



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### FWS TO MAKE BIRD SURVEY IN CUBA, HAITI AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

For the second successive year the Fish and Wildlife Service is sending three biologists to Cuba to participate in a cooperative survey of the migratory birds that winter in Cuba or pass through that country on their migration flights, Albert M. Day, Director of the Service announced today.

Frederick C. Lincoln, assistant to the director, is in charge of the survey party. He will be assisted by Allen J. Duvall and Harold Peters, of the branch of wildlife research.

Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Duvall left Washington on January 3 for Cuba. Mr. Peters, who is now in the West Indies making an aerial survey of waterfowl as a part of the Service's annual midwinter inventory, will report to Mr. Lincoln in Havana about February 12 or 13. The Cuban survey will be made with boats and aircraft supplied by the U. S. Navy and the Cuban Government.

The 1949 survey will be extended to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. After the Cuban survey gets under way about the middle of February, Mr. Lincoln will fly to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, to direct the surveys in those two countries.

In Haiti the survey will be made of the marshes at the delta of the Artiboniti River. In the Dominican Republic the survey will cover the marsh areas in the vicinity of Borahona. If time permits, and conditions are favorable, the marshes of Samana Bay, in the northeastern part of the Republic, will also be examined.

These cooperative surveys were requested by the governments of Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. They were organized by the Service's Office of Foreign Activities and comprise a part of the general program of the United States Government for scientific and cultural cooperation with foreign governments.

As a result of these surveys, stated Mr. Day, "the Service accumulates a greater knowledge of the movements of the migratory birds in the American Republics and the facts so acquired will eventually lead to the conservation and protection of these birds throughout their entire range."

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