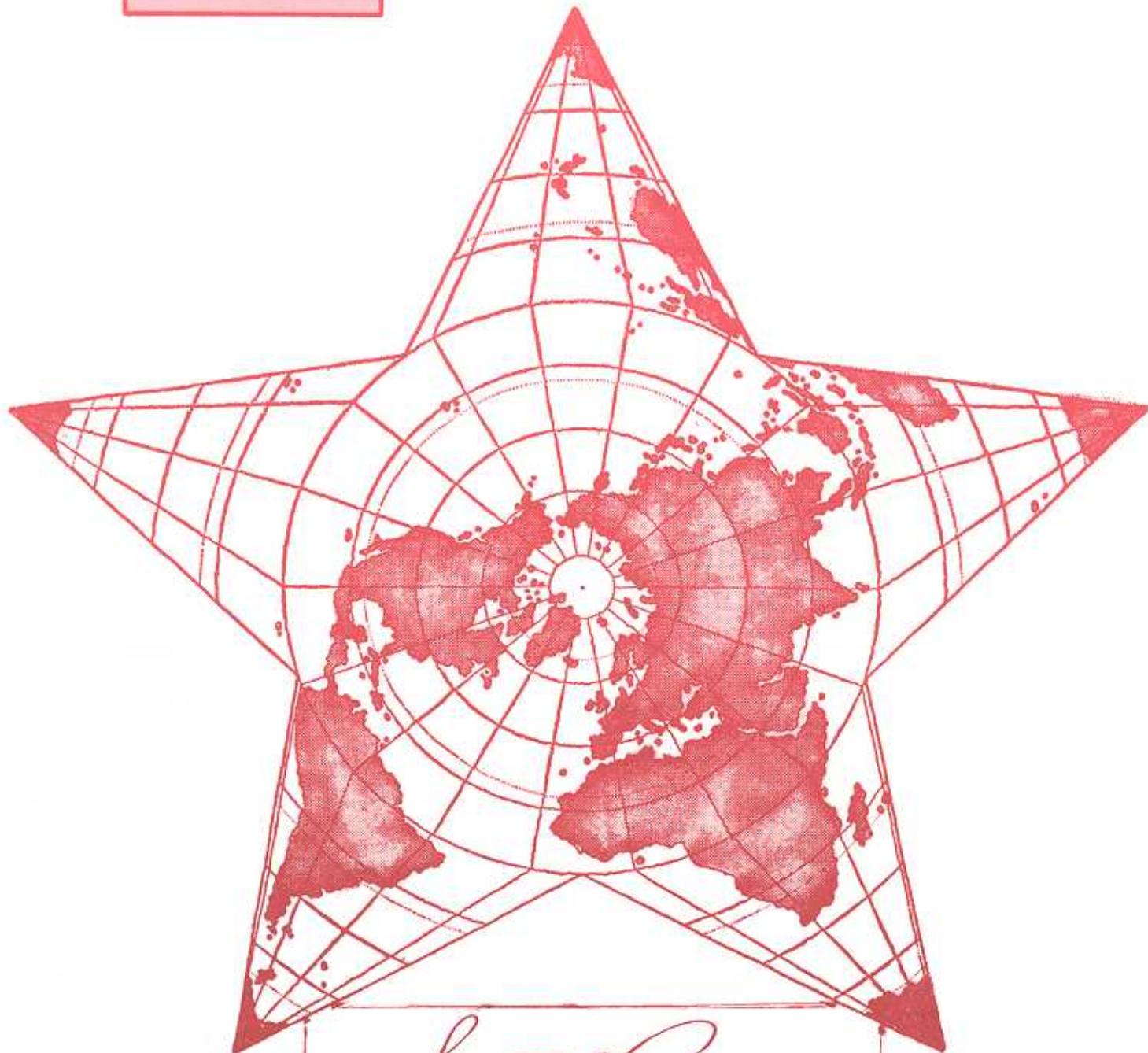




# THE FAS LETTER

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE SERVICE



*Season's Greetings*



December 1973

Dear Friends Overseas:

During this special season when we take time to think of family and friends, it is a pleasure for me to extend warm greetings to all of you who serve at our attache posts.

This past year has been a busy and active one for all of us. The growth and the increased interest in our agricultural trade have placed special demands on each of you -- agricultural officers and local staff members alike -- and you have responded with enthusiasm and devotion.

We anticipate that the coming year will bring us its share of challenges and opportunities for service, and we are looking forward to working together on them in 1974.

As we celebrate the Holiday Season, our wish to you and your families -- and to each member of the FAS staff -- is for happy holidays, and a bright New Year.

