

Aides Say Nixon Is 'Capable'

San Clemente - (UPI) - President Nixon's aides have acknowledged for the first time that he is under tension and strain as a result of Watergate revelations, but they insist that he is capable of performing his presidential duties.

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Rare questions about Nixon's mental and physical health were handled, to the surprise of reporters, in an almost routine fashion at a news briefing yesterday.

They stemmed from the President's unusual display of anger and lack of poise while on a speechmaking trip to New Orleans Monday. 10 Aug 73

The incident was widely publicized and TV cameramen caught the scene on film which some stations later broadcast in slow motion. The film clip showed an angry Nixon and a stunned Ziegler.

During his off-the-cuff remarks, the President also blew some of his lines and misquoted the Duke of Wellington. His eyes looked puffy and some of his words were slurred, according to close observers.

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From NYTimes 21 Aug, Herbers, filed Nix Ad: At times during his speech [to VFW] he seemed to stumble over his words in a way that he seldom has in the past.