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Heart Transplant **Vs. Ethics And Law**

The history-making heart transplant in South Africa this past week has tied together new problems of surgery and law.

Louis Washkansky, the now famous 55-year-old grocer received the heart of a 25-year-old woman who was fatally injured in an automobile accident.

Washkansky's heart was failing and doctors say he would have been dead in a few more days.

But a problem of law and ethics enters and asks-when was the woman considered "dead", and were the doctors actually commiting a forum of murder when they removed Washkansky's ailing heart to implant the new one?

By removing his heart he was considered legally dead.

If the operation had failed at that point, it could have put the doctors in the position of those who have tangled with euthanasia or mercy killing the disease was terminal and they "saved" the patient from suffering by killing him.

The tremendous success of the operation has almost nullified any protest over the action but in later transplants the question of death and timing may become important legal problems.

And there are even more complex legal questions concerning the donor, for doctors must be absolutely sure the donor is beyond recall.

As an Associated Press writer asked, what if someone important—on the order of a President—were dying and needed a heart? Who could be certain a healthy heart was not taken prematurely? And what if two patients were dying and there was only one heart available?

Fortunately, Louis Washkansky is doing well in this first critical period after the operation.

It is historical in that it is the first successful human heart transplant in history. More will be attempted in the coming months but many will fail.

Washkansky may die within a day, a week, a year or ten years when his body rejects a foreign body-the heart of another human being.

Artificial hearts and drugs to prevent rejection of transplants will someday make old, ailing, or defective heart replacable. But that's more than 10 years away, while the ethical questions exist today.

Cavalrymen, Artillery Blast N. Vietnamese Strongholds

SAIGON (AP) - American air cavalrymen, supported by artillery salvos, fighter-bomber attacks and helicopter gunship raids on heavily fortified enemy positions, killed 159 North Vietnamese soldiers in two days of fighting 300 miles northeast of Saigon, the U. S. command reported Friday.

A spokesman said American casualties were light. But he said sporadic fighting still was under way Friday and gave no specific figures on U. S. casual-

Many of the enemy dead, identified as elements of the 22nd Regiment of the 3rd North Vietnamese Division, apparently were slain by helicopters firing rockets and machine guns, and by Air Force bombers and the artillery.

THE FIGHTING developed Wednesday after U. S. reconnaissance helicopters spotted an enermy force and called for

Headquarters said the U. forces contained the North Vietnamese troops Wednesday night with a wall of artillery and tactical air strikes around the enemy positions.

The air cavalrymen reestablished contact with the enemy forces Thursday and fighting continued throughout the day. They were reinforced by another company of U. S. mechanized infantry and there was another bombardment by artillery, bombers and helicopter gunships.

To the south, heavy fighting broke out again early Friday near the Bu Dop Special Forces camp, three miles from the Cambodian border and 80 miles north of Saigon.

A BATTALION of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division came under heavy mortar and rocket fire followed by a ground attack by an estimated 400 Communist troops for pedestrians. They have the 1.5 miles southeast of the Bu sidewalks. When they cross the

EARLE. DEC 67

"We're at a disadvantage in thinking up teasip jokes! Every one comes up pathetic instead of funny!"

Sound Off

Editor

The Battalion; I have been following the battle which has and is being waged in the batt over the "tank traps" on Houston street. Your paper is to be commended for printing both sides of the story. I think Mr. Robert Bigham, class of '62, went too far in his letter, though. I respect his right to have his own opinion, but stooping to personal abuse is no way to solve anything. It tends to muddy up the issue and confuse things somewhat. To present the facts or his own opinions is well and good, but insulting the author of "Cars Are Deadly; Concrete's Not?" hurts Mr. Bigham's case and reflects on his character. His satire is excellent, but that is all his letter is-satire. I have been walking around

campus every day for the past three months, and in that time, I have yet to be attacked by any vicious motorists.

The pylons are set in the road to slow down traffic by redirecting it, but they seem to be more of an inconvenience and a hazard than they are worth. At least one Aggie who unfortunately thought he could go through them can support me here. The roads are built for traffic, not

both ways, as our kindergarten teachers told us

The tank traps have turned our thoroughfares into obstacle courses. What next—land mines? Tim Gerling '71

* * * Editor.

