

# Ailing Buzhardt Unable to Aid Nixon Legal Defense for 3 Months

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| <p>White House sources said yesterday that presidential counsel J. Fred Buzhardt will be out of action for at least three months as a result of a heart attack—effectively removing him from President Nixon's legal defense team.</p> <p>Buzhardt, 50, was taken to Fairfax Hospital's coronary care unit early Wednesday morning suffering from chest pains. Doctors yesterday confirmed that he had suffered a heart attack that they said was "of intermediate degree."</p> | <p>He was reported in serious condition yesterday, but he was "alert, oriented and suffering no pain."</p> <p>The hospital said he will remain in the coronary care unit at least until Monday. If his condition improves, he will most likely be moved to a progressive coronary care unit for another three days.</p> <p>A White House source said that Buzhardt will have to remain in the hospital for another two to three weeks, and then will have six to eight</p> | <p>weeks of recuperation at home.</p> <p>Buzhardt is a key figure in the legal defense of the President from impeachment and Watergate cover-up allegations. He is the keeper of the presidential tapes, the one man who has listened to all of them and edited all the transcripts that Mr. Nixon has released.</p> <p>James D. St. Clair, who is running the President's legal defense team, said that other lawyers will take over Buzhardt's assignments.</p> |
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