthening of the Party.

3) The development of the Party was poor due to the following:

- * Poor understanding of the importance of Party development.
- * Mobility of Party members to carry out the task of developing the Party due to their inadequate knowledge about it.
- Lack of a specific plan for the strengthening of the Party, drafted by the Party Chapter.
- * Association with new units.

4) Activities of the Party Chapter and sub-cells were not carried out regularly. Critique sessions on leadership were not conducted.

5) Problems concerning the punishment of cadre and Party members making mistakes were not promptly solved.

5. Tasks of the Group:

Recently, the General Command Committee and the Party Committee have not paid enough attention to youth activities. They appointed an acting assistant for youth affairs instead of an assistant cadre for youth affairs. Therefore, guidance in the strengthening of the group was not adequately provided.

Strong and weak points of the Labor Youth Group Chapter:

Strong points:

Group members were zealous in their missions. They were capable

of performing difficult and dangerous tasks. The number of group members granted Letters of Appreciation or Certificates of Commendation, amounted to 80 per cent.

Activities of the Labor Youth Group Chapter and Sub-chapter were carried on regularly.

Weak points:

The Labor Youth Group Chapter was not an assault organization, because, despite good performances by group members, its leadership and organization were not properly established. The Labor Youth Group Chapter Headquarters did not have adequate knowledge about leadership.

The proficiency of group members was low. They also did not know how to recruit new group members. Only a few comrades carried out their missions well.

In the group, desertion or demands to return to local areas still exist.

6. Cadre training:

a/ Some characteristics of the cadre situation:

Since the unit was newly-activated, few cadre were familiar with their new missions. Recently, a large number of cadre were assigned to the unit. A [squad] and B [platoon] cadre were sent from the local group level while C [company] cadre were sent by the Nam Trường [COSVN] organization Committee.

b/ Comments on cadre activities:

Strong points:

1) Particular attention was paid to training and improving cadre. During training, every type of cadre was improved in capabilities and responsibilities. Before the departure ceremony, A [squad] cadre and those of higher level were gathered together, to be briefed on the missions of their units, on principles of leadership and on the command of cadre.

2) As regards on-the-job training, the Command Committees of different C's [companies] held a meeting in which subjects relating to missions, and the working procedures of A and B [squad and platoon] cadre, and cell leaders, were discussed. In coordination with practical exercises, weak points of cadre should be pointed out so as to consolidate the role, mission and responsibilities of each person.

[Page 10 of original text]

3) A policy concerning promotion was not clearly defined. However, a number of cadre were assigned to take charge of this task to meet the requirement.

Weak points:

1) There was no particular plan aimed at improving cadre regularly nor a specific training program for the improvement of cadre.

out.

2) Policies pertinent to cadre were not fully carried out.

3) There was no systematic plan for the assignment of cadre, designed to meet immediate and long-range needs.

7. Rear service activities:

The organization of equipment issue to the Assault Youth Group was very complicated. Two sections were in charge of the issuance: the Finance-Economy Section and the Rear service areas of the Army. This facilitated enemy detection of their activities.

Comments on rear service activities:

Strong points:

1) Appropriate measures were taken to solve the problem of distributing necessary equipment to units going out on missions. The Army was responsible for additional equipment.

2) Efforts were made to insure sufficient food and clothing for a large number of personnel of the General Command Committee.

3) Principles and systems laid out during each phase of activity have already been fixed and are considered as basic. Settlement of amounts was carried out regularly, every month. Regulations relating to equipment issue were standardized.

Weak points:

1) There was not an overall plan. Cadre were not familiar with and experienced in rear service activities. In addition, billets, food distribution points and equipment for soldiers have been constantly changed, thus creating many difficulties for our activities.

2) At first, the situation of our rear service activities was not assessed as good. Rest and recuperation regimes prescribed for comrades operating at the front were not worked out. Dispensaries and convalescence centers were established very slowly.

3) Sanitation, personal hygiene, and disease prevention measures were not properly carried out. We have not gained experience in the prevention and treatment of diseases. In addition, medics were not trained and improved to meet combat requirements.

4) Particular attention was not paid to improving C [Company] administrative cadre. Hence, many difficulties were encountered in the execution of systems, policies, and accouter settlement within the unit.

5) Problems concerning leadership, maintenance and thrift were recognized, but no specific plan has been implemented.

We have not commented on a number of other tasks, because these tasks were not continuously conducted.

IV. GENERAL COMMENTS:

Strong points:

In supporting combat forces along the front as well as along the

middle line, we have scored many achievements. In the 1965/66 dry season campaign, in coordination with a part of the Liberation Army, we annihilated a large number of enemy troops.

