

Federal Bureau of Investigation**FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY PROGRAM****PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM***1. Objectives*

The FBI National Academy was established to train a professional corps of career law-enforcement officers as executives, administrators, and instructors for the advancement of police agencies on all levels.

2. Operation

The FBI National Academy is a 12-week course conducted in Washington, D.C., and at the FBI Academy and firearms range on the Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Va. It is programed and conducted entirely by the Training Division of the FBI.

3. History

The FBI National Academy was established on July 29, 1935, when 23 selected law-enforcement officers were invited to Washington for a 12-week period of training similar to that given special agents of the FBI at that time. The Academy was born in a time of great need since these were the days of vicious criminal gangs, when dangerous desperadoes roamed virtually at will over wide areas of the Nation. Mr. Hoover knew that a national police force was not the answer and felt that the solution lay, instead, in raising the levels of law enforcement through professional training. It was believed that the great majority of crime problems could best be resolved locally and if sufficient law enforcement at this level could be achieved on a broad scale, the problem would be solved. The curriculum of the National Academy has been refined with each of the 75 sessions held to date to update those areas of training necessary for law enforcement to keep up with the needs of the society which it serves. The classes have varied in size since the first session of 23 men and in recent years each of the 2 sessions held each year has contained from 90 to 100 officers. Candidates come from duly constituted law-enforcement agencies from local, county, State, and Federal departments.

Since 1962 provision has been made to take up to 20 officers from friendly nations outside the United States in an effort to assist in the counterinsurgency program of the U.S. Government. Most of these officers are sponsored under the public safety program of the Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of State.

With the graduation of the 75th session of the FBI National Academy on May 26, 1965, there have been 4,740 graduates. As of that date 2,910 were still actively engaged in law enforcement and over 28 percent of them hold positions as executive heads of their agencies. There have been 105 graduates from a total of 29 different foreign countries and 48 graduates from U.S. territories and possessions. The 76th session of the National Academy with 96 officers in attendance representing 39 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Park Police, White House Police, U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, and 9 foreign countries will graduate November 3, 1965, and bring the total number of graduates to 4,836. The current curriculum includes subjects, such as criminal law, public speaking, police record systems, defensive tactics, fingerprint identification, photography, investigation, and other phases of police administration.