

The composition of the brigade reserve will vary with the size of the area, nature of the enemy threat, and the terrain. Some brigade units may be fragmented into small elements and required to defend dispersed installations. In this situation, the reserve elements are assigned contingency missions to provide reaction forces for several installations.

Area coverage may require assignment of fire support units to a much lower level than is normal in conventional operations. To support dispersed security elements, decentralization of fire support may be required. Registration on likely guerrilla assembly areas and routes of approach and withdrawal is necessary. Direct fire supporting weapons (including artillery in the direct fire role) can be effective at short ranges when using time and super-quick fuze. Having direct fire supporting weapons is particularly important if the guerrilla force closes within the minimum indirect fire range limitation of weapons.

All military and critical civilian installations and population centers must be protected against sabotage and attack.

- The larger installations and communities and the surrounding smaller ones mutually assist each other in their defense. Fire support from several installations and communities can contribute to mutual defense.
- The defense of communities is primarily the task of local paramilitary and police. The defense of communities is conducted with special emphasis on physical security and populace and resources control measures. In planning the defense, the following should be considered:
 - Boundaries, coordinating points, and the configuration of the operational area depend more upon the location of the community than upon the most favorable terrain.
 - Surveillance and security measures must be effective at all times.
 - Since guerrilla attacks on communities usually are conducted from close-in assembly areas, fire planning must emphasize coordinated short-range defense.
 - Extensive physical security measures must be maintained inside and around installations.
 - Extensive patrolling must be maintained outside the defensive perimeters.
 - Mobile reserves must be maintained and be ready to react to a surprise attack.
- Special attention should be given to the security of food supplies, arms, ammunition, and other equipment. Camouflage and deception measures such as dummy positions, natural and manmade obstacles, alarms, illumination, flame field expedients, electronic surveillance devices, and restricted areas are used. Fields of fire are cleared and field fortifications are constructed.