[Page 11 of original text]

2) Through on-the-job training from 1C [company] to various C's [companies], part and full-time Assault Youth have been improved in many fields. Ideologically, they were imbued with the 4 traditions. Organizationally, they came to a thorough understanding of working procedures and maintained constant contact with other agencies. Policies concerning missions and interests of the Assault Youth Group were drafted to create favorable conditions for the development of forthcoming Assault Youth forces.

3) Cadre and soldiers worked to heighten the self-sufficiency ideology because a completely new organization presented many complicated problems. Almost all plans and policies were laid down during the performance of missions. There was no perfect organizational system.

Weak points:

1) Between the performance of missions and the strengthening of the Party Chapter and Labor Youth Group Chapter, the later task receives little attention. This is reflected in the mediocre development of Party and Group members. Plans concerning the training and improvement of cadre were not clearly drafted. An emulation movement was not initiated, nor were typical individuals selected. Propaganda activities on the achievements scored by the unit and on the examples set by Assault Youth were not promptly conducted on a broad front.

2) There was no overall plan for guidance. Guidance was provided only for each kind of task at a time. As a consequence, our activities were often detected by the enemy. We must place emphasis only on immediate tasks. The relationship between the general Command Committee and all C's [companies] going out on mission was set up very slowly. Within the command headquarters, permanent headquarters comrades failed to maintain contact with command cadre. For this reason, we were not able to provide guidance to various C's [companies] in time.

3) Base construction was not kept secure. Mess and billeting could not cope with the situation and provide for the reception of additional recruits and for proper training.

Security maintenance within internal organizations was not properly carried out.

4) Assault youth developed slowly and were not promptly assigned to meet the requirement of the situation. In addition, soldiers are of small stature and very weak, thus limiting the effectiveness of activities and lowering the strength sent out on missions. This applies to local authorities, who sent troops to our units very slowly. They paid more attention to quantity than to quality. In local areas, we faced many difficulties in motivating the people to join the Assault Youth Group.

5) Since we did not establish any specific principles or working procedures concerning coordination of activities among units, many difficulties were encountered in strengthening and indoctrinating Assault Youth Units.

MISSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

According to the 1966/67 resolution of the Nam Truong [COSVN] Party Committee echelons, to the capabilities and responsibilities of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit (full and part-time) and based on the situation of the activities already commented on:

I. FORTHCOMING PLANS AND MISSIONS:

A. Assault youth missions:

Based on the situation of our 1966 missions, strive to build and develop the unit's tradition, strengthen the unit in every field and quickly increase unit strength in order to ensure satisfactory performance of missions, and continuous implementation of military activities.

[Page 12 of original text]

B. Requirements:

To execute the above missions, the following important requirements must be thoroughly fulfilled:

1. Strengthen and develop all units in every field. Particular attention should be paid to units going out on missions. Take appropriate measures to ensure that the optimum number of personnel will be present for duty and to promote increased efficiency in all activities so as to accomplish our missions under any circumstances. This will contribute to wearing down and annihilating the enemy forces.

2. Ensure that the 22 C's [companies] recruited in various local areas be trained, adequately equipped and reorganized, as required by the Nam Truong [COSVN] Party Committee echelons. Experience should be gained in cooperating with various local areas in quick recruitment of troops and in escorting them to and from their destination safely.

3. Consolidate and develop leadership so as to cope with the new situation. Insure good results in the achievement of outlined political tasks. Establish a close relationship between the leadership of the Assault Youth General Command Committee and those of subordinate units. Establish thoroughly understood working procedures between sections, agencies and units which have connection with Assault Youth echelons, from the highest to the lowest levels.

The above 3 requirements are inter connected. Command cadre should thoroughly understand them and should not underestimate them.

C. Principles and guidelines for strengthening and developing our forces:

Principles of mission performance:

Because Assault Youth forces were being developed, all missions prescribed by the Party were not fully carried out. To facilitate direct and immediate leadership and command by the Assault Youth Command Committee in the present difficult situation, all assault youth forces will be assigned to serve according to the following principles.

1/ They will be sent first to support the Công Truông
Regiment and will be concentrated in some logistical areas.

2/ All units will be concentrated in an area of activities in order to facilitate general leadership.

3/ Activities of individual units must not be separated. Missions must be assigned in quantity and a time limit set for their accomplishment. Plans for a unit's activities must be mapped out in accordance those of other units. Never set up a plan geared to just one kind of mission.

D. Leadership and recruitment guidelines:

The Party's strategic guidelines were to conduct a protracted war and to strive for brilliant achievements in a very short time. In the recruitment and development of forces, particular attention should be paid to the following specific points:

1/ Urgently recruit and train new units to perform missions. Simultaneously insure both quality and quantity according to the basic planned training program.

2/ Indoctrination should be overall. It must fit the situation, targets and mission requirements of the combat engagement. The following slogans should be carried out: "study, with practical exercises and on-the-job training so as to improve cadre's and soldiers' skills gradually".

