

NEWS SUMMARY AND INDEX

Monday, September 16, 1974

National

Former President Nixon remained secluded at his San Clemente estate instead of being hospitalized, as his physicians recommended, amid growing concern and controversy over the true state of his physical and mental health. Air Force Maj. Gen. Walter R. Tkach, the chief White House physician in the Nixon Administration, who examined Mr. Nixon Friday, reportedly strongly urged that Mr. Nixon "not get under any more pressure." This statement has raised speculation that Mr. Nixon may rely on his medical condition to help him avoid testifying in the Watergate cover-up trial, scheduled to begin Oct. 1. [p. 1, col. 8]

Two prominent lawyers disagreed on the validity of President Ford's pardon of former President Nixon. Prof. Philip B. Kurland of the University of Chicago Law School said that he believed the pardon was invalid because it was issued prior to conviction and said that the special Watergate prosecutor should challenge it in court. However, Lawrence E. Walsh, president-elect of the American Bar Association, said it was in the national interest to keep a President's pardoning powers broad. Both men expressed their views on the "Issues and Answers" television program. [p. 1, cols. 6-7]

Editorials and Comment

Anthony Lewis scores accord on Nixon data