

gunsu, or county chief, is a requirement.

### C. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Of primary importance in rural Korea is the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (formerly the Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry). It has three main divisions that have impacts on the lives of farmers: the Office of Rural Development (ORD), the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC), and the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF). The ADC is concerned with the development of irrigation systems, dams, and land reclamation. The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation is a governmental mechanism, misnamed a cooperative, for the provision of agricultural credit and other requirements such as seed, fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides, as well as agricultural machinery. It is also the government arm for the purchase of crops at standard, centrally set prices and quantities. The NACF thus implements government policy on grain pricing and procurement but it is the Office of Rural Development (ORD) that encourages, trains, and provides the farmers with the means by which national targets can be achieved.

The Office of Rural Development has three major functions: basic and adaptive agricultural research designed to assist in achieving nationally set production targets for priority crops; training, a program of such magnitude that there is hardly a farm family left untouched annually by this effort; and "extension." In Korean, the term "extension" is more aptly translated as "guidance," which describes both the philosophy of the system and its actual operation.

The integration of research and guidance is perhaps not unique among developing countries, although it certainly is rare to the degree practiced in Korea. What may be unique, however, is an integration of both research and guidance with education.

Fifteen years ago, Seoul National University's College of Agriculture, under the Ministry of Education and the Office of Rural Development under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry had no working relationships, although located only a few hundred yards apart. Today, however, some staff at each institution hold joint appointments. The AID-supported agricultural research project did not initiate such relationships but did help strengthen them and bring into the research scene professors from other agricultural colleges.

As interesting and effective, but perhaps as rare, is the integration of the agricultural high school at the gun level into the agricultural guidance system. There, teachers also hold joint appointments at the gun rural development office and training classes in the high schools use the same materials and machinery as those used by the extension workers. These extension workers train farmers in the schools during vacation periods. Students from the agricultural high schools usually join the guidance service, thus completing the link where they may once again come under the supervision of their former teachers. This results in effective means