3/ Insure continuity and speed in the performance of missions. Establish new units as quickly as possible and provide them with an on-the-job-training course so as to improve their skills.

Page 13 of original text

4/ Promote the spirit of self-sufficiency among soldiers. At the same time, place emphasis on the leadership and command of higher echelons.

5/ Political indoctrination is the basis upon which ideology is disseminated. Heighten the level of technical skills, leadership and organization of every unit. Improve the working procedures employed in all our activities.

6/ Particular attention should be paid to improving the soldiers's way of life, both materially and spiritirally.

7/ Main points should be firmly grasped in order to provide effective, overall leadership.

II. MAJOR TASKS:

A. Political tasks:

1/ Political indoctrination and ideological leadership:

a/ Importance:

Proper political indoctrination and ideological leadership predispose the efficient accomplishment of all missions

assigned by the Party, and abet the development of the Assault Youth Unit with every passing day.

Political indoctrination is also a basic mission of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Unit. As a consequence, Assault Youth members must pay particular attention to political missions.

b/ Political indoctrination and ideological leadership guidelines:

According to the report on the situation of ideological understanding within Assault Youth forces, we should concentrate our efforts on developing the following ideologies:

- The development of ideology is focirsed on three points pertaining to patriotic spirits and hatred of the enemy. Indoctrinate soldiers and cadre with a firm combat standpoint, a high revolutionary spirit, and strong determination to fight against and defeat the US and puppet troops under any circumstance. Make them believe implicitly in our final victory and encourage them to participate in all activities voluntarily.

- Popularize the concept of self-sufficiency in the conduct of a long-term war, and overcome all hardships and misery so as to fulfill all assigned missions.

- Indoctrinate cadre and soldiers in revolutionary heroism. Ensure that they have a high sense of responsibility, and are optimistic, enthusiastic and proud of the traditions of the ethnic minority, the people and SVN's youth.

- The following ideology and attitudes should be regirously opposed.

- Fear of hardship and misery; lack of vigilance and of confidence in one's work.

- Demoralization during violent conditions.

- Improper behavior between male and female comrades.

- Perfunctoriness in one's work.

c/ Indoctrination subjects:

Based on the following documents:

1) The determination to defeat the US and Puppet troops, liberate SVN, defend NVN, and unit the Fatherland.

2) The tradition of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth Group is closely linked with Party doctrine and revolutionary heroism.

3) The responsibilities and missions of full and part-time Liberation Assault Youth.

4) The combat activities and revolutionary life of an Assault Youth.

(The document concerning the "5 Do's and the 5 Don'ts laid down by the Group Congress). To establish a combat spirit and a revolutionary life for Assault Youth is the most basic and enduring of the goals of indoctrination. Its function and significance are practical. Particular attention should be paid to "the 5 Do's and the 5 Don'ts" principle. In addition, the people's spirit of vigilance should be heightened.

Specific purposes and requirements were mentioned in each document.

In addition to the above subjects, soldiers were trained in the following aspects:

1- Class indoctrination:

- * Make comrades distinguish labor from exploitation.
- * Why do laborers who work very hard have nothing to eat?
- * The roles of laborers towards society and the Fatherland.
- * Establish a friendly relationship between the working and the exploited classes.
- * Proper recognition of the reasons for which we fight.

2- With preliminary reports, maintain continuous supervision over the promoting of patriotic spirits. Instill hatred in our comrades against the US Imperialist and the SVN Government by pointing out their crimes against the people, their families and the Assault Youth.

3- Indoctrinate and motivate comrades, so that they may realize the "3 Democratic Principles" in NVN, the "3 Indoctrinations" in current events and the situation of the development of socialism. The following policies should be carried out: those for the dead and wounded, for war trophies for prisoners and surrenderers, and for civilian proselyting. Units composed of Cambodian comrades should receive additional indoctrination on the ethnic minority policy.

d/ Emphasis should be placed upon training in cultural activities, entertainment, sports and physical training. Strengthen propaganda activities through radio broadcasting and newspapers.

- Take advantage of every condition and opportunity to train comrades in cultural subjects, entertainment, sports and physical training.

- Consolidate the network of C information agents. Headquarters of different C's, and especially political officers, must actively contribute articles to the Assault Youth Unit Information Sheet, to the broadcasting station, and to various newspapers.

- Strengthen information cells of the Assault Youth Command Committee. Guide all comrades in the performance of their duties, and gradually step up the propaganda activities of part and full-time SVN Liberation Assault Youth.

