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NEW CAMPUS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION NEARING COMPLETION

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The National Institute of Administration serves the nation through its program of preparatory training for high-level administrators, in-service training for civil servants, and research and study of administrative and social problems. The Institute stands as a forceful symbol of the government's determination to improve its services to the people.

Construction of a new campus for the National Institute of Administration is nearing completion. The Institute is expected to move to a new site next spring.

The National Institute of Administration is presently located in a former Roman Catholic mission on Alexandre de Rhodes street. The Government of Viet Nam financed in 1956 (with 13.5 million piasters advanced by USOM from American project aid funds earmarked for permanent buildings) the conversion of these buildings as temporary quarters for the Institute, until appropriate new buildings could be constructed. This 3-story building now houses three classrooms of varying size as well as administrative and faculty offices, a conference room, and offices of the rector and deputy rector. Four quonset huts in the back yard provide temporary space for overflowing faculty offices, and a former chapel serves as a library. The overcrowded classrooms solve their space problem by invading the corridors. In the present conditions, the Institute cannot offer adequate working facilities to students, faculty members, or administrative personnel.

Fortunately, all these inconveniences are bound to end very soon. A new 32,000,000-piaster campus financed through American aid is under construction on land provided by the Government of Viet Nam. (The Government is now restoring, as part of this cost, the USOM advance of 13.5 million piasters made in 1956).

The new campus is located on the newly-opened Tran Quoc Toan Street, a large artery linking Saigon and Cholon. The principal structures of the campus include a 3-story main building, an auditorium-library building, and a combined 3-story dormitory and dining hall. The main building houses four 50-seat, one 100-seat and two 150-seat classrooms, and five 15-seat seminar rooms. In addition, it contains a professors' lounge, offices for the rector and the deputy rector, a doctor's office and various administrative offices including a typing pool and a mimeograph room. The auditorium seats 500 people and the library has spacious reading facilities and storage space for 100,000 volumes. The dormitory accommodates 114 students, 48 on each floor. Eventually, a total of three dormitories to house 432 will be built. Ample open space on the campus is provided for the construction of recreation facilities such as tennis and volley ball courts. A deep well provides an independent source of water. A large generator supplies stand-by-energy to supplement city current in case of emergency.

The National Institute of Administration is the successor to the Ecole Nationale d'Administration which was founded at Dalat in 1953. The school was transferred to Saigon in 1955 and made an Institute by a presidential decree which placed it directly under the authority of the President. The Institute offers graduate and undergraduate instruction in public administration and economics, a program of adult education through public night school courses, and special courses for government-wide in-service training programs. It also provides research and consulting services in problems of public administration and economics for appropriate government agencies.

Since 1955, a team of specialists from the Michigan State University (MSU) has assisted the Institute in the development of academic courses, serving under a contract with the government of Viet Nam, financed by the International Cooperation Administration. MSU professors assist with academic instruction, help organize in-service training programs for Vietnamese civil servants, advise on problems of public administration and economics, and work in various research projects undertaken by the Institute.

The Institute is administered by a board of administrators whose chairman is a representative of the President. The faculty includes such prominent professors as Rector Vu Quoc Thong; Deputy Rector Nghiem Dang; Professor Nguyen Cao Hach, agrégé in economic sciences; professors Le Dinh Chan, Luu Van Binh, Nguyen Do, all holding doctorate degrees in law. Numerous prominent government officials, including Mr. Bui Van Luong, Secretary of State for Interior; Mr. Duong Tan Tai, financial advisor at the Presidency and Acting Governor of the National Bank, and Mr. Tran Ngoc Lien, General Commissioner for Cooperatives and Agricultural Credit, give the Institute valuable help as lecturers. The Institute now has an enrollment of 244 regular students and 200 night course students. Since its creation it has graduated 267 students in administration and economics, the majority of whom are now serving in responsible positions in the provincial and central administrations.

L-b/dvh