

Newsweek
[] filed Watergate

3 Dec 73

Periscope, first item:

How Sick Was the President?

President Nixon's attack of viral pneumonia, which put him into Bethesda Naval Hospital for nine days in July [12 Jul], was more serious than White House bulletins indicated. A top official recalls that Mr. Nixon was coughing blood before going to Bethesda and that his condition "scared hell" out of his White House visitor.

[Complete]

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Nixon is scheduled to have annual physical examination around mid-December. Dr. Tkach says, in phone interview, that Nixon is "well - except at times I think he's tired."

Dr. Tkach says Nixon has no health problems whatsoever. Asked about Newsweek report (above), says there is "no truth whatsoever" to that report.

(Paraphrase, SFC 5 Dec 73, AP.)