2/ Strive to improve the leadership role of the Party Chapter, because this job is the responsibility of not only the leadership of the Party, but of commanders, key cadre, and members of the [labor Youth] Group Chapter, and Assault Youth Group.

a) Party-strengthening tasks:

In properly lead the Assault Youth Unit in the accomplishment of its combat missions and to indoctrinate them on revolutionary doctrine and heroism, we should make every effort to strengthen the Party in every field and raise the class nature of the Party within units. Strengthen the leadership of the Party Chapter. To insure unanimity of ideology and of action in the Party, we must strengthen the Party ideologically and organizationally, (but with emphasis placed on the ideology.)

[Page 15 of original text]

1) Ideologically:

First of all, a reorientation course on the 1966/67 Party Resolution must be conducted, as required by the plan.

The indoctrination subjects as listed above are basic points. Party members and cadre were required to have a thorough understanding of the Party ideology and to fulfill their individual roles well. Particular attention should be paid to increasing overall knowledge about the Party and the guidance of newly-admitted party and probationary members.

Indoctrinate cadre and Party members in a firm class standpoint and mass viewpoint. Improve the quality of our party members senses of responsibility by means of a thorough understanding of policies. Assist them in solving all their ideological problems. Our immediate mission is to oppose comrades' deficiencies, including: lack of confidence in performing missions; fear of sacrifice, hardship and misery; thinking of their own future, and reliance on others.

Train all Party members to set good examples. Bureaucracy and despotism should be opposed.

2) Organizationally:

The establishment and strengthening of the Party Chapter, and the development of new party members, must be appropriate to the new situation and favorable to the accomplishment of the political missions prescribed by the Party. Since our Party chapters were established at the same time as the activation of the companies, the building-up and strengthening of the Party were not properly carried out and no experience was gained. The leadership role of the Party chapter of a unit means no less than the success or defeat of that unit. We must take the establishment and strengthening of the Party Chapter, especially in companies, as a main task in the building-up of the Party in the organizational field.

We should reaffirm the mission, nature and role of various companies and Party chapter agencies. The Party chapters of companies has the responsibility of directing all unit tasks, including those of the Party and Group.

The resolution of the 5 / Nam 7 Truong / COSVN 7 Party echelon should be thoroughly grasped. Efforts should be made to improve the "3 goods" of various Party chapters, namely:

- 1- Good leadership in the performance and accomplishment of missions.
- 2- Thorough development of the party's internal organization.
- 3- Thorough guidance of the people.

General criteria:

Eighty (80) per cent of our party members were able to fulfill the "3 goods" principle, while the rest only fulfilled the "2 goods". Generally speaking, almost half the Party Chapters available carried out their "3 good" principles well.

Specific criteria:

1- Leadership in the proper performance of missions consisted in:

- * Ensuring an adequate number of support units.
- * Improving quality and quantity in the performance of tasks, and increasing their production output.
- * Accomplishing all missions assigned by higher echelons.
- * Avoiding damages and losses.

2- Thoroughly develop the Party's internal organization:

- * Effectively carry out political indoctrination and ideological guidance.
- * Fully implement the political indoctrination program outlined by the Party Committee.

[Page 16 of original text]

- * Conduct critique and self-critique sessions to ensure unit solidarity.
 - * Improve Party messing and billeting activities and regularly make up reports.
- 3- Properly guide the people:
- * The Party chapter must provide close guidance to Labor Youth Group Chapters.
 - * Encourage Party members in proper execution of activities among the people.
 - * Particular attention should be paid to inner capital activity. For units composed of Cambodian soldiers, the ethnic minority policy must be implemented.
 - * Pay particular attention to the material welfare of our units. Take initiative in overcoming all difficulties to provide equipment and support troops by oneself.

Necessary measures to be taken:

In order to effectively execute the "3 goods" of the Party Chapter, we should pay attention to the following points:

* Consolidate different Party Chapter Committees. The position of secretary must be assumed by a political officer; chapter Party Committee members should be C [company] commanders or C [company] executive officers.

* Begin improving the "3 goods" of Party members. Make them thoroughly understand the Party member's "3 goods" and create favorable conditions to assist them in implementing the "3 goods".

* Improve the subject and organization of Party Chapter activities. The subject of these activities must be realistic under all circumstances.

* Step up the improvement of probationary party members and extensively recruit new party members from among the basic social classes, women and the ethnic minority. Ensure that every small unit and people's organization has at least a few party members.

b) Labor Youth Group Chapter development:

The Group Chapter is the only youthful organization of the SVN Liberation Assault Youth unit. It is a helpful assistant and reserve unit for the Party Chapter. For this reason, in order to have a strong unit, we must strengthen the Group Chapter to be called the "progressive Group Chapter", according to the resolution of the Group Congress.

Criteria of the "progressive Group Chapter":

1- Under the expeditions leadership of the Party Chapter, the Group Chapter properly carried out the various resolutions prescribed by the Party Chapter.

