

30 Sep 74 (1)

Nixon (illness) - Dr. Lungren calls news conference to say that Nixon may leave the hospital by the end of the week (this is a Monday) but will not be able to travel for at least a month, possibly three months; ^{^ ^ ^} he will recommend that Nixon not even give a written deposition for two or three weeks. Deposition is needed for cover-up trial, which begins tomorrow. "[A] newsman said there had been questions raised whether Mr. Nixon's hospitalization was unnecessary.' Looking grim, Lungren said such a report was in the same classification as the rumors that the illness was a hoax, and said he would not dignify it with a reply."

"Lungren recently had described the blood clot in Mr. Nixon's lung as 'the size of a dime.' The doctor said he wanted to verify [rectify?] that statement by saying that the lung area affected was about dime-size." WXP: "He also said that there was only one clot in [Nixon's] leg, not two as previously stated." Story does not indicate whether Lungren had made such a statement, or whether it was made by someone else.

NYT says Nixon's "first bout of phlebitis occurred on a trip to Japan 10 years ago."

NYT, WXP, SFC [UPI], 1 Oct 74

One clot, not two - See entry, Nixon (illness).

Ford says in letter to Hungate, chairman of HJC's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, that he will appear personally before the subcommittee within ten days to answer questions about his pardon of Nixon. Hungate had written Ford about ten days ago, asking about 15 questions raised in resolutions of inquiry by Bella Abzug and John Conyers, and ~~suggesting that Ford send a representative to testify about the pardon~~ Ford responded at that time by sending transcripts of his news conference of 16 Sep and of an earlier briefing for reporters by Buchen. Last week the subcommittee wrote again, repeating the questions and asking Ford to send a representative to testify about the pardon. See entry 1 Oct, Ford to
NYT 1 Oct 74, David E. Rosenbaum testify ...

Pardon - See entry, Ford says in letter

30 Sep 74 (2)

Cover-up trial is to begin tomorrow; in final preparation for it, Sirica holds all-day closed hearing. Sirica orders separate later trial for Strachan, rather than delay the trial of the five other defendants with pretrial hearings on Strachan's case. "According to lawyers involved," the main trial will last three to five months.

Haldeman is the only defendant who appears at the hearing; is wearing Presidential tieclasp.

NYT 1 Oct 74, Lesley Oelsner

Strachan's case is severed from that of other cover-up defendants. See entry, Cover-up trial

Nixon tapes - Mack Thompson, executive director of the American Historical Association, is one of several witnesses testifying before a House administration subcommittee (no further identification) which is holding hearings on long-range proposals for dealing with Presidential papers. ~~Thompson~~ Thompson says his group and at least two others are considering court action to insure that Nixon tapes and documents are not destroyed, that disposition of the material should be held up until legislation or the courts can deal with the matter.

NYT 1 Oct 74 [UPI]

American Historical Association (possible court action on Nixon tapes and documents) - See entry, Nixon tapes, Mack Thompson

Morton H. Halperin names Nixon as a defendant in a civil lawsuit, charging Nixon participated in illegal electronic surveillance and helped to conceal from the Justice Department the record of the operation. See story for details.

Nixon's pardon does not exempt him from potential liability in such a civil suit.

NYT 1 Oct 74, John M. Crewdson

Nixon (civil suit) - See entry, Morton H. Halperin.

30 Sep 74 (3)

Gallup poll, conducted 27-30 Sep, shows Ford's approval rating has dropped 21 points, the sharpest decline recorded for any President during the first two months in office.

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
27-30 Sep	50%	28%	22%
6- 9 Sep	66	13	21
16-	71	3	26

"The big drop to 50 per cent [came] in the latest poll, which was conducted after Mr. Ford's pardon of former President Nixon but before his recent speech on the economy.

"A key factor in the President's popularity decline was his pardon of Mr. Nixon September 8. A special survey conducted immediately after the pardon found the public expressing opposition by a 2-to-1 margin."

SFC 14 Oct 74 - filed Ford Ad

Pardon }
Ford } See entry, Gallup poll

Haig's role in "national security" wiretaps, and involvement in Watergate cover-up, is analyzed by Walter Pincus.

WXP 1 Oct 74, Walter Pincus

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Ⓐ - It is estimated that cover-up trial will last three to five months. See entry, Cover-up trial is to begin tomorrow.