



# PRESS RELEASE

HEADQUARTERS  
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
Saipan, Mariana Islands

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

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## TRUST TERRITORY WIDE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM TO BE LAUNCHED

SAIPAN, M.I. (APRIL 16)...The Trust Territory Medical Services Department is embarking on a Territory-wide mass immunization program in an effort to prevent the occurrence of certain epidemic diseases in the area, according to an announcement released this week by High Commissioner M.W. Goding.

Dr. Daniel J. Schneider, Acting Director of Medical Services, said the immunization program scheduled to begin in early May is a part of the accelerated over-all public health and medical services program in the Territory.

The successful completion of this program will see the entire Trust Territory population vaccinated against such diseases as typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), smallpox, tuberculosis, polio, influenza, and cholera.

Some 600,000 sets of syringes and needles, including other required medical supplies, are now being shipped to all district centers in the Territory, according to Headquarters authorities. Starting from the district centers, where the population is concentrated, and gradually spreading to outer villages and islands, the program will immunize approximately 65,000 persons, or two-thirds of the Territory's population, within a relatively short time.

The next phase of the mass immunization program will be to send medical teams on field trip vessels to the outer islands and atolls.

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The ultimate goal of the Trust, Territory Administration in launching this program is to give a 100 per cent immunization coverage in the Territory in an attempt to prevent the possibility of a disease occurring on an epidemic scale.

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