Assault Youth members should set good examples in the execution of their missions.

2- Efficiently develop and consolidate the Group Chapter:

- All group members should thoroughly study political, cultural and military programs.

- The criteria pertinent to the development of group members must be fulfilled. (Discussed separately).

- Group activities must be carried on regularly and effectively, so as to introduce more new youth to the Group.

- The Group chapter Executive Committee, based on the mission resolution of the Party Chapter and the unit, outlined a plan for the organization of the Group Chapter.

- Ensure that activities are realistically oriented and conduct frequent critique sessions.

3- Maintain good contacts with those youth not in the Group.

The Group Chapter is considered as progressive when the following standards are attained; 80 per cent of group members are progressive while 20 per cent are average; there must be no deserters. The above conditions are aimed at individuals who have been Group members for more than 1 month.

A number of necessary measures for the strengthening of the group chapter:

The Chapter Party Committee must make various Party Chapters thoroughly understand the roles and responsibilities of the Group Chapter. It was necessary that the Party Chapters closely supervise Group Chapters and strive to transform them into progressive Group Chapters.

[Page 17 of original text]

The Assault Youth Command Committee and the Party Committee must be assisted by youth in strengthening progressive Group Chapters.

Consolidate and improve the various Group Chapter Executive Committees so that they will be able to perform their missions. Organize a democratic election.

Train cadre and Party members on the Group Chapter Executive Committee in the motivation of Party youth.

Attention:

- Party Committee echelons and commanders must perform their missions by themselves. They cannot assign their missions to Chapter Party Committee members.

- C Headquarters and the Chapter Party Committee must assist the Group Chapter in organizing such collective activities as Anti-American Labor Day, military training to annihilate more Americans, briefings on current events, and Party debates concerning such topics as "what is happiness"?

- Encourage Group Chapter Assault Youth and Group Chapter troops to help each other in their tasks. Motivate them to initiate a fervid emulation campaign.

c) Establishment of an elite unit:

The tasks of establishing the "3 goods" of the Party chapter, a progressive Group Chapter and an elite unit are closely interrelated. The specific subjects of the above 3 tasks represent a series of strengthening processes within the Party, group and people. The result of the establishment of a "3 good" Party chapter is creation of conditions favorable to the development of a progressive Group chapter. The reverse is also true. Should through leadership of the Party and the establishment of the "3 good" Party chapter and progressive Group chapter, a unit can become perfect. For this reason, we should not analyse the tasks of the Party chapter, Group chapter and the unit separately.

Standards of a perfect unit:

1/ - Insure perfect accomplishment of missions. Properly carry out all activities with emphasis placed upon quality as well as quantity, under all conditions.

- The average number of support personnel constitutes 80 per cent of the total strength.

- Should there be a large number of support personnel, then production output must be increased to exceed the prescribed criteria.

2/ - Ensure that the unit training program in political, cultural and military subjects is specifically implemented. For example:

- Ninety (90) per cent of all personnel should be participating in various training courses.

- Quantity and quality meet the requirements.

- Initiate an anti-illiteracy campaign among all group members who joined the unit before June 1966.

- Efforts should be made to heighten the degree of proficiency gained in training. The kindergasten should be trained on the lesson programs of class I and class I should be trained on the lesson programs of class II.

- There must be no lazy members or deserters.

(This edict is especially aimed at those who have been unit members in excess of 3 months.)

3/ Particular attention was paid to the material interests of various units, such as troop messing, sanitation, hygiene, disease prevention and physical training.

* Messing should be continually improved.

- The number of sick personnel should not exceed 20 per cent of the total strength present for duty.

4/ The internal organization should be united. A high sense of discipline should be employed to implement properly the policies regarding the dead and wounded, war trophies, civilian proselyting, and prisoners and surrenderers. Never violate regulations. Have a sense of thriftiness. Maintain public property. Maintain constant contact with unit troops and laborers.

/-Page 18 of original text_7

The unit is considered as perfect when the following conditions are achieved:

- 70 per cent of unit strength consists of skilled cadre.

- 30 per cent of unit strength consists of average cadre.

- There are 2 elite b's [platoons] and 6 a's [squads].

All efforts should be expended to make half of our present units outstanding ones.

3/ Emulation task:

a/ Policy and plan of emulation:

The emulation movement, initiated in the Party, group and units, is an unified emulation movement, each level able to support another. For this reason, the emulation objectives of the Party, Group and unit are based on the standard for developing the "3 good" Party chapter, the progressive Group chapter and the outstanding unit. Valiant Assault Youth will be selected during this emulation phase. (Detailed information will be furnished later).

