Deeply anguished, Nixon won't have conviction comment

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif. (AP) — An aide to Richard M. Nixon said Thursday the former president, while "deeply anguished by Watergate," would not comment on the convictions of his former aides in the Watergate cover-up because they intend to file appeals.

The aide said Nixon's attorney had advised him "against making any specific statements about yesterday's verdict."

The aide added, "President Nixon is deeply anguished by Watergate, and that these men who were among his closest aides and their families have suffered so much and that their lives have been so tragically touched by Watergate."

Nixon has been recuperating here from phlebitis surgery. He was excused from testifying in the trial because of his illness.