

FORO AD

Hospital Bulletin on Hathaway Calls Him Physically Exhausted

NYTimes

By BEN A. FRANKLIN JUL 22 1975

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 21 — Secretary of the Interior Stanley K. Hathaway will be hospitalized for an indeterminate period for "physical exhaustion," according to a medical bulletin today from the Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, Md.

The hospitalization last Wednesday of the 51-year-old former Wyoming Governor for tests and treatment for "weight loss and fatigue" has caused concern and puzzlement among top officials of the Interior Department and Mr. Hathaway's political friends and sponsors in Congress since it was announced last Thursday. Mr. Hathaway has held the Cabinet post for only five weeks.

A secretary in the office of Senator Clifford P. Hansen, the Wyoming Republican who was Mr. Hathaway's chief sponsor for the Interior post, said that the Senator "only knows what's in the newspapers, because they [the Hathaways] are keeping it really close."

A number of Mr. Hathaway's friends here, however, said privately that they were deeply concerned.

Today's hospital bulletin, issued over the signature of Capt. Charles Lambdin, the deputy commanding officer of the Naval Medical Center, added nothing to last week's disclosure by the Interior Department that Mr. Hathaway had recently lost about 15 pounds and had been feeling tired and ill.

"The Secretary needs rest and an opportunity for his body to regain strength," Captain Lambdin's statement said. "We would like him to remain in the hospital until he has shown marked improvement. It would be unwise for him to resume his intense schedule while in a weakened condition."

In three preceding sentences, the hospital bulletin said: "The Secretary is physically exhausted. He took no vacation following the lengthy Senate confirmation proceedings on his nomination. The long hours and vigorous schedule he since has kept as Secretary have contributed further to his rundown condition."

The Secretary's principal press spokesman, Sam Marler, did not return a reporter's telephone calls over the weekend or today.

Other officials, however, said that, contrary to the hospital's statement, Mr. Hathaway had not been keeping unusually long hours since his swearing in on June 13.