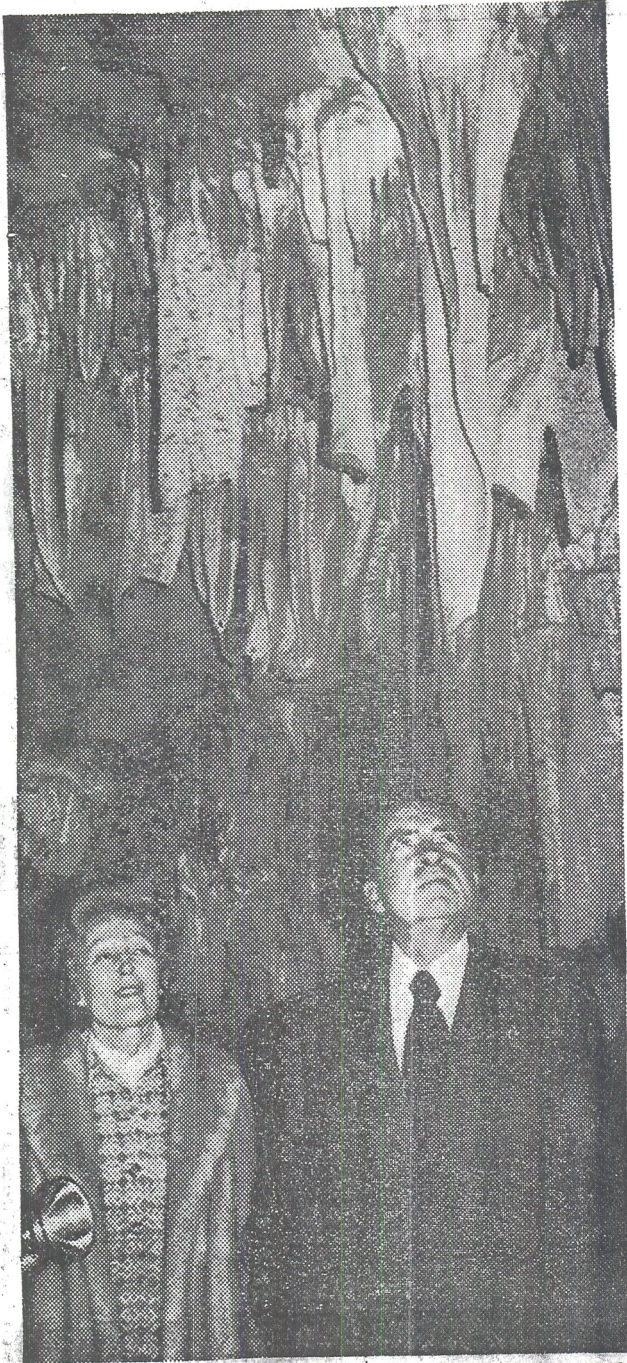


Peking Doctor Attending Nixon As Tour of China Nears Its End

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Richard M. Nixon and his wife, Pat, touring the Reed Flute Caves in Kweilin, China, on Thursday. The Chinese hid from the Japanese in these caves during the war.

KWEILIN, China, Feb. 27 (UPI)—Former President Richard M. Nixon, who appeared fatigued and limped occasionally tonight, is being attended by a specialist from Peking and followed by an ambulance during his tour of southern China.

The Chinese have been obviously concerned about the health of Mr. Nixon, who has suffered from phlebitis for several years and suffered a severe crisis in 1974 when he had an operation and went into shock. From time to time Mr. Nixon has shown signs of exhaustion. He seemed fatigued last night at a song-and-dance show following a seven-hour cruise down the Li River.

The Chinese assigned Dr. Shang Teh-ting, a heart and cardio vascular specialist from the Fu Wai Hospital in Peking, to accompany the visitor on the Kweilin-Canton phases of his second visit to China. A white van with a red cross on its side also has followed the Nixon entourage everywhere in Kweilin.

A Medic Keeps Watch

Robert Dunn, a medical corpsman accompanying Mr. Nixon, checks his blood pressure frequently. He also administers anticoagulant pills as Mr. Nixon needs them, and carries oxygen on Mr. Nixon's sightseeing trips, for any emergency. During the cruise, Mr. Dunn gave Mr. Nixon one of the anticoagulant pills. Mr. Nixon dropped the pill and had to get up to find it.

Medical authorities said Mr. Nixon's left leg is still swollen, and he can stand for only an hour or so at a time. Then

he must sit with his leg thrust out.

Mr. Nixon attended the variety show in a theater in the compound of the Yung Su Guest House, where he is staying. After the performances, Mr. Nixon and his wife, Pat, went to the stage to shake hands with each of the performers and received a large bouquet of flowers.

Earlier, Mr. Nixon received three gifts here. One was a shell sculpture showing the landscape of Kweilin, which Mr. Nixon termed the most beautiful city in the world. The other gifts included satin material made by the people of the Yi nationality, one of several non-Chinese nationalities in the Kwangsi Autonomous Region, and a tea set.

'Bad Bet' on a Game

At one point in the river cruise Mr. Nixon bet a bottle of mao tai wine on an upcoming table-tennis match between two Chinese officials accompanying him.

Mrs. Nixon inquired about the experience of the players and was told that the man her husband had bet on had only just taken up the game, while his opponent had been playing for 30 years. "It looks like you bought a bad one here," Mrs. Nixon told her husband.

Laughing, he turned to the man he had bet on and said, "You'd better win—I'm afraid I've got the bad bet here."

Cold weather and rain kept Mr. Nixon inside a glassed-in upper deck area for most of the trip. Tomorrow the Nixons are to go to Canton, from which they are to leave for home on Sunday.