The Battalion: An entertainer's responsibility is to entertain. Whenever he attempts to foreshadow his performance with his own personal beliefs, he oversteps the responsibility an audience grants him in allowing him to entertain them. When Mr. Waring used his public appearance as a sounding board for his own personal form of right-or-wrong logic, he not only was rude but also displayed illogical thinking in attempting to imply "dissent is equated with the unpatriotic." In Wednesday night's Town Hall performance Mr. Waring demonstrated valid credentials in musical entertainment, but he definitely lacked the proper credentials as an authority as to whether dissent to the war in

Vietnam is unpatriotic. Alan Maples '66 of passports would the NLF rep-

Goldberg Says Viet Cong p Tried To Come To UN

the United States.

The United States said Thursday night that the Viet Cong in recent months had sought to send two representatives to New York for a year or two, but had dropped the idea when told that they could come only on U.N. business.

Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, head of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations, called reporters to his mission to tell them of the episode.

He said the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front, the socalled Viet Cong, had made an inquiry through the U.N. secretariat in late September about getting visas for the visit. But that it was asking "no U.N. status" for the representatives and that they would grant interviews to news media, and it failed to reply to a question of whether they would talk with the U.S. government.

In response to a question, Goldberg said he did not believe that "under the circumstances" an NLF visit would have contributed to negotiations leading to peace in Vietnam.

Goldberg said the United States would grant visas to NLF representatives if they were invited to appear before the General Assembly or Security Council, and would vote for such an invitation in the council if it met on the Vietnam question. But he said he had no instructions yet to ask for such a council meeting. He said he was giving his briefing because the stories had become "a matter of public concern." He also said he wanted to make clear that there was no connection between the episode and an incident in Saigon in which an NLF representative was reported arrested by the South Vietnamese recently while trying to contact_the U.S. Embassy. Goldberg said that in the latter part of September a member of the U.N. secretariat sought him out with a message from Secretary-General U Thant "that was characterized as personal" and not an official U.N. communication.

This message, he said, relayed an inquiry from the NLF as to "whether the United States would be agreeable to having two or three NLF representatives come to New York" and "whether we would grant visas for this purpose." It came, he added, through an unnamed intermediary." Goldberg said he immediately conveyed the message to his government and, on instructions, responded to the secretariat member in mid-October by asking: What was the purpose of the intended visit? Who were the individuals involved? What kind

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (P) resentatives have? What kind of and included: visas did they want? Who was the intermediary? How reliable it, no U.N. status was asked in did the secretary think them. the men "but it was desired Would the NLF men be open to work . . . principally at the U. talks with the U. S. government? but ratio, TV and press in The ambassador said the replies came in early November,

-There would be two repr sentatives: their names were yet available but might be pm **SCONA Panel** vided later.

-They would be traveling North Vietnamese passports. (Continued From Page 1) -Their visit would be for year and possibly two years. "It is easy for those far away

identification.

-As to the purpose of the v

views would not be refused."

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Goldberg said the secretari would not identify the mediate to take the noble point of view,' he said. The nations of Southeast Asia and he did not press for the

are working to make their particular country "a place where their people will be pleased so that dissent will remain at a minimum," he noted.

"WE ARE trying to improve the situations in our countries by our own means peacefully. We also have to realize the political realities of the area, primarily the expansionism of China,' Panyarachun said, speaking for Southeast Asian countries. He viewed the Vietnam war as

only a battle in the entire Southeast Asian war.

"We believe U. S. presence is a protective shield behind which we can work for the progress of all Southeast Asia," Panyarachun said.

Tracy explained what he saw as the main roadblocks to the continued progress of Southeast Asia

"THE LEADERS must be dedicated, the civil service systems and central planning procedures need revision, and financial and technical aid must be increased," Tracy said.

The former foreign service worker observe that the ruling clique spent so much time worrying about staying in power that they neglected their duties to their countrymen. He viewed the low pay rates-\$25 or \$30 per month for policemen-as a detriment to performance and the main cause of corruption.

Tracy also expressed concern that central planning boards are restrained in most Southeast Asian nations. He also questioned the advisability of the U.S. having several agencies working overseas in the same nation as it causes foreign officials to question "which agency has the au-

thority to do what" in United States-Vietnam relations.

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TUXEDO RENTALS

of the 1st Air Cavalry Division were moved into the area by helicopter and armored personnel shelling Wednesday of U.S. Macarriers. They made contact with rine positions along the demilian estimated North Vietnamese tarized zone, again emphasizing company — perhaps 200 men entrenched in a heavily fortified regulars will try another invaposition.

Dop airstrip. There was heavy Communist the possibility North Vietnamese



THE BATTALION

sion in force into South Vietnam

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