Sincerely,

Dave Hume



## BRICE MEEKER, GORDON FRASER NAMED TO ASS'T ADMINISTRATOR POSTS; AL TRICK NEW DEPUTY ASS'T ADMINISTRATOR FOR ATTACHES

Brice Meeker and Gordon Fraser have returned from attaches assignments in recent months to take up Washington duties as Assistant Administrators. Brice, formerly ag attache in The Netherlands, is now Assistant Administrator for Commodity Programs, and Gordon, formerly ag attache at OECD Paris, is now Assistant Administrator for International Trade.

Also returning for a front office assignment was Al Trick, formerly ag attache in Warsaw, who is presently serving as deputy assistant administrator for attaches.

Brice, a native of Cabool, Missouri, is a graduate of the University of Missouri and Purdue University. He also holds a diploma from Oxford University in England.

Brice's first Government employment was with the U.S. State Department, and he served with State in Hungary from 1955 to 1958. He then joined FAS, and started work in the Livestock and Meat Products Division. Brice has served overseas in Hong Kong, Moscow, and The Hague.

Gordon Fraser, a native of Moro, Oregon, is also a graduate of Purdue University. After serving in the armed forces in World War II, Gordon worked on food and agricultural operations of the Department of the Army, and was chief of the food and agriculture division of the U.S. High Commission to Germany from 1949 to 1952. In 1952, he was named secretary of the International Wheat Council in London, and served there until joining FAS in 1956.

After two years as assistant administrator for market development, Gordon entered private business, serving as an officer in international agricultural firms until his return to FAS in 1970. He has served in the Paris OECD position since his return.

Alan Trick, new deputy assistant administrator for attaches, is a Des Moines, Iowa native. He is an Iowa State graduate, and also attended George Washington University.

Alan first worked with several private grain companies in Iowa before joining USDA, working his first ten years in ASCS as a grain marketing specialist. After joining FAS in 1965, he was named agricultural officer at Hamburg, and has since served as attache in Bern and Warsaw.



## NEW FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE PROPOSED

Assistant Secretary Carroll Brunthaver has announced his proposal to create a new Foreign Agricultural Service which would merge the staffs and functions of the existing Foreign Agricultural Service with the Export Marketing Service and add the International Organizations Staff.

David Hume, FAS Administrator, will serve as Administrator for the new FAS.

At this point, the public is invited to submit their views and comments on the proposed reorganization. All comments must be filed by December 28 to receive consideration.

It is anticipated that the new organization will be fully implemented in early January, and that the next issue of the FAS Letter will be able to give a full picture of the new FAS.

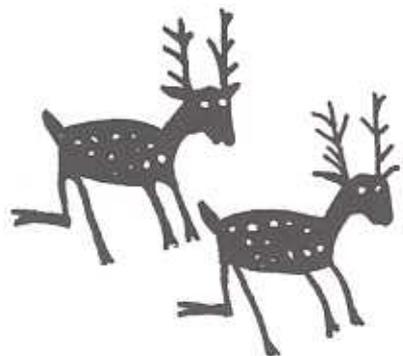


## SECRETARY BUTZ RETURNS FROM EUROPE

Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz returned in late November from a week-long trip through Europe, where he made stops in a number of European capitals and visited with Agricultural Attaches. Main purpose of the trip was to participate in the Food and Agricultural Conference in Rome.

Stops were made in several European capitals for visits with European agricultural officials. During these stops, the Secretary was also able to meet with agricultural attaches and their staffs, including both the EC and country attaches and staff in Brussels, and attaches and staffs in Rome, London, Munich and Paris.

At his return, Secretary Butz wrote each Attache, expressing his appreciation for their work in connection with his visit. In particular, the Secretary gave high praise to the attaches and their staffs for the advance work done, and the valuable contributions made in preparing the Secretary for his discussions with European agricultural leaders.



## ROAMING AROUND

FAS is nothing if not a place of change, as all in the attache family know well. There have been a number of changes since summer, from new appointments to the attache service to new key appointments in the Washington staff. The following includes some of the names and backgrounds on people involved in the more recent changes.

**Larry Thomasson** arrived in Tokyo this month to take up new duties as Agricultural Attache to Japan. The Tokyo post was temporarily filled by Elmer Hollowell this fall after Dave Hume was named Administrator. Elmer now returns to his duties in Washington.

Larry's broad experience in FAS should serve him well in Japan. He had been newly appointed as Director of the Grain and Feed Division when he was named to the attache post, and previously was deputy assistant administrator, agricultural attaches. He served overseas in both Brazil and Portugal. Other FAS tasks included service as Director of the Office of Reports and Statistics.

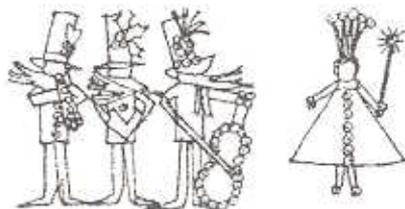
Larry, Maxine, and three daughters arrived at post in mid-December.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Jim Hutchins** has returned to the attache service with assignment as agricultural attache to Poland. He succeeds Alan Trick.

