

## **Exhibit P-113**

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

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Indian Health Survey, James Bay

For release to evening papers,  
Tuesday, October 28, 1947.

Ottawa, Oct. 28--More than 700 Indians in the James Bay area of Ontario and Quebec have been given complete physical examinations and about 500 have been X-rayed for tuberculosis in the first phase of an intensive study of Indian life in the remote sections of the Canadian northland. Announcement of the completion of the first part of the project was made here today by Hon. Paul Martin, minister of National Health and Welfare, Hon. J.A. Glen, minister of Mines and Resources, and Dr. R. P. Vivian on behalf of a group of university scientists.

The survey is being sponsored by a committee from the Canadian universities, headed by Dr. Vivian, professor of health and social medicine at McGill University, Montreal, and is financed jointly by the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association, the Department of Mines and Resources and the Indian health services of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Heading the medical group was Dr. F. P. Tisdall, professor of paediatrics at the University of Toronto. Doing special scientific studies were Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Washington, D.C., a nutritionist with the United States Public Health Services; Dr. P.E. Moore, Ottawa, director of Indian health services, Department of National Health and Welfare; Dr. Elizabeth Chant Robertson of the Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto; Dr. Charles Macmillan of the department of health and social medicine, McGill University, Montreal; Dr. William C. McIntosh of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Toronto; Gordon Stockley, Toronto, an X-ray technician loaned by the tuberculosis prevention division of the Ontario Department of Health; Dr. G. Gordon Brown,

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professor of anthropology at the University of Toronto, and Michel Sym of Winnipeg, scientific photographer. They were assisted by Dr. T. J. Orford, Indian health services resident doctor at Moose Factory, Ont., and by three departmental nurses, Misses M. Crowe, Minnie Halkett and Patricia Leuty.

Two anthropologists, Bruce Kerr of the University of Toronto, and Dr. John J. Honingmann, Yale University, New Haven, Conn., are remaining at Attawapiskat and Rupert's House where they will obtain further data on Indian life by living with a band during the winter months. Their reports, as well as the medical records, will be studied by university and government officials with a view to finding a pattern for future studies, both for Indians and for others.

In addition to general physical examinations the scientists took careful records of the nutritional status and physical condition of the Indians at Rupert's House, Moose Factory, Attawapiskat and Albany River. They studied the Indians' eating habits in relation to his economic status. More than 700 Indians were given complete dental examinations, and a large number of scientific pictures of oral conditions were obtained.

The party's X-ray plant with its portable generating apparatus was used more than 500 times. The X-ray plates are being interpreted under the supervision of Dr. G. C. Brink, Toronto, director of the Ontario Department of Health's tuberculosis prevention division.

Transportation was by train, chartered plane and boat. The group was caught in one of the worst storms on record in James Bay and missed shipwreck by a narrow margin. They were held up by storms for several days in the mouth of the Albany River but were able to land and examine 153 Indians who were camped there.

The studies planned by the committee, which may have far-reaching effects on the future economic and health status of Canadian Indians, were endorsed by the Parliamentary committee appointed to study revision of the Indian Act.