

Court doctors to examine Nixon

LONG BEACH (AP) — Chalk-faced and thin, former President Richard M. Nixon left the hospital Thursday and returned to his San Clemente villa, where he will be examined by three doctors to determine if he can testify at the Watergate coverup trial.

His personal physician said he believes Nixon's blood pressure would soar from the stress of the court-ordered examination and warned it might set off renewed internal bleeding.

Nixon shook hands weakly with his doctor, nurses and other personnel who had attended him for 23 days before getting into a limousine that took him and his wife, Pat, to their seaside estate 50 miles south of the hospital.

Wearing light blue pajamas and a navy blue robe, the former president was helped into the car by hospital attendants after coming out a rear entrance in a wheelchair, his phlebitis-stricken left leg propped up. He had lost 10 to 15 pounds since

re-entering the hospital for a second time Oct. 23 after a phlebitis flareup.

A hospital spokesman said Nixon was immediately put in an adjustable hospital bed after arriving home.

Rest and nonstressful activities are the key to Nixon's convales-

cence, said his doctor, John C. Lungren.

Hospital spokesmen would not release Nixon's bill, but it was reliably reported to total at least \$10,000—which Nixon must pay out of his own already-beleaguered finances because he does not have insurance. Fifteen doctors were in-

involved in caring for Nixon during his hospitalization.

There was no immediate word when the three doctors would arrive. All internationally known cardiovascular specialists, they were appointed by U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica on Wednesday to determine within 15 days whether Nixon is well enough to give testimony in the coverup trial of five of his former political associates.

When Sirica appointed the team, Lungren said they would be welcomed. But the doctor said Thursday he believed their examination would cause the former chief executive stress and bring a marked rise in blood pressure.

A rise in blood pressure, combined with the blood-thinning anticoagulant drug the 61-year-old former president is taking for phlebitis, would mean "the chance of a hemorrhage is magnified," Lungren said.

"But I have no control over it. That's the court's physicians," Lungren added.

Anticoagulants make the body prone to easy bleeding. They led to the severe bleeding that Nixon suffered after blood clot surgery Oct. 29.

Lungren revealed during the news conference at Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach that another operation had been contemplated to stop the postoperative bleeding, which ultimately was stopped by blood transfusions.

Nixon had experienced dramatic blood pressure increases this week "at times of physical and nonphysical stress." It was 140 over 90 at the time of his discharge, Lungren said. Normal for Nixon is 130 over 70.

Both Lungren and Nixon's surgeon, Dr. Eldon B. Hickman, ducked questions on whether the expected visit of the doctors, Nixon's resignation or other problems had caused the increases.

"Obviously, there is some stress from being sick, being in the hospital," said Hickman.

Hickman told the news conference that neither he nor Lungren

had yet been contacted by the court-appointed doctors nor have they been asked their opinions on how to carry out the examination.

"I would assume they would properly contact us...if we were asked our opinion, we would have something to say about it," the surgeon said.

He said he believed the visit "is unnecessary. But I'm not defensive about it."

Both doctors said they doubted Nixon will have to be readmitted to the hospital for further treatment.

Meanwhile in Washington, Dr. Charles A. Hufnagel, head of Sirica's medical team and chief of surgery at Georgetown University, said he could not say when he and the other doctors would leave for San Clemente.

He said it would probably take about two days to examine Nixon and consult with his doctors.

The other two doctors named by Sirica are Drs. John A. Spittel Jr. of the Mayo Clinic of Rochester, Minn., and Richard Starr Ross of Johns Hopkins University.

Hope telegrams victorious Bears

WACO, Tex. (AP) — The Baylor Bears, who shocked the University of Texas 34-24 Saturday in a Southwest Conference game Saturday, received a telegram of congratulations Tuesday from one of their boosters — comedian Bob Hope.

Hope, who is not a Baylor graduate, said: "Congratulations on a great game. I may need Neal Jeffrey and the rest of the Baylor Bears to run interference for me if my jokes aren't good next Friday at the Heart O'Texas Coliseum."

