

BLOOD BANK

'ALMOST DRY'

By a Staff Reporter

The Blood Bank and Blood Transfusion Centre in Valetta, is so short of blood that blood donated on Saturday by 12 American sailors was immediately supplied to hospitals on the same day after being fully processed.

The sailors, all from the repair ship "Grand Canyon" donated blood after the personal intervention of His Grace the Archbishop and the American Ambassador, H.E. Mr. J.C. Pritzlaff.

The Medical Director, Dr. Paul Farrugia, said the Bank was "almost dry" of blood and he appealed most urgently for more blood donors. This shortage was due to the heavy demands from hospitals.

A total of 738 bottles of blood were given to hospitals by the bank during 1970.

The Blood Transfusion and Haematological Centre (Blood Bank) supplied 738 bottles of blood in 1970, 57 bottles more than it did in 1969, according to the report for 1969 and 1970.

The number of donors increased by 62 while 2,322 persons were blood-grouped in 1970 as against 1,813 during 1969. Blood donors were Maltese, British, Italians, Americans and Germans.
