



UPI Telephoto

ANDREA EVANSON
Moment of shock

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Nixon Nurse Tells What Happened

Long Beach SFChronicle

A nurse who was attending former President Nixon when he lapsed into shock following surgery October 29 said yesterday he was trying to stand up at the time.

Andrea Evanson, a nurse in the intensive care unit, said that she and a Navy corpsman were helping Mr.

Nixon to stand by the side of his bed six hours after surgery when the critical episode began.

"He stated that he felt very weak," said Miss Evanson.

"We put him back into bed," she continued. "I checked his blood pressure, it had dropped considerably left alone and not cared for, his respiratory rate increased. His pulse rate increased likewise.

"These are the classic signs of cardiovascular shock."

She said the former President was unconscious for about a second while he was in shock, but he responded "virtually immediately" to her treatment.

"I realized that he was in a critical state and I did whatever I felt was necessary at the time to make him safe," she said.

Although Dr. John Lundgren, Mr. Nixon's personal physician, has said that the former President was close to death when he went into shock, Miss Evanson insisted yesterday that she never thought Mr. Nixon would die.

"If he would have been left alone and not cared for," she continued, "that (death) would have been a possibility."

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