VonGarlem named director of tobacco division related products). The most

NEW YORK, NY - Assistant Secretary P. R. Smith today named Thomas A VonGarlem director of the Tobacco Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Marketing Service.

VonGarlem has had a high level of involvement in tobacco programs. He worked first as an agricultural aide and then as a research agronomist for USDA at Beltsville from 1956 to 1960.

After serving as a naval officer from 1960 to 1966, VonGarlem spent about a year as ASCS county office manager in Annapolis, Md. He was an ASCS agricultural marketing specialist from 1967 to 1970, a tobacco marketing specialist from 1970 to 1973, an assistant branch chief and chief from 1973 to 1976.

In 1976-77 he was deputy director of ASCS's Tobacco and Peanut Division developing tobacco and peanut policies and programs with respect to production adjustment, price support, purchases, commercial warehousing, sales, management and disposal in domestic and foreign outlets.

Since 1977 he has been, primarily, deputy director, and for a while acting director, of ASCS' Price Support and Loan Division, admunistering price support and loan programs for a number of agricultural commodities, including tobacco.

VonGatlem has received several ASCS awards for outstanding performance He is a member of Alpha Zeta, an agricultural honorary society

prominent of those pro-

grams are the collection and

dissemination of market

news. the development of

standards of quality and condition and inspecting and

grading according to those

VonGarlem and his wife,

the former Sharon Taff, live

in Crownsville, Md. They

have three children,

Thomas, Jr., 18; Andrew, 14;

standards.

and Sarah. 11.

He was born and reared on a farm in Upper Marlboro, Md., which raised tobacco, feed grain wheat and cattle.

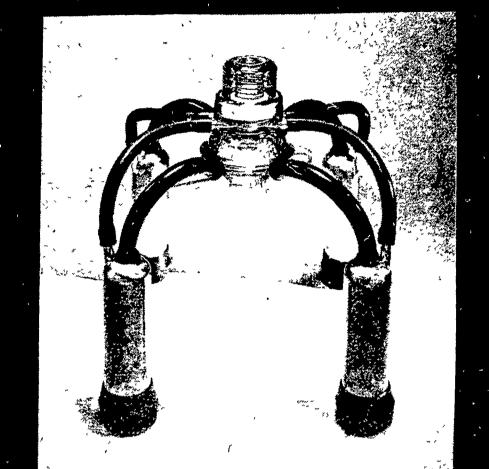
The University of Maryland awarded him a bachelor's degree in agronomy in 1960.

As director of AMS' Tobacco Division, he succeeds Leonard J. Ford who is retiring. This division administers a number of programs for tobacco and naval



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