Hope will be at a benefit performance before the Baylor-Texas Tech game, with proceeds going to the Baylor Student Foundation Scholarship Fund.

Campus briefs

Engineer orientation Monday

Freshman engineering students can learn about several engineering fields at the Engineering Orientation Monday at 7:30 p.m. in room 102 of the Zachry Engineering Center.

Bike race Saturday

The Autumn Bicycle Race will be Saturday at 9 a.m. in lot 50. There will be classes for men and women. Prizes will be awarded and there is no entry fee.

Campus Chest benefit set

A spaghetti dinner will be held Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m. at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Phi Sigma Beta is sponsoring the event with proceeds going to Campus Chest. Tickets are on sale at the MSC. For more information call 693-2176 or 822-7824.

'Messiah' rehearsal Monday

Community Singers invites interested students, faculty and staff members to join the rehearsals for Handel's "Messiah" on Monday at the A&M Consolidated High School choir room at 7:30 p.m.

Each person is asked to provide his own copy of music. The Singers will be joined by the Community Orchestra at Bryan Civic Auditorium during the holiday season for their public performance.

Harvard grad program explained

A representative of Harvard University's graduate business school will be on campus Monday.

The program is aimed at bachelor graduates who are in disciplines other than business administration, said Rand A. Neyland, director of admissions and fellowships.

Appointments to meet with Neyland may be made through the Placement Office in the Rudder Center.

Meat Judging team wins

The A&M Senior Meats Judging Team returned as victors in a contest held in Portland, Ore.

Bill Brown was high individual, Guy Sweatt placed second, Dale Beerwinkle was fifth and Karl Kuykendall placed eighth.

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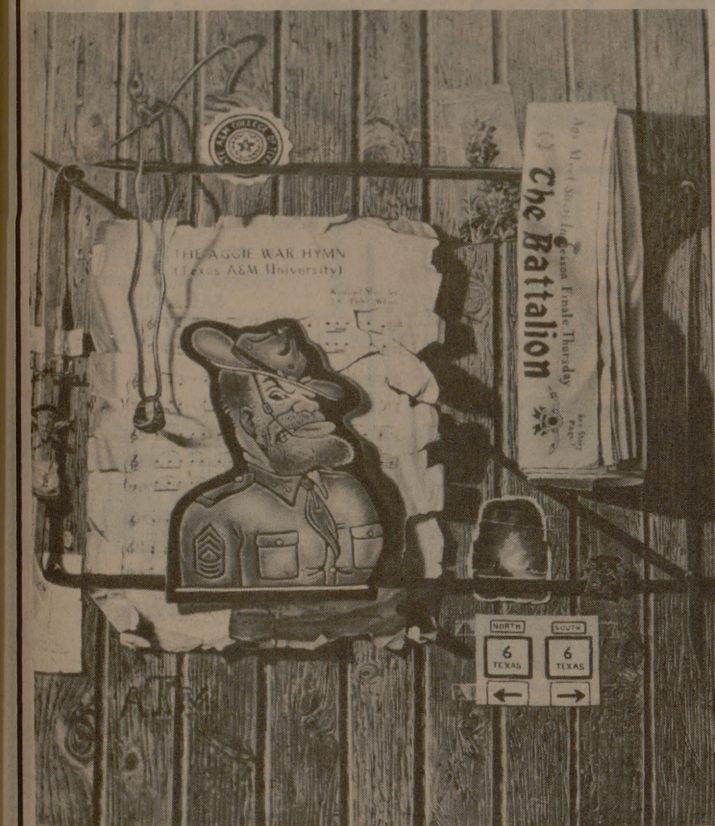
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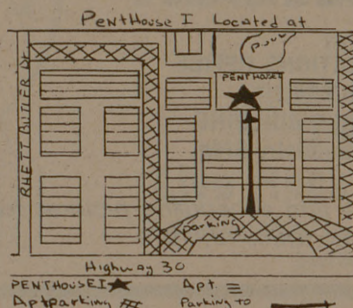
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