Jim has been serving with the Export Marketing Service since its formation in 1968. He was named Acting General Sales Manager at that time, and since 1969 has served as Assistant Sales Manager for CCC.

Jim's FAS experience began in 1963, when he was named ag attache in Cairo. He served there until war broke out in 1967, and was instrumental in the effort to evacuate American citizens from Egypt during that conflict. He returned to Washington to serve as deputy assistant administrator, agricultural attaches.



**Jerry Kuhl** was named agricultural attache to the Netherlands this autumn, and he and Hanna-Lore are now at post at The Hague. He succeeds Brice Mecker.

Jerry has served in the attache service since coming to FAS in 1959. His overseas assignments have included Caracas, Rio, Santiago, and Jakarta. Before joining FAS, Jerry had worked with the State Department and was in private business.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Verle Lanier** has returned to the field, taking over the Jakarta post that Jerry Kuhl left. Verle had been in the Fats and Oils Division since returning from Kinshasa in 1972.

Verle brings a wealth of background on Southeast Asia with him to his new assignment. His first trip to the area was in 1959, when he served with the International Volunteer Service in Viet Nam. Later he served with IVS in Washington, and in a number of international agricultural development programs in the Department.

Verle and his wife Tuncay, arrived in Jakarta in late summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dale Vining** has returned to overseas service, with an appointment as ag attache in Iran. He replaces Steve Stephanides in the Tehran post, while Steve moves on to the attache job in Dublin, Ireland.

Dale has been working in market development since returning from assignment in Kuala Lumpur in 1972. Earlier overseas assignments included Madrid and San Salvador. Dale first came to FAS in 1954, after joining USDA in 1952.

Dale, his wife Patty, and their daughter arrived in Tehran in late summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Frank Waddle** has also returned to the attache service, with an assignment as attache in Taipei. He had been working in Grain and Feed Division since his return from the Philippines in 1972. He replaces Norm Pettipaw, who has returned to Washington.

Frank began his career in agricultural information, and came to work in the Department as an information specialist in 1962. He had also served in state government positions as an agricultural editor.

Frank and Paula and their four children arrived at post this fall.

There have, of course, been many more transfers and appointments to the attache service since our last newsletter than we could reasonably cover. But, for those who have missed some items in the Bulletin, here is a brief catch-up on the who is what and where news.

**Steve Stephanides** has left Iran and is now serving as attache in Dublin Ireland. **Gene Ransom**, who held the Dublin spot down for several years, is now back in Washington, serving as area officer for the Far East.

And Far East Area Officer **Fred Traeger** is now ag attache Fred Traeger, with appointment in Copenhagen, Denmark. Fred, an old hand at attache service, has previously served in several posts in South America and in Manila. With assignment in Denmark, the Traegers had a first hand look at an Old World Christmas.

**Duane Clark**, who served as ag attache in Tel Aviv, was transferred to Santiago, Chile. Despite the recent turn of events, the Clarks report they are settling in well.

**Larry Fouchs**, who was on temporary assignment as ag attache in Santo Domingo, is now assigned there on a permanent basis.

**Walt Stern**, who has served ably and well as assistant in a number of posts in less developed nations, now has assignment as ag attache in Kinshasa, Zaire.

**Ted Horoschak** is a new addition to the attache family, receiving a first assignment to the assistant spot in Monrovia. Ted, who was in Fruit and Vegetable Division, arrived at post in November, after taking his wife on a short vacation through Spain en route.

**Al and Jane Gilbert** have left Nigeria to take up residence at the ag attache's house in Rabat, Morocco. And **Gordon Nicks** now has his first post as ag attache, with assignment to Malaysia.

\* \* \*

#### OTHER NOTES:

FASers will be glad to learn that **Amanda Halford**, well-known to all field hands for her work in getting schedules arranged, is recuperating nicely after eye operations which kept her out of the office for the better parts of November and December. She will be back on the job in early January.

The **Glen Whitemans** are expecting to start the New Year with a new arrival, the first for the family. ETA is early January.

**Wayne Sharp**, deputy assistant administrator for commodity programs, and former ag attache, is in the running for one of 25 slots in a new year-long Federal Executive Development Program. The committee for the Government-wide program, which aims at providing developmental work experience and formal training for Government executives, received thousands of applications, and has now narrowed its choices down to a top 100, including four from USDA. Names of the final candidates are expected to be announced in January. The program is scheduled to begin in March with an 8-week residency at the Civil Service Commission's Federal Executive Institute at Charlottesville, Virginia.