In the near future, we will initiate a long-range emulation phase, based on a general emulation movement called "the youth determined to fight against and defeat the US and Puppet troops, who are ready to serve unconditionally". This emulation movement was proposed by the Group Central Command Committee. The emulation phase will begin at the end of the Summer of 1966 and terminate at the beginning of spring, 1967. All preparations should be made to celebrate the Emulation Congress for outstanding Liberation SVN assault Youth in the Summer of 1967.

Based on the general emulation policy and its objectives, various units organized and initiated many short-range emulation phases, small-size emulation movements and individual emulation forms, in order to step up the general emulation movement.

b/ Organization:

Establish a General Unit Emulation Section and various emulation sub-sections in all C's [companies]. Their missions are to take charge of emulation activities such as making preliminary and final reports on time, and recommending outstanding emulators for awards. An emulation sub-section is composed of:

- Secretary: 1 political officer as section chief.
- 1 Chapter Party Committee member, C [Company] commander.
- 1 representative of the Group Chapter.
- 3 cadre.
- 1 highly outstanding member of the unit.

c/ Awards:

- Citations issued by the C Command Headquarters.
- Letters of appreciation issued by the General Command Committee.
- Certificates of commendation.
- Selection as Outstanding Assault Youth Heroes.
- Progressive Group Member Certificate of Commendation issued by the Group Central Command Committee.
- Liberation Military Medals of various kinds.
- Particularly for C [company] cadre, recommendations for awards must be approved by the General Command Committee

and Cong Trường [Regiment] Headquarters. The General Command Committee presents awards to outstanding emulators during the preliminary and final emulation phases. It must study their merits achieved during each battle, and according to the forms of the award, recommend them to the Liberation Army.

In addition to the above awards, during this emulation phase, the general Command Committee will grant a perpetual flag to the most outstanding unit and a number of prized Hong Ha pens to brilliant individuals.

d/ Number of personnel deserving awards:

There is no limitation on the number of personnel to be rewarded. Based on the standard, select and recommend all persons who are worthy of being distributed certificates of commendation, letters of appreciation or medals. These recommendations must be forwarded to the emulation sub-sections for examination.

[Page 19 of original text]

e/ The following points on the guidance of emulation movements should be paid particular attention:

- To establish typical units and individuals, we should devise a plan for the improvement of good examples set for the entire unit.

- Promptly make reports on the activities of training and conduct propaganda activities.

- Step up the emulation movement in all Party chapter agencies along and in accordance with other Party Chapter units.

- Pay particular attention to the emulation activities of cadre. Cadre B [of platoon level] should participate in the recommendation of soldiers; cadre C [of company level] should recommend B [platoon] cadre to the C [company] Headquarters. They will recommend ideas affirmed by subordinate units. If the emulation section adds its approval, it will suggest the type of award fitting to their achievements gained during combat.

- Closely coordinate the Assault Youth emulation movement for SVN liberation with the movement for fighting against the US Imperialists for NVN national salvation. This will stimulate both movements.

4/ The development and improvement of cadre:

Due to a lack of cadre and their own lax organization, and to the ever-increasing number of units, we must pay particular attention to the development and improvement of cadre. Since present conditions and circumstances do not permit us to conduct a training course for cadre, we must resort to the following methods:

1) Organize on-the-job training according to the unified plan and program of the General Command Committee.

2) Draw experience from the preliminary reports on the results of activities, so as to improve cadre more efficiently.

3) Each old and experienced cadre should guide one new and inexperienced one to replace him.

4) Contact the army school or party school of 5 [Nam] Truong [COSVN] so as to send them cadre for training.

5) Efforts should be made to hold frequent congresses in which cadre are trained in special skills. For example, C [company] cadre are trained in the Party policies for youth proselyting, for improving youth, for unit administration and for conducting political activities within units.

Particular attention should be paid to the following points:

- Thoroughly examine the records of cadre and promote them if applicable. Pay particular attention to female cadre and those of basic social classes. Improve their political standpoints.

- Take care of sick and aged cadre; let them take rest and recuperate at convalescence centers by roster, so as to guarantee their long-term service. Show more concern for cadre's private lives and solve his problems.

- Develop democracy and maintain solidarity within the internal organization. Every month, every quarter and at the end of each year, all cadre within units and elements must assemble to conduct a critique session.

- In the administration of cadre, the COSVN Current Affairs Committee has been entrusted by the central Group in administering C [company] cadre. The Assault Youth Command Committee and Party Committee must administer A [squad] and B [Platoon] cadre.

- The transfer and assignment of cadre must comply with their abilities and special skills.

[Page 20 of original text]

- The Central Group Current Affairs Committee and 5 [Nam] Truong [COSVN] organization section will assign the position and rank of each cadre.

