



DAVID'S TIME OF TERROR

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waiting for news of the boy they adored.

"Why did he work so hard for us?" thought one pretty young girl with tears glistening in her eyes. She stood apart from the others, a bouquet of daisies clutched in her hand. "Please God," she murmured softly, "Let him be all right!"

THREW FLOWERS

Later that afternoon, an unconscious David was wheeled from the operating room into the recovery room. The doctors couldn't report on his condition until several hours had passed.

Under usual circumstances, a person undergoing major surgery stays in the recovery room at least 24 hours. David was out in 5! Perhaps it was his own inner strength, perhaps it was his prayers, or the prayers of those who loved him. In any event, David was soon resting under the white sheets of a hospital bed in a private room with around the clock nurses in attendance.

He was kept under sedation the rest of the week, so he wouldn't feel any pain, and below his room, in the parking lot outside, his faithful fans stood solemnly and threw red roses and brightly colored flowers up against the window of his room!

In the lobby the telephone rang continuously with inquiries about his condition. Mail was arriving for him at the hospital and the young girl with the daisies wrote a brief message and had the flowers sent up to his room!

FIRST THING

When David finally awoke three days later, it was to a room overflowing with flowers, cards and gifts. His eyes glanced about the room, then fell on the bouquet of daisies resting on the table beside the bed. Weakly he looked at the now wilting bouquet and saw that a note was attached. It said, "David, we love you. Get well soon!"

It was the first thing he had really noticed when he returned to the world and it brought a mist to his eyes. How beautiful it was to know there were special people who cared for you just the way you cared for them!

Then the door to his room opened and his parents came in. His mom gently ran her hand over his forehead, then leaned down to plant a kiss on his pale cheek. His dad sat down on the side of the bed and warmly clasped his son's hand. Words weren't really necessary—it was all there in the touch.



ABOVE: AFTER THE OPERATION David was in the recovery room just 5 hours. He was kept under sedation for a few days and was allowed no visitors except his folks. After that he was in the hospital for 2 weeks, and then at home for rest another 2 weeks!



RIGHT: DAVID WAS taken right through these doors at Mt. Sinai when he arrived at the hospital.



SUSAN DEY WARMLY AND happily greets David when he arrives back on the set after his surgery and hospitalization! We're all so glad he's well again!

David had to stay in the hospital a week longer to recuperate and regain his strength and after that he was to remain at home resting for at least 3 weeks. This meant the Partridges had an early "hiatus" for they couldn't shoot without David. All his summer tours had to be cancelled, also, which made him very sad. Now he would have to put off seeing YOU for a while longer!

As his parents left the room, David felt himself falling off to sleep. He heard a gentle thump against the win-

dow and glanced over to see a handful of roses tossed against the glass.

He smiled gently and looked around the room at the flowers and the cards, then his eyes came to rest once more on the bouquet of daisies by the bed. The last thing he saw before he fell into gentle slumber was the note that read "David we love you, get well soon!" Silently as he fell off to sleep, his lips formed the words he felt so deeply, "I love you, too!"

