

Nixon's lung collapses

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LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Part of Richard M. Nixon's right lung has collapsed and there was fluid in his left lung, his doctor said Tuesday.

Neither of the lung problems was believed serious, and Dr. John C. Lungren said he asked the former president to cough and breathe deeply to overcome them. Lungren said he also had directed Nixon to take more walks in his hospital room.

Lungren said that despite some

improvements, the former president remained in serious condition and was "terribly physically weak."

Medical reference books indicate the lung problems are common, usually not serious and apparently are after-effects of phlebitis surgery Nixon underwent last week. The books indicated that coughing and breathing deeply would help clear out fluids and keep the lungs inflated and that walking would help stimulate the lungs.

Ron Ziegler, former White House press secretary, said Nixon voted in the California election by absentee ballot Monday.

Ziegler said Nixon's younger daughter, Julie Nixon Eisenhower, has returned to her home in Washington, D.C., and the former president's elder daughter, Tricia Nixon Cox, planned to leave for her New York City home soon.

Nurses helped the 61-year-old Nixon take his first halting steps Monday since surgery, walking slowly across his room.
