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- On 5 July 1952 the East China Military Area ordered the military districts of Shantung, Northern Kiangsu, Southern Kiangsu, Chekiang, and Fukien to strengthen the organization of Coastal Defenses and Bandit Suppression Public Security Committees. These committees are people's self-protection organizations whose leadership is exercised by Chinese Communist military authorities. They are established in military sub-districts and are composed of appointees from Chinese Communist Army units, from rural and urban area government offices, from public security organizations, from local Communist Party and New Democratic Youth League branches, and from peasants' unions.
- The directive ordering the strengthening of the Coastal Defenses and Bandit Suppression Public Security Committees first pointed out that public order and safety in the coastal area has gradually been stabilized during the past year as a result of the formation of these committees. It stated that this has made it impossible for Nationalist elements to infiltrate into China or engage in destructive activities. Changes in the international situation, however, are causing the Nationalist forces now confined to Taiwan and coastal islands to seek opportunities for action against China. Furthermore, scattered bandits in the interior have not yet been completely eliminated. Consequently, continuous efforts must be made to strengthen the Coastal Defense and Bandit Suppression Public Security Committees in order to protect the coastal areas and safeguard the population.
- The directive outlined the following measures to be taken in strengthening these committees:
 - Membership in the committees shall be enlarged. The most active elements of the peasants union and the best militia personnel should be encouraged to contribute to the work of these committees.

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- b. Additional functions shall be given to these public security committees. In addition to cooperating with coastal defense forces in guarding the coast, these committees shall also work closely with the public security forces in a positive effort to find and eliminate bandits, to eliminate secret agents, and to exercise strict control over unlawful landlords and counterrevolutionary elements. These committees may organize units for the protection of highways along the coast and for safeguarding military and government warehouses in coastal areas.
- c. Additional authority is being given to these public security committees. The appropriate military district or military sub-district commands may authorize these committees to impose, on their own authority, military control measures covering designated areas for a limited time. They already possessed the authority to request and obtain service from all persons in an area as necessary. These persons may be selected for sentry duty, highway protection, warehouse guarding, and as guides or supplementary forces to help troops in bandit suppression.

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