5/ Protection of the Party and unit:

The enemy not only attacks us using air raids and artillery shellings but also conducts espionage activities, creates dissension within our internal organization, and exploits unit and military secrets. We should then choose one comrade from Party Committee echelons to take charge of the protection of the Party and unit. In all organizations of the Assault Youth Command Committee, we one Party Committee member must be assigned this task. Many other persons must observe and report the political and ideological situation in the internal organization.

The most basic and major task is to conduct political and ideological indoctrination, and heighten the standpoint of the proletariat, so as to promote a spirit of revolutionary vigilance. We must smash the enemy's psychological schemes, his Chiêu Hồi program and his plan for introducing secret agents into our

agencies and organizations. Constantly and urgently make inspections and strictly observe security maintenance and internal regulations. Promptly uncover enemy places for infiltrating and destroying our internal organizations. Particular attention should be paid to admitting Party members and recruiting Assault Youth in compliance with the established principles and procedures.

Carefully study recruits' biographical data, especially those of suspected enemy agents. Maintain constant contact with security defense agencies to facilitate investigations.

For proper assignment of missions to cadre, we should master their weak points so as to preclude mistakes in the execution of their tasks.

6/ Plans for activities:

Recently, we worked out an overall plan for the Assault Youth Unit. We must, however, continually study and lay down more specific regulations to carry out the prescribed plan. At the same time, ensure that all other agencies having a loose relationship with us strictly observe the prescribed regulations. In the policy, emphasis was placed upon those families whose members are full-time Assault Youth, group members or killed or wounded in action. Be determined to overcome all past shortcomings and to properly carry out such tasks as notification of next of kin, burial and maintenance of personal property of the deceased. The Unit Headquarters is responsible for notifying families and local authorities, and for consolidating dispensaries and convalescence centers.

Issue certificates to the wounded and settle the problems of disabled soldiers. Those who cannot support combat operations will be sent back to local authorities.

7/ Recruitment, assignment and development of forces:

The recruitment of forces is an extremely important task which has a direct relationship with our assignment and development of them. However, this task depends partly on the leadership of all Party Committee echelons, and Party level, as well as on movements in local areas.

[Page 21 of original text]

- Opinions should be contributed to Party Committee echelons and to the Central Group Committee on the recruitment of Assault Youth. A plan should be drafted by the Forward Supply Council to standardize the recruitment of Assault Youth, type B (rear base youth).

- Assign a number of cadre to local areas to assist group levels in mobilizing Assault Youth, in compliance with prescribed conditions and requirements. Particular attention must be paid to the problems concerning health, equipment and escort of Assault Youth.

- Organize a proper reception to insure the stability of their ideology. Conduct training courses and promptly reorganize the unit either by assigning its members to other units or by activating a new Assault Youth Unit. We should improve our training machinery to meet the present situation.

- Make out a recapitulation report on past activities concerning training and equipment, so as to gain experience and properly carry out these activities in the future.

8/ The rear service mission:

This is one of the most important missions of the Unit Headquarters and has a direct influence upon the living conditions, health and spirits of the unit. Furthermore, satisfactory accomplishment of this mission manifests the Party's concern for it. Generally, our activities have been properly carried out, yet there are still some shortcomings to be overcome in the future.

The following are plans for rear service activities:

1- Continue to study and organize a relatively complete system for cadre and Assault Youth, to sustain their activities.

2- Establish a close relationship between the Rear Service Section and the Finance-Economy Section of Nam Truong [COSVN].

3- Consolidate our rear service machinery to ensure satisfactory accomplishment of its missions. Place in storage quantities of equipment according to the criteria prescribed by the 1966/67 plan. Timely and adequate issue of items should be arranged for units who are newly-assigned to the battlefield. Make a definite plan to purchase additional items which the Finance-Economy Section did not issue, such as women's clothing, medicine, medical equipment, pickaxes, shovels, knives, etc...

At the same time, the Assault Youth Unit Command Committee is responsible for providing all C's [companies] going out on mission with the necessary equipment, not issued by the Army's Rear Service.

4- Follow up and provide guidance for the maintenance and use of issued items. Popularize the concept of thrift and proper maintenance of public property. Satisfactorily maintain all storehouses so to avoid losses and damage.

5- Messing must be well organized. Take the initiative in improving the living conditions of soldiers.

6- Develop sanitation and disease prevention and initiate the "3 clean" movement, to eat, drink and live cleanly and the "3 against" movement, against mosquitoes, against drinking unboiled water and against exhaustion. Constantly follow up the sanitation and disease prevention activities.

7- Step up the training and improvement of medics and the administration of C's [companies] by the following methods: conduct medical training courses; heighten the sense of responsibility; popularize the concept of zeal in serving cadre and soldiers.

[Page 22 of original text]

8- Ensure the self-sufficient production of vegetables, so that in one month, 1500 manioc groves are planted. Maintain a constant stock of 350 kilos of meat at Assault Youth agencies to serve dispensaries and convalescence centers. Plan to produce 2

acres of paddy in the next crop.

