

Expected To Stay A Week

# Nixon Enters Hospital For Tests

F. D. ... G-24-74

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Former President Richard M. Nixon, looking drawn and avoiding questions from newsmen, checked into a hospital here Monday and later was described as "at times low in his frame of mind" and suffering from fatigue as well as phlebitis.

Nixon was expected to stay in the hospital for at least a week, "undergoing extensive tests and treatment," Nixon's physician, Dr. John C. Lungren, told a news conference.

Ronald Ziegler, former White House press secretary, said, "The phlebitis and the events of the last 45 days have caused him to not be in good spirits, to at times be low in his frame of mind. His mind, though, is very acute."

Lungren told a news confer-

ence that he had examined Nixon upon his arrival at the hospital and found "evidence of physical fatigue." The doctor said he would advise use of anticoagulant drugs in treating the phlebitis, an inflammation of the vein which has caused two painful clots in Nixon's left thigh.

Lungren said he also ordered "exhaustive studies to find the causative agent of the illness."

Asked if Nixon might receive any psychiatric treatment, Ziegler, now Nixon's closest aide, said no but added, "He feels as anyone would feel after experiencing a great and severe loss. His discussions with me have sometimes been reflective and sometimes directed toward the future."

Accompanied by his wife, Pat, and his youngest daughter,

Julie Nixon Eisenhower, Nixon walked through a back exit into Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach. He slipped past all but a few reporters.

He arrived in a four-car motorcade from his San Clemente villa and waved to a few onlookers.

Asked by a reporter how he felt, Nixon smiled and said, "Good afternoon." Pressed by another newsman, Nixon ignored the question and walked the few steps to an elevator normally used to deliver patients' food. The elevator took him to the ultramodern sixth floor of the hospital where his room is located.

Some reporters said Nixon seemed to be favoring his left leg, but others said he had no trouble walking.

A police helicopter circled the hospital as Nixon arrived.

Lungren said Mrs. Nixon would visit her husband regularly but did plan to stay at the hospital overnight. Mrs. Eisenhower was to return to her home in Washington, D.C.

Dick Smith, an NBC television cameraman, said that his camera was smashed to the ground by one of the men guarding Nixon as Smith tried to shoot film of the former chief executive.

Smith said the man, either a Secret Service agent or a local plainclothes officer, pointed to the broken camera and told him to "pick that up and get out of here."

Asked about speculation that Nixon might be entering the hospital to avoid complying with defense and prosecution subpoenas to testify at the Watergate cover-up trial, Ziegler replied: "The reason he is here is only for the reasons stated by Dr. Lungren."

Of reports that Nixon had fought hospitalization, Ziegler said: "He would have preferred to keep active and not subject himself to a long hospital stay." He said Nixon agreed to come only after Lungren insisted.

Lungren said he would issue one written report at noon daily during Nixon's stay and would give out no information that Nixon had not approved. Lungren is an internist and cardiologist who has been Nixon's physician for many years.

Before Nixon's arrival, private security men hired by the hospital were guarding Nixon's room and hospital workers were told not to divulge any information about flowers, cards or what Nixon will be eating.

Nixon staff members who normally handle communications arrangements for the former President were at the hospital.