



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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Area Medical Officer
Division of Indian Health
Post Office Box 1729
Portland 7, Oregon

For release on receipt

Refer to:

Yakima Indian reservation will have an increased health staff in the near future, according to an announcement made today by Dr. Chas. R. Mallary, acting medical officer in charge of the Portland Area Office, Division of Indian Health, U. S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Bertha Moore, public health physician, is expected to arrive on the reservation about July 17 to take charge of the augmented health program. Two nurses are also being appointed to serve the Yakima Indians, in addition to the present staff at the health clinic.

The stepped-up program for the Yakima reservation, Dr. Mallary said, is the only new one approved by the Division of Indian Health for the fiscal year that began July 1, 1958. "We hope this program will result in preventing much illness and will assist the Yakima Indian people in improving their health conditions and in raising their general level of health," he said.

The program was developed as the result of extended study and discussion with all groups concerned, including the Yakima county health department, headed by Dr. Stanley R. Benner, and the Yakima Tribal Council. In promoting the new program, the Division of Indian Health will work closely with Dr. Benner.



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Dr. Moore, who will head the newly organized health clinic on the reservation, has served as a Public Health Service physician in the Philippine Islands and Alaska and on the Navajo reservation. She was a registered nurse before securing her M.D. degree. She also holds the degree of Master of Public Health.

Assisting Dr. Moore in the health program will be Miss Ovelia Winstead, public health nurse, who will spend most of her time visiting Indian families and working with them on their health problems. Miss Winstead comes here from Denver. She has also served in overseas health programs in Iran and Pakistan and has been many years with the Public Health Service. Miss Orpha W. Stickels, now with the Tacoma Indian tuberculosis hospital, will be the nurse assisting Dr. Moore at the clinic. Both nurses are expected to report for duty on the reservation before mid-July.