

# Hospital Surgical Division Contains Best of Equipment

Surgical equipment, lighting, a recovery room accommodating 10 patients, an ultra-sonic instrument washer are a few of the features included in the second floor surgical division of Penrose Hospital.

Sister Jeanne DePaul, supervisor of the operating section, said the new surgical suite will include eight major surgery rooms and an orthopedic room, any or all of which may be in use at the same time without causing delay for patients or the surgical staffs.

Ten recovery room beds will be in use and patients will be under constant observation during the immediate post-operative period when special nursing care is required.

The recovery room is equipped with piped-in oxygen and aspirators and is so situated that a matter of seconds separates pa-

tient from nursing and or doctors' assistance.

The surgical rooms have conductive flooring which eliminates danger of fire or explosion, static electric being grounded directly to the ground. Operating teams wear conductive shoes which prevents generation of static impulses in the areas where oxygen or other gases otherwise might become explosion or fire hazards.

Shadow-proof lighting in each surgical suite provides unobstructed vision for surgical staffs. Direct communication between surgery suites, nursing stations, other sections of the hospital provide outlets for rapid directions or requests without dispatching personnel to or from one of the surgical centers.

One of the Penrose new equipment features is an ultrasonic sound instrument "washer." The three-compartment "washer" cleans instruments by use of

some 3,000 volts of electric, is acclaimed as the best unit yet devised in obtaining sterilization of instruments and other equipment, eliminates the laborious,

hot water, steam, scrubbing, time consuming former practice.

Again on the safety features of the surgical division, even anaesthetics and gases have their own separate, explosive-proof storage area.

Doctors have their lockerrooms immediately adjacent to the operating areas, nursing stations are centralized to be in immediate proximity to patient areas, the hospital-wide pneumatic tube system provides rapid transit for any needed medicines.

Sister Jeanne DePaul says that while the public won't have much opportunity to see the surgical section at work, patients, relatives and friends may be assured that every conceivable facility has been installed and a well trained staff has been formed to handle everything from minor fractures to the most major of major surgery.

## Sp-4 Charlie Searcy Jr. With Hospital Staff

Sp-4 Charlie Searcy Jr., whose wife, Louise, lives at 216 Pueblo Ave., recently arrived in Germany and is now a member of the 58th Evacuation Hospital Staff.

Searcy, a ward specialist at the hospital in Idar-Oberstein, entered the Army in March 1953.

The 25-year-old soldier is a 1951 graduate of Phillis Wheatly High School in Hubbard, Tex., and was employed by L. H. Lacy Co., in Waco Tex., before entering the Army.