#### ALL QUIET ON THE FRONT

Recent events in Israel, Lebanon, Chile and Greece have occupied much of the headline space, and all FASers will be glad to know our attaches in these posts report that things are returning to normal.

Dale Douglas, now serving as attache in Tel Aviv, writes that his assistant, Rafael Rosenzweig, was mobilized for the war effort, while Dale was pressed into Embassy activity centering on caring for American tourists caught up in the conflict. Mrs. Douglas joined in the Embassy Commissary work after the local staff was called up. Latest news indicated the situation has calmed for now.

Shack Pitcher, whose office bore the brunt of a terrorist attack on the Embassy earlier this year, has swept up the broken glass from the affair and reports events are relatively quiet in Beirut. They report an all clear signal at present.

In Chile, Duane Clark, who only recently left Israel to serve in Santiago, reported that contacts were being re-established with the Agriculture Ministry there. The FAS staff weathered the change in government there with relative ease, although curfews presented some problems in getting around.

Curfews were also the main obstacle for Jim Frink in the Athens office, where quiet has returned after recent disruptions. We are glad to report that all is now going well there.





**WHO'S ON FIRST?...** Jennie Keeler, new secretary in the Geneva office of Nick Thuroczy, arrived at her post in time to pitch a rousing game on behalf of the Geneva Gems (opponents; Bern Babes) at the annual Geneva/Bern picnic. Despite Jennie's help and that of Virginia Dansey, State's determined shortstop pictured here, the team went down to defeat.



**ALICE CLARK REPORTS FROM WARSAW...** Alice Clark, new secretary in the Warsaw office, paused from her initial round of duties and sent us this photo from an outing in the capital city. Alice reports that she is very happy in the Warsaw assignment, and her two dogs, Susie and Shannon, are also adapting well.



**JANE GILBERT FEATURED IN ART SHOW...** Ag Attache Al Gilbert's wife Jane had the honor of opening an exhibit of her art work at the Nigerian National Museum prior to their departure for the Rabat assignment. Viewing Jane's picture of "The Hairdresser," which was presented to the Museum, is Chief Mrs. T.O.A. Sodeinde, who officially opened the exhibit, and Jane Gilbert. The Museum also took three other Gilbert paintings for its permanent collection.

During the Lagos assignment, Jane centered attention on Nigerian subjects. With transfer to Morocco, another field will open, and hopefully we can share that result with you as well.





#### FASers SENT MORE BOYS TO CAMP

This year 10 inner city boys, ages 8 to 15, went happily to Camp Ernest W. Brown through the auspices of the Metropolitan Police Boys Club and the thoughtfulness and generosity of the employees of FAS. This is more than three times the number FAS was able to send in 1972. FAS employees raised \$744.32 for the project, exceeding the \$700 goal set for 1973.

Pictured with three of the boys are representatives from FAS and the Metropolitan Police Boys Club. They are, from left, retired Assistant Chief Howard V. Covell; FAS/EEO Advisory Committee members Franklin Lee and Jeanette H. Littlejohn, representing the Administrator; and Deputy Chief of Policy Coteoran.



#### TERRENCE McCABE, IMPORT BRANCH CHIEF, DIES

Terrence McCabe, well liked and respected by his fellow FAS employees, died December 3, after an operation at George Washington University Hospital. He had served as Import Branch Chief in the Trade Operations Division since 1963, and had been an FAS employee since 1954.

Terry, 64, was recognized as an authority on international trade in dairy products. Over the years, he received awards not only from USDA but from the Bureau of Census and the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency.

Born at Anoka, Minnesota, Terry was a graduate of Wisconsin State College at Superior, and received a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. His career began with service in the Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture and Markets in 1932, and he joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1939. He later served from 1944 to 1950 with the United Nations at Lake Success, New York.

Terry's widow, Mrs. Hazel F. McCabe, and two daughters, Melainie Carol and Terri Lynn, live in Arlington, Virginia.

#### VIRGINIA STRATTON, FORMER OVERSEAS SECRETARY, DIES

FASers were saddened by the news of the death of Virginia Stratton, secretary in the Far East and South Asia area office, and former overseas secretary. She died on October 30 at Alexandria (Virginia) Hospital after a short illness.

Virginia was a Montana native, and had worked in State Government offices there until joining FAS in 1963. She was assigned overseas that same year, with a first post in Cairo. She served in Egypt until hostilities in the Middle East broke out, and made a direct transfer to our London office, where she served as secretary to David Hume. In 1971, after four years in London, Virginia was assigned to the New Delhi office, where she served until illness forced her return to Washington in 1972.

After a brief recuperation period in her native Montana, Virginia returned to work at FAS Washington, working as secretary in the Western Hemisphere and Far East and South Asia area offices.

Memorial services were held in Helena, Montana.



*Peace on Earth*  
*Good Will to Men*