

Mobile Hospital

The Traffic Accident Control Center in Nagoya, Japan's third largest city, employs a mobile hyperbaric chamber and a mobile operating theater for poisoning and collision-caused head injuries.

Details were revealed at the 17th General Assembly of the Japan Medical Congress meeting there last month.

Complete medical treatment, officials of the Center emphasized, can now be given while the accident patient is sped to the nearest hospital.

Dr. Kanji Furuta, assistant professor of surgery at Nagoya University, points out that TACC co-ordinates "the different rescue services separately carried out in the past by the police and the fire departments."

The mobile theater is not merely an ambulance providing a makeshift operating facility. It is a modern, fully equipped hospital operating room on wheels, Dr. Furuta explains, ready for service 24 hours of every day. The mobile hyperbaric chamber, he added, is especially effective in dealing with cases of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The air pressure in the chamber can be maintained at 4.5 atmospheres. The oxygen supply is controlled, with a valve allowing the patient pure oxygen if necessary, and can also be used as a respirator.

The interior of the chamber can be observed from outside through a special window, and the chamber is in direct communication provided by interphone. Instruments can be passed into the chamber, by means of a special medical air lock.

FROM AUSTRALIA

Research Grants

The Federal Government will offer Australian industries grants totaling \$A30 million for research and development over the next five years, under a scheme announced by the Minister for Trade and Industry. (The Australian dollar is worth \$1.12 U.S.)

Manufacturing and mining companies incorporated in Australia will be eligible if they increase their R&D outlay compared to the base year of 1965-66. Legislation to carry out the scheme is expected to be put before this session of Parliament.

In the first year, 1967-68, some \$A6 million would be available; the amount could climb in future years, depending on industry's response.

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18th International Science Fair closes Friday, 10:00 p.m.