

Minutes
of the 36th Meeting of the Technical
Committee for the Construction of the new N.I.A.
Headquarters

On January 10, 1961, at 10:30 a.m., the Technical Committee for the construction of the new NIA headquarters met at the present NIA headquarters located at No 4 Alexandre de Rhodes Street, Saigon.

Present:

- Messrs. - Vũ Quốc Thông, Rector of the NIA Chairman
 Nghiêm Đăng, Vice Rector
- Hồ Đắc Cao, architect, representing the
Director General of Reconstruction and
City Planning Member
 - Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor, MSUG Member
 - Duong Thieu Chi, representing the
Director General of Budget and Foreign
Aid Member
 - Mã Minh, engineer, presidential specialist Member
 - Paul Beidler, architect, USOM Member
 - Phạm Xuân Nghĩa, chief of accounting
bureau, NIA Member

Invited to attend the meeting:

- Mr. Huynh An, architect, construction program
advisor; Lieutenant Bui Van Nổ, representing
the Engineering Directorate.

After the opening of the meeting by the chairman, the matters placed on the agenda were discussed as follows:

1. The contractor requested a 69-day extension of the time necessary for completion of operations for the following reasons:

a. Re-testing of reinforced concrete: The contractor requested a 30-day extension. The Committee said that there was no delay in this matter. However, because of the modifications of a previously approved project, the Committee granted only a 15-day extension.

b. Choice of color for floor tiles. The contractor requested a 12-day extension. The Chairman said that there could be no delay in this matter and that there was no valid reason to request an extension. The contractor alleged the necessity for floor tiles to get dry after leaving the mold, which required some time. The delay was caused by the tile foundry.

Mr. Huynh An said that the contractor could not request an extension of time because the paving would be started only after the completion of the construction.

c. The November 11 event in the City. The contractor requested a 15-day extension because during the days affected by the event, the workers were not present and the supply of material like sand, gravel that came from Bien Hoa was suspended. The Committee will decide on this after finding out when the Binh Loi bridge was demolished, when the pontoon was installed, what material was supplied by Bien Hoa and how long the workers were absent.

d. Choice of granit color. The contractor requested a 12-day extension which was rejected by the Committee.

2. Material used for construction of the ceiling of the auditorium.

Mr. Huynh An reported to the Committee that the contract originally provided for the use of reinforced concrete in the construction of the ceiling then changed to cellotex. But since this material is not available at present on the local market, he proposed that cellotex be replaced by masonite category half-soft. Mr. Beidler suggested to replace cellotex by metal lath and cement plaster. The Committee requested Mr. Huynh An to study the price and report to it for decision.

3. Liaison with the Engineering Directorate. The representative of the Engineering Directorate reported that the borrowing of bulldozers was within the jurisdiction of the command of the Engineering Corps, not of the Engineering Directorate. Therefore, contact should be made with the command of the Engineering Corps concerning this matter.

4. Affording shelter and food allowance to the bulldozer driver. Because the bulldozer driver comes from far away, he should be afforded shelter and daily food allowance. The Committee granted a daily maximum 100\$ allowance. His salary as of a serviceman is paid by the Command of the Engineering Corps. He already worked for 12 days and almost finished levelling the front.

It takes approximately 15 days to level the front and 30 days to level the back.

Mr. Musolf drew the attention of the Committee to the fact that the project agreement covers only the construction cost and not the expenditure relating to the ground. This is a matter of principle though the cost is not much.

Mr. Nghiem Dang proposed that the National Budget pay this cost but the length of time necessary for the operation should be known for sure.

Lastly, the Committee decided to write to the Command of the Engineering Corps to thank the latter for having sent bulldozers to level the ground and to inform it that the Committee agreed to grant the food allowance to the mechanic and ask it to tell how long the mechanic's services are made available.

5. Report by the Subcommittee on the cost for the making and of the lawn, walk/planting of trees for the parks

Mr. Huynh An reported: "Two parks will be made for 150 cars. There are 2 categories of lawns: ordinary and select. The select lawn should be made in the front of the headquarters and the ordinary one in the back.

The making of this lawn will be entrusted to the City Hall. The price ranges from VN\$18 to VN\$20 a square meter and VN\$100 a square meter in the dry season.

A. Planting of trees. There are two kinds of trees which can be planted: the "flamboyant" and Sao" trees.

a/ 63 trees will be planted

Price: VN\$100 x 63 = VN\$6,300

b/ 25 plants:

Price: VN\$50 x 25 = VN\$1,250

c/ Paving with cement: 400 square meters

Price: VN\$200 x 400 = 80,000\$

d/ Sidewalk: 1657m

Price: VN\$100 x 1657 = 165,700\$

e/ Asphalted road: 9,139 square meters

Price: VN\$200 x 9,139 = VN\$1,827,800.

The cost will be reduced for the macadamization of the road but a lot of money will be spent for its maintenance in the future because it is likely to deteriorate soon.

f/ Ordinary lawn: 15,183 square meters

Price: VN\$ 20 x 15,183 = VN\$303,660

g/ Select lawn: 6,756 square meters

Price: VN\$ 50 x 6,756 = VN\$337,880

Total: VN\$2,722,510

After Mr. Huynh An's report, Mr. Beidler recalled that the walk from the entrance gate round the dormitory towards the students' refectory should be wide enough to be accessible to cars.

The report will be considered in a subsequent meeting.

The meeting was closed at noon.

Secretary,

PHAM XUAN NGHIA

Chairman,

VU QUOC THONG.