Those units who have stable living conditions must outline an adequate plan for the production of vegetables for themselves.

The more developed are our units, the greater our strength, the greater the criteria prescribed for the unit and the greater is the quantity of equipment needed to meet the requirements. But, during development, we will encounter many difficulties. Therefore, all personnel performing rear service activities must thoroughly understand the Party's policies. Along with the movement of self-sufficiency, step up the spirit of thriftiness. Fight waste and corruption, and overcome hardship and misery.

9/ Staff planning:

Particular attention should be paid to the following points:

1) Make C [company] cadre understand staff planning and help them improve their professional skills.

2) Standardize the organization of units and C [Company] Headquarters; standardize the weapons parts to cope with the situation. Standardize conditions on the battlefields and in rear service areas. (A specific plan for this will be outlined separately).

Study the forms for organizing detachments in order to apply them when our forces have developed sufficiently. All C [Company] Command Committees must firmly grasp the status of their personnel, their work, health, weapons issued each month, and each quarter, and report this to the Assault Youth Headquarters. In addition they must make out a recapitulation report on the situation at the end of the year.

4) Improve the military training program in order to train and improve A [squad], B [platoon] and C [company] cadre.

5) Particular attention should be paid to the administration of our internal organization, to movements, to billeting and to the setting-up of defensive positions.

Maintain absolute secrecy concerning our fortifications. Insure that our troops are properly dispersed and constantly moving from one place to another.

6) Particular attention should also be paid to strengthening our rear bases and the major agencies of the Assault Youth Unit Command Committee. If reserve bases are available, we should set up defensive positions against sweep operations, Biet Kich [commando type] units and enemy air raids. Be confident under all circumstances.

10/ Strive to strengthen our administrative machinery to insure good leadership and to provide guidance for future activities:

a/ Principles for developing and consolidating our administrative machinery:

- Our administrative machinery must be well-organized, both qualitatively and quantitatively. Guidance must



be promptly and adequately provided to units.

- [companies].
- Ensure satisfactory leadership of all C's
 - Insure a close relationship with Nam Truong [COSVN].

[Page 23 of original text]

- Ensure proper accomplishment of missions and implementation of the prescribed activity plan.

b/ Formulas for improvement:

- Improvement must be carried out gradually, step by step. Attention must be paid only to urgent and important matters.

- According to the capability of each cadre, will missions be assigned to them.

- Fulfill immediate missions to pave the way for future activities.

c/ Administrative machinery:

Assault Youth Command Committee:

Add 2 more personnel to their strength for a total of 4.

Chapter Party Command Committee:

This includes 5 persons, one of whom was transferred to the unit. Three more are to be assigned to the group.

The Chapter Party Command Committee is composed of cadre from Assault Youth Headquarters of various units, young (as well as female) cadre. However, at present, there are no female cadre.

In order to insure consistent leadership, this administrative machinery will be divided into 3 areas:

A. Rear base areas:

The schools, dispensaries and convalescence centers are taken charge of by one of the Command committee members, one Party Committee member and a number of cadre.

B. Permanent element of the Assault Youth Headquarters:

This is located in a more mobile center, separate from the rear base area, in order to facilitate the liaison and leadership between all C's [companies] and the rear base area. At the same time, it was able to closely coordinate with many agencies of the forward supply council and rear service section.

This element is responsible for assigning cadre to the experimental area, and to the command committee. The rest of the element is responsible for constant study of the tasks prescribed by the resolution, and to assist the Command Committee

in its leadership.

Strengthen liaison with other agencies.

C. Recruiting element:

This consists of a number of cadre, who are assigned to a number of provinces to recruit new members and send them to the unit.

D. Party organization:

This will be established according to the conditions of our missions and activities. The entire Assault Youth organization is divided into 3 Party Chapters as follows:

- 1) The Party Chapter for the school
- 2) The Party Chapter for rear service, dispensaries and convalescence centers.
- 3) The standing Party Chapter.

Through our achievements and traditions, our experiences gained in practice, through the leadership and concern of the Party and the efforts and determination of the entire Party Headquarters, the cadre and soldiers of the 1966/67 Central Party Committee have been inspired by this resolution. This resolution has helped them formulate an overall plan for future activities and missions. Though not perfectly carried out, it represents the sum total of numerous painstaking hours of collective deliberation. It exhibits the great success of our conference.

We believe that in the days to come, we will make outstanding progress in many fields.

Copies have been sent to:

All C's [companies], the Forward Supply Council, the Central Group Committee Organization Section, the Operations Section, the Group in the experimental area, and the Party Chapter Chief [sic].

-----END OF TRANSLATION-----