

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Secretary

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Secretary Benson Creates New Foreign Agricultural Service:

Greater emphasis upon the development of foreign markets and the stepping-up of international trade was called for today by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson. The call came following creation of a new set-up to succeed the former Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

"We are establishing the new unit, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and giving it full importance here along with our re-grouping plan announced January 22," explained the Secretary. "The new service unit will be headed by Romeo E. Short, present Director of Agricultural Credit Services, who will devote full time to the development of off-shore markets for our own production as well as to aid other governments in their American marketing."

Mr. Short, according to the Secretary, will be succeeded in his present post by Robert L. Farrington, now serving as Cooperative Bank Commissioner in the Farm Credit Administration. Farrington becomes acting head of the Agricultural Credit Services.

"Many of the great problems confronting the world today are agricultural," stated Mr. Short in accepting his new assignment. "Our nation, as President Eisenhower stated in his inaugural address, must accept leadership in a more effective world-wide collaboration on a sound economic basis. It will be the objective of the new unit to assist in bringing this about."

"I firmly believe that what we accomplish in the solving of the world's farm and food problems will be the determining factor in the establishment of peace and stability between the nations of the world."

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