

To Dean Taggart

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President Ngô đình Diêm on visit to
Michigan State University of Applied Sciences.

On Wednesday, May 15, 1957, Michigan State University (Lansing) received the state visit of the President of the Republic of VietNam. This is an illustrious and oldest university built in 1885 and considered as the first school of Agriculture in the United States of America.

M.S.U. has been classified in the 9th rank among the biggest universities, its campus houses about 17,000 students coming from over 50 countries, including Free VietNam.

The M.S.U. curricula are composed of technical trainings in Agriculture, Trade, Administration, Traffic, Education, Discipline, Economics, and Veterinary Medicine.

M.S.U. is also renowned for the training of specialists in public administration; therefore, an agreement has been signed between President Diem and M.S.U. to send a group of technicians and specialists to assist young VietNam in developing a well-organized and effective administration. The M.S.U. Group in Saigon at present consists of 35 American staff members and 90 Vietnamese personnel, commenced its operations in May 1955 in the four major following fields: Police, Field Administration, National Institute of Administration and In-Service Training. The general mission of M.S.U.G. is to assist the Vietnamese Government in administrative techniques. To this purpose, the Mission has sent a great number of specialists to be assigned to public services in the above-mentioned fields.

Efforts made by the Police Division have been centralized to the reorganization of the Police Forces, including the Civil Guard and the Saigon Municipal Police.

The Field Administration Division assists the Government in the re-organization of its Departments and agencies, so that central policies benefit to the people in villages and provinces.

The organizations where studies have been conducted include:

- The Commission General for Refugees
- The Special Commission for Civic Action
- The Department of Interior
- The Department of Agriculture
- The Department of Agrarian Reform
- The Department of National Education
- The Department of Information and Youth
- and the Department of National Economy.

The activities of the National Institute of Administration Division include a study of the N.I.A. curriculum with a view to more practical training in administration, the establishment of evening school for public servants, the establishment of a 4,000 volume library and the organization of a National Administration Association.

The In-Service Training Division assists in the training in secretarial procedures, accountancy, and economics. A general program for leadership training and middle management training is in operation, which will be a valuable assistance for the training of Government officials.

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