

TRANSLATION

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW BUILDINGS OF
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION
(August 23, 1962)

Gentlemen,

Dear Students,

I am very happy to preside today over the dedication ceremony of the new buildings of the National Institute of Administration.

This magnificent achievement takes its place in the framework of efforts constantly put forth by the Government with a view to training, in the various branches of national activity, competent cadres, dedicated and worthy, whose actions will accelerate the general progress of our people and will help them to emerge rapidly from a state of underdevelopment.

To achieve this work, I have, since the beginning, called upon American aid. I avail myself of this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the Government of the United States which has kindly extended to us substantial aid for this undertaking.

Members of the Faculty,

The assignment of these new buildings to the National Institute of Administration proves once more, if there be need to prove it, the importance attached by the Government to the training of civilian cadres as well as to administrative studies.

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Administration has become in our days a real science, with well-defined principles, methods, modes of functioning and rules.

If the civil servant, in order to successfully fulfill his mission, needs previous adequate training, administrative science must be the object of constant research and thorough study to correspond to the development and the evolution of each country.

If is thus advisable for the teaching staff to fully realize the importance and the complexity of its role, which requires wide knowledge and culture, a keen sense of observation, the renewal of methods, perspicacity in the application of principles and the exchange and confrontation of experiences within the country as well as abroad. Not satisfied merely with inculcating technical knowledge upon our future cadres, you have set your hearts, gentlemen, on helping them to become imbued with the political philosophy of our regime based on the active respect for the human being, community development and collective progress.

A decisive arm to triumph over the three-fold war that we are waging against communist subversion, disunity and under-development, this political philosophy is at present applied, as you know, down to the basic units of national life, the "strategic hamlets", which are devoted, along with the extermination of the communists traitors, to the living achievement of our personalist revolution.

I am convinced that as conscious, enlightened and vigilant intellectuals, you will know how to fully fulfill your mission in this crucial period of our history.

.../...

Dear Students,

It is to well fulfill your future mission that you bend your minds to study, incessantly improving yourselves in the path of knowledge and morality.

Remember that administrative work is by no means routine desk work consisting of handling files and of mechanically carrying out orders. Particularly, in the present circumstances, the supreme sacrifice made by so many of our soldiers on the battle fronts, as well as the multiple sufferings endured by so many of our compatriots, victims of communist terrorism, do not allow that agents of the public administration indulge themselves in a nonchalant automatism, in the pursuit of comforts, in the flight from true responsibilities.

They must behave themselves as true cadres, as chiefs, dedicated to the cause of the Fatherland and of the people, giving proof of a spirit of initiative and invention, setting the superior interest of the country above all personal interest; they must still and above all act as true combattants, loyal, courageous, totally engaged in the revolutionary struggle carried out by the present generations for the survival of the Fatherland.

I am convinced that under the guidance of your teachers, you will spare no effort, no sacrifice to fully answer to the expectations of the nation.

The National Institute of Administration will thus be worthy of its important role in the new Vietnamese society.
