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Nixon Is 'In Pain and

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Washington

Former President Nixon is in physical pain and remains "way down, very depressed" despite the presidential pardon he received, a member of his family has reported.

The ex-President's condition is said to be worrying his wife and family.

The family member sought out a telephone interview Tuesday night saying, "This is something someone

should talk about," but asking not to be identified by name.

The Knight News Service distributed a story yesterday saying that the family member was Edward Cox, Mr. Nixon's son-in-law. The Associated Press declined to comment on the Knight story.

Mr. Nixon has seen and spoken with this individual both before and since resigning August 9. They had a telephone conversation as recently as Monday night.

This family member dis-

closed that:

- Mr. Nixon is suffering from a recurrence of his phlebitis condition, which had been publicly described as resolved on July 5.

- The former president does not talk about his physical problems with his family members, who first learned of the phlebitis last summer, not from Mr. Nixon, but from his doctors.

- Mr. Nixon has made no plans or decisions about returning to the public arena.

- He is reconsidering his announcement of last De-

ember 10 that he would eventually give the San Clemente estate to the American people. This is part of his current preoccupation with getting his personal affairs in order.

Referring to the pardon, the family member said, "You'd think he would be very happy with recent events, but he's still in a let-down period.

"Emotionally, he's still way down, very depressed. He is in a deep depression.

"I would hope the pardon would eventually lift that

Very Depressed'

but I just haven't noticed that. There was no sudden elation."

Mr. Nixon's emotional depression was said to be aggravating his physical problems and vice versa.

"It's not that he's not sharp. He grasps things as quickly as ever. But the mental letdown plays on the physical problems. Each plays on the other and that cycle makes both worse."

After the resignation, the family drove north to Ventura, Calif., one day and had a

picnic on the beach.

He was relieved to get out of the car, but after the picnic said it would be best to go back. We had planned to stay overnight and go further north and I knew he wanted to," the family member said. "But he couldn't continue because of the pain in his leg."

The phlebitis, a blood clot that developed in his left leg shortly before his June trip to the Middle East, has left the leg "swollen out of proportion to the other leg," this individual said.

The family member knew of no other specific medical problems but said, "From the way reports are coming back, I just feel there is something more."

"It is enough to worry Mrs. Nixon. The worse it would be, the less he would talk about it."

Mr. Nixon's family was described as in this quandary: "The problem is that he's always wanted us to talk it up, to say everything's fine no matter what the situation. It just isn't true."

The family member said Mr. Nixon worries about how history will judge his administration, but draws strength from recalling his foreign policy accomplishments.

Recalling Mr. Nixon's statement that resignation was "abhorrent to every instinct in my body," the family member said:

"He is a fighter and he wanted to stay there, but his mind overcame his emotions. His sense of realities won